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34 Pages This Week

Patrick Hairston: He hasn't changed

By L.A.A. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Patrick T. Hairston says things are still the same.

Since resigning in November as president of the local NAACP and winning a seat on the Board of Aldermen in the North Ward, Hairston said he's still mad. And he still doesn't mind telling you about it.

"In the NAACP I was on the outside, now I'm on the inside, and I see a lot of things going on," he said while seated in the living room of his modest apartment off Indiana Avenue.

"I still have a burning desire to make things right for black people," he said, "but everybody has a job to do."

He calls his election to the presidency of the NAACP in 1976 the most important thing in his life.

"The NAACP has done so much to get freedom and justice for black people," he said. "They have always been in the forefront of the struggle for the rights of our people."

Contrary to popular opinion, Hairston said, his near 10-year stint at the helm of the organization did not include a healthy salary.

"Some thought the NAACP paid me \$50,000 a year, because I did most of the work, but no branch does that," he said. "I worked for McLean's Trucking Co. for 21 years, and retired with a pension. I'm living off that pension. Nobody's keeping me up, but being Pat Hairston, I can't sit idly by."

Hairston says racism among whites, and Please see page A3



Hairston (seated) with his predecessor, Larry Little (photo by James Parker).

"We're not dealing with a credible police department. They have lied, participated in a frame-up, and had officers reprimanded because of it."
-- The Rev. John Mendez

Hunt, Mitchell charged

By L.A.A. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Why now?

That is the question many observers are asking after new murder charges were filed last Thursday against Darryl Eugene Hunt and two others for a 1983 beating death.

Hunt, 21, who was convicted amid controversy last June of the rape and stabbing death of newspaper copy editor Deborah B. Sykes, was charged along with his friend, 30-year-old Sammy Lee Mitchell, and Merrit William Drayton, 27, with the Sept. 17, 1983, first-degree murder of Arthur Wilson.

Wilson, a 57-year old black man who lived at 3054 Patterson Ave., was found dead at 2:30 a.m. in the 1700 block of Claremont Avenue. Autopsy reports indicate Wilson died of trauma to the head.

Drayton, who was arrested March 19 and was being held in the Forsyth County jail on \$10,000 bond for manslaughter in the death last month of Mary Annette Smith, appears to be one of the key witnesses in the case. Reports published this week say he approached police about the Wilson murder three weeks ago.

However, Mattie R. Mitchell of 760 N. Patterson Ave., Mitchell's mother, said Wednesday that Mattie Mae Davis came to her house on Monday, April 14, looking for her son and saying the police were pressuring her. Mrs. Mitchell said Miss Davis told her that the police had picked her up, and were trying to charge her with Wilson's murder. Miss Davis could not be reached for comment. Police officials would not comment on whether Miss Davis is a witness in the case.

"She told me she was going to put it on Sammy because she was pregnant and couldn't go to jail," Mrs. Mitchell said. "She said her boyfriend (Drayton) was trying to put the murder on Sammy and Darryl."

Mrs. Mitchell said Miss Davis returned again that night looking for Mitchell, and came back again Tuesday before she found him. "She first said the police were trying to get her to say something she knew nothing about," Mrs. Mitchell said. "Then later she said she had seen Sammy kicking the man."



Darryl Hunt Sammy Mitchell

Drayton has been held without bond since March 27 on a parole violation. His first appearance hearing was held Monday. Harry S. Davis Jr. and Glen H. Davis were appointed by District Court Judge William Reingold to represent him.

Mitchell was arrested late last Thursday night and had his first appearance hearing Friday. Laurel A. Boyles and George A. Bedsworth were appointed by Reingold as Mitchell's attorneys. Preliminary hearings for Drayton and Mitchell will be held May 5.

Hunt, who was serving a life sentence at the Southern Correctional Institute in Troy, was brought to the Forsyth County Jail on Monday. His first appearance hearing was held Wednesday. Attorneys Roy G. Hall Jr. and Carol S. Hebert were appointed to represent him.

Wilson's case was reactivated in December, when Police Chief Joseph E. Masten reopened eight unsolved murders, and announced a shakeup in the murder investigation unit of the department. The shakeup was ordered as a result of a city manager's report criticizing the department's handling of the Sykes case.

In the initial investigation, three witnesses had been questioned who said they saw three men beating Wilson on the night of the crime. Police said recently that none of the witnesses could identify the assailants.

In a recent interview with the Chronicle about the unsolved murders, police officials said at least two new witnesses had been developed in the Wilson case. Police had said Wilson had been seen flashing Please see page A12

Anti-apartheid measure passes

By L.A.A. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

The Board of Aldermen voted unanimously Monday night to condemn South African apartheid and prohibit the city from doing business with companies investing in that country.

The resolution, introduced by Southeast Ward Alderman Larry W. Womble, passed the eight-member board with no discussion.

"This is a giant step for North Carolina and a giant step for this city," Womble said after the meeting. "No other city in North Carolina has passed such a resolution, and very few cities in

the South have done so."

Apartheid is the system of racial separation that forcibly subjects 24 million black Africans to the rule of five million whites. The country is now engaged in a bitter and bloody upheaval that has claimed more than 800 lives in the past year.

The resolution states that the South African government has made "no significant efforts toward reform" over the past few decades and has "consistently and routinely ignored the moral imperatives invoked by the international community."

"It has been shown through this vote Please see page A9



Womble: He also proposed Martin Luther King Jr. holiday for city (photo by James Parker).

Quotable hopefuls abound at forum

By JOHN HINTON
Chronicle Staff Writer

Approximately 30 local and state candidates filled the basement of the New Bethel Baptist Church last Saturday afternoon to court voters and address issues.

The mostly Democratic contingent appeared at a political forum sponsored by the Baptist Ministers Conference and Associates and spoke to an audience of roughly 100 people for two and one-half hours.

But first, one of the ministers spoke.

"You will be elected to serve us," Dr. Serenus T. Churn, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, told the candidates. "You will be held accountable to us. No political party should take us for granted. We have come of age."

Each candidate was allowed to speak for two minutes. A question-and-answer period followed the speeches to the mostly black audience.

"I want to try and represent the entire county," said Beaufort O. Bailey, who is seeking re-election to the school board. Parents must become involved in the education of their children, he said.

Democratic candidate H. Lee Davis said he is Please see page A15



Talmadge Coley and his family celebrate a happy reunion following Mrs. Coley's arrival in Winston-Salem last week (photo by James Parker).

A family again at last

By ROBIN BARKSDALE
Chronicle Staff Writer

When he flew to Liberia last August to marry his fiancée, Rosetta, Talmadge Coley of Winston-Salem had big plans of returning to his hometown with his new bride and his infant daughter.

But his plans were stalled when, just two days before they were to leave Liberia, the Coleys were informed that Mrs. Coley had not been approved for immigration to America.

Coley, who had only been granted a 20-day visa in Liberia, was forced to return to the United States without his family.

The situation was complicated by the fact that Mrs. Coley, who was living in New York as an illegal alien, had been deported to her native country in January 1985.

Last week, seven months and yards of red tape later, the Coleys were reunited in Winston-Salem. But Coley is angry about the experience.

"I thought I was going to be able to bring my family back," he said in an interview Saturday, "but I had to leave them. We had our tickets and everything, and we were all set to go. The American Embassy (in Liberia) gave me a run-around."

"Every time I went back, they came up with something new that I needed and that would cost more money. So it was just more money and more papers. I didn't want to leave them, but I was not financially situated to stay any longer, and my visa had run out."

Coley said he was given no indication of when his wife would be allowed to join him Please see page A15