

- Editorial thoughts on MLK observances: A4
- Is black business really booming?: A4
- Hooper-led Rams keep streak alive: B1
- Commissioner: "Keen" interest in service: A6



A Happy Homecoming
Falcons' Renee Williams
 returns home with a victory
 against the Rams.

Page B3

Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly

VOL. XII NO. 22

U.S.P.S. No. 067910

Winston-Salem, N.C.

Thursday, January 23, 1986

50 cents

28 Pages This Week

"He died for all people. He not only died to free black people from oppression, but also to free whites from bigotry."
 -- the Rev. John Mendez

The dream lives on

By L.A.A. WILLIAMS
 Chronicle Staff Writer

A crowd of more than 300 braved chilly weather Monday to join the sixth annual noon celebration honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the Winston Square amphitheatre.

Mutter Evans, general manager and owner of radio station WAAA, co-sponsored the event along with the local branch of the NAACP, and led a host of speakers in calling on her lunchtime audience to "live the dream" of Dr. King.

The observance was part of local activities throughout the day during the first national holiday honoring Dr. King, whose birthday was Jan. 15.

Calling the day a celebration of peace, love and unity, Ms. Evans said, "Dr. King belongs to all Americans. He symbolizes the best in all of us."

Local NAACP President Walter Marshall reminded the responsive audience that the struggle Dr. King led is still being waged. Despite the fact that racism is alive and well in 1985, he said, it is no longer a legal reality, thanks to Dr. King.

"We must not forget," Marshall said, "that Martin Luther King was a human and civil rights activist in the first degree. He was a prophet, leader and warrior, not just a dreamer."

Marshall said Dr. King always spoke of "we."
 "He realized that group unity was more important than the single accomplishments of any individual," he said.

The Rev. John Mendez of Emmanuel Baptist Church challenged the crowd to fulfill the agenda that Dr. King left behind.

"Dr. King taught us how to resolve social conflict without violence," Mendez said. "He said that, when we embrace non-violence, we learn five things: We must refuse to injure another, love our enemies, suffer redemptively, refuse to obey unjust laws, Please see page A3



Tutu At Duke

A 'catastrophe' in South Africa may be inevitable, the Nobel Peace Prize winner says (photo by James Parker).

'We are on the brink ... the edge of the precipice'

By The Associated Press

DURHAM - As America prepared to honor Martin Luther King Jr., South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu noted that it was King who drew upon a constituency that "was appalled and outraged" when peaceful protesters were attacked.

"I believe, and I hope I am wrong, that we do not have a like constituency at home," Tutu said Sunday at Duke University. "We don't have a constituency with minimum moral standards so that a 4-year-old can be killed by the police and there isn't really any outrage."

Tutu, the Anglican bishop of Johannesburg, is on a three-week tour of the United States to raise money for the South African

Council of Churches. His visit to the Durham campus was the second of two stops Sunday.

The 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner said peaceful protests against apartheid in South Africa are "almost impossible" because of the response by police.

Tutu compared the struggles of South African blacks against apartheid with the fight by American blacks for civil rights during the 1960s. He said American blacks were able to find strength through their faith and by adhering to the non-violent approach espoused by King.

"You in the civil rights movement were seeking rights that were Please see page A13

Loan pool guidelines irk minority businesses

Some say the criteria are too demanding

By L.A.A. WILLIAMS
 Chronicle Staff Writer

A group of downtown minority business owners, upset with what they see as overly stringent guidelines for loans, let city officials know last week that the guidelines need to be changed in order for them to qualify.

City Development Director Allen Joines and Economic Development Coordinator Frieda Williams met with the disgruntled proprietors on Thursday, trying to determine what, if anything, could be done to help the situation.

Among business owners in attendance were Tracy Singletary of Off Campus Sportswear, Wilhelmina Carson of Wilhelmina's Closet, James R. Miller of Miller The Printer, and Publisher Ernest Pitt of the Chronicle.

The Issue

At issue is the city's Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund, which was set up in March to provide funds to assist small businesses in the Winston-Salem central business district. Several downtown minority business owners say the policies covering eligibility do not take their plight into consideration.

Through the loan program, downtown businesses can obtain from \$1,500 to \$30,000 for such needs as the acquisition of real property, the construction or rehabilitation of commercial buildings, working capital, operating funds and the purchase of equipment.

Among others, collateral and credit worthiness requirements are two of the main sticking points with the minority businesses. The city requires borrowers to have "acceptable forms of collateral, based on commonly

accepted definitions," and says preference will be given to those with good credit ratings.

If they met some of those requirements, they say, they wouldn't need the money.

The owners say they submitted alternative guidelines, drafted by Mildred Solomon of Star Office Supply, in March. The city, they say, ignored their suggestions.

Singletary, who has owned and operated his store at 532 Liberty St. for three years, said after the meeting that he helped introduce the idea of a loan pool for downtown business operators to the city but is not able to qualify for the funds.

At The Start

"The concept started with Cityscape (a downtown landscaping project)," Singletary said. "When they started that program we let the Board (of Aldermen) know that money was needed to upgrade downtown businesses. We said then that heroic measures were needed to help some of us who had been downtown for a while. These guidelines don't reflect that."

According to Joines, the Cityscape program provided funds to improve downtown sidewalks and created a loan pool to help downtown property owners rehabilitate buildings.

The loan pool in question now was set up in March for business operators and tenants, Mrs. Williams said. The guidelines covering eligibility were OK'd by the aldermen and the first monies dispersed in December, after the Department of Housing and Urban Development approved the program.

Three Loans To Date

The program, which uses Please see page A12

Board of Aldermen votes unanimously to sue Grubbs Co. for discrimination

By L.A.A. WILLIAMS
 Chronicle Staff Writer

The Board of Aldermen voted unanimously Tuesday for the city to file its first discrimination lawsuit as a result of the city's new Fair Housing Ordinance.

Acting on a recommendation from the city's Human Relations Commission, the aldermen voted 8-0 to file a racial discrimination lawsuit against Grubbs Real Estate Co. for denying an apartment to a black woman.

The board met in a 45-minute executive session after its regular meeting to consider the recommendation.

The commission's Hearing Board ruled in December that Grubbs refused to rent an apartment to Mary Williams Gray in late 1983 and early 1984 because of her race. The commission recommended that the board file the lawsuit.

As a result of the board's decision, City Attorney Ronald G. Seeber said Wednesday that he will file a complaint in Superior Court "as soon as possible." The suit will be filed in the city's name on behalf of the commission for Mrs. Gray, he said.

Mrs. Gray filed a complaint with the commission in May 1984, charging

Grubbs, the management agency for the Colonial Village Apartments on Charleston Court, with racial and sexual discrimination.

Mrs. Gray, then known as Mary Williams, charged that she was repeatedly mistreated and ignored in her efforts to rent an apartment at the Colonial Village Apartments, despite her meeting all the criteria to do so. The Hearing Board did not find Grubbs guilty of sexual discrimination.

David A. Logan, the commission chairman, and Luellen Curry, the chief hearing officer of the Hearing Board, applauded the board's decision and the process which brought it about.

"This case shows that you have to back up local ordinances with action, otherwise you're not putting your money where your mouth is," Logan said. "The unanimous decision by the board signals a good day for Winston-Salem."

"Substantial evidence was presented to the Hearing Board, they voted, and after consideration, they (the aldermen) too see that a wrong has to be remedied."

"This is an important day. Winston- Please see page A11



Paying Tribute

The Rev. John Mendez speaks at Monday's noon program honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (photo by James Parker).

Bishop plans to buy area radio station

By ROBIN BARKSDALE
 Chronicle Staff Writer

By month's end, ownership of radio station WTNC in Thomasville will be transferred to one of the most prominent black religious and political leaders in Virginia and will adopt an all-gospel format.

Bishop Levi E. Willis of Norfolk, Va., plans to purchase the station from owners Bill Boyce and Buddy Poole. Willis, the pastor of Garden of Prayer Church of Christ in Portsmouth, Va., owns several funeral homes and seven radio stations, including WOWI in Norfolk, one of the top-rated stations in the state.

Poole and Boyce also own WTHP in Thomasville, which plays rhythm and blues music and plans to move its offices to Winston-Salem. Poole said he and Boyce felt that selling WTNC would allow them more time to concentrate their efforts on their new station.

"We were very interested in devoting more time to WTHP, and we felt that by selling WTNC we would have the necessary time to give to (W)THP," Poole said. "When we had a chance to sell, we felt that Bishop Willis would be the right person to sell to."

Willis, who appears Sunday mornings on the syndicated program, "Crusade for Christ," on Chan- Please see page A3