

Cole: Parents must take lead

From Page A1

she said.

More than 80 percent of black college students receive grants or loans or both, Mrs. Cole said.

Forty percent of the black college-bound students come from families with incomes of no more than \$12,000 per year, she said, and black children are three times as likely as whites to be placed in special education classes.

"All you have to do is look into the gifted and talented classes and see who's there," she said. "It's not us."

"But in this day when education reform is running rampant, many Americans are not willing to commit themselves to educational excellence," she said. "Their attitude is, 'If you can't make it, then tough. You're not going to lower my test scores.' But I maintain that no child is expendable."

Another problem is the steady

decrease in the number of minority teachers as minority student enrollments steadily increase, she said.

"It is projected that, by 1990, we will have less than 5 percent minority teachers," she said. "That frightens me to death. We are approaching a time when we will have 30 percent minority students nationwide and only 5 percent minority teachers."

"We need to be doing some things to change our attitudes about educators," Mrs. Cole said. "The teachers have our most precious product -- our children."

The recent cry nationwide for excellence in education is welcome, she said. "But excellence without equity is elitism, and equity without excellence is a sham."

Many educational reforms may look and sound good, she said, but they lack substance.

"... Many of these proposals are quick fixes or simplistic solutions to a complex educational problem," she said. "It becomes incumbent upon us to know the issues. We must evaluate the validity of the issues and ask the all-important question, 'How does this impact upon the black child?' We must be careful that the students are not thrown into a more rigorous curriculum without adequate support services."

Mrs. Cole praised Winston-Salem's NAACP for sponsoring the education conference and for establishing tutorial sessions that will open in local churches this month.

"Good luck on your project," she said. "The survival of the race is at stake."

The conference's workshops, also held on the WSSU campus, stressed becoming more informed

and involved in the educational process.

A session on political action focused on how blacks can begin to influence decisions made in the political arena.

Any worthwhile strategy requires "some kind of organization and building," said Evelyn Terry, director of institutional research at WSSU and the workshop's leader.

Organization, Mrs. Terry said, helps build solidarity, and solidarity builds power.

"... A show of solidarity amongst any group of people can present results that are positive for that group," she said.

The Rev. Phillip Cousin, pastor of St. James AME Church and a co-moderator of a workshop on discipline, said

disciplinary problems in the school can be traced to the home.

"I send my oldest son to school with the idea that he is going to be educated, not disciplined," he told workshop participants.

"To me the word discipline conjures up two words," Cousin said, "authority and control. Our problem as black people is that we are more and more relinquishing our territory to the oppressor. We as a race believe that the oppressor can educate and discipline our children. That is ridiculous."

Discipline involves more than punishing a child, he said; it also shows the child that you care.

Co-moderator Hoyt Wiseman, principal of Forest Park Elementary School, said parents must teach their children that they

represent authority and are to be respected.

A systematic approach to discipline, he said, begins with parents deciding how they want their children to behave -- and how they will react when the children misbehave.

Parents also should constantly praise their children when they do something good, Wiseman said.

"We all know that our soul's salvation is education," Wiseman said. "And it takes a disciplined person to learn."

Other workshops covered testing, academic achievement, learning centers, math anxiety and the role of churches in the educational process.

The NAACP's learning centers will open for tutorials on Sept. 16.

Louise Smith

From Page A1

been a learning experience.

"I would not say everything has been a bed of roses, but it has been a workable board," Miss Smith, a retired educator with the city/county school system, said.

Miss Smith said that she has had a good relationship with other board members.

"We relate well together," she said. "Through the seven years I've seen many changes in board members. I have found them all to be capable and congenial people. I have not had the experience with a trustee who was not concerned with the growth and development of WSSU."

Miss Smith said that she will continue serving as a member of the board and as an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, the Urban Arts Program Committee, a volunteer for Meals on Wheels, treasurer of Dublin Drive-Dublin Court Community Club, a member of the Little Theatre board, the board of trustees at First Baptist Church on Highland Avenue, the Book Club of Today, Church Women United of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County and the 1986-87 Leadership Winston-Salem class, to name a few of her other activities.

That Miss Smith should have been appointed to the WSSU board seven years ago seems only natural, since she is an alumna and a proud product of the system. She is a 1946 graduate from the then Teacher's College.

She said that she has been actively involved with the school's alumni association. In 1971, she said, she was voted Miss Alumni. Her class will have its 40th-year reunion during WSSU's homecoming in October.

Her class will be shocked at how the landscape and the campus have grown, Miss Smith said. Many of the members have not returned since they left 40 years ago.

Miss Smith said that the Alumni Building was the infirmary when she was a student.

Where the student union now stands, the Columbian Heights school building used to be located, she said. Where the R.J. Reynolds Center is located, houses used to stand.

"The curriculum has increased and the enrollment has increased," she said.

The changes, Miss Smith said, are welcome, and she said she is looking forward to more changes under Chancellor Cleon F. Thompson Jr.'s leadership.

Most recently, Miss Smith's involvement with the university, as a member of the board of trustees, has allowed her to see these changes firsthand.

It has allowed her a hand in affecting policy that affects the students at WSSU.

But the same concern that she puts forth to students of higher education Miss Smith also puts forth to her first love, children.

Miss Smith, who has a master's degree in early childhood education and advanced study in administration and supervision, has been an elementary school teacher as well as an elementary school supervisor in the city/county school system.

"I'm a lover of children," she said. "I chose education as a career because I'm one of those persons who likes to help people."

Miss Smith retired in 1983 after 36 years as an educator, but she still maintains her ties with the education of children.

She is the superintendent of the Primary Department of her church's Sunday school. She is also chairman of the Board of Christian Education as well as a member of her church's board of trustees. She also sings in the senior choir.

Miss Smith said that she also likes working with the small children in her neighborhood.

"The other week, I took some neighborhood children to see 'Peter Pan,'" she said.

Even with all these activities, Miss Smith does find time for herself. And when she does, she engages in her hobbies, such as ceramics, needlepoint or directing weddings.

"Very few weekends go by that I don't have a wedding to direct," she said.

She said that she charges a small fee for her services.

Miss Smith, who has never

married, said she also likes to do things around the house.

"Whatever I do, volunteering, program chairman, whatever, I give it my all," she said. "I feel if you accept the responsibility, you ought to see it through."

An only child, Miss Smith said that her family is her neighborhood and church and close friends.

"I have some friends I wouldn't trade the world for," she said. "We're as close as sisters and brothers."

As busy as the past has been for Miss Smith, the future looks even busier with her plans to continue her volunteer work, serving on the multiple boards, doing community work and work in her church, and traveling.

"I'm not going to bite off more than I can chew," she said.

Len Bias' family

From Page A1

"There was no sign of drugs. Nothing. Nothing. I would have done something if there was," he said.

"I wouldn't have cared about adverse publicity," he said. "I wouldn't have given a damn about that. I would have dealt with it, done anything, sold this house, anything. But there was nothing."

Bias still doesn't believe his son took the drugs of his own free will. He holds out slim hope that an autopsy might indicate it was slipped into a drink.

He finds it difficult to accept that his son died just hours after they had returned together from Boston and a visit to the Celtics, the team Bias had joined as the No. 2 overall pick in the NBA draft.

Bias says that what hurts him most is the media portrayal of his son as a caricature of a bad boy: fast-living, high-rolling, marijuana-smoking, drinking, dancing and carousing.

Marijuana use is "possible, anything is possible," and Len Bias even may have tried cocaine before the night he died, his father told *The Sun*. He liked to go out and was "a great ladies' man."

"They say he lived two lives, like he was some kind of split personality. They make it out like one minute he's down dancing at discos, the next minute he says he's a Christian," Bias said. "All young men like to dance and party and disco. There's nothing wrong with doing that even if you

are a Christian."

In all, Bias says he's trying to cope.

"I've been through hell. But I have to look at it in the positive sense. I still have three children, a beautiful wife and a home. Lenny's dead. But he'll always be there."

Tribble's mother, Loretta Tribble, 49, finds that the grand jury investigation into Bias' death and accusations against her son follow her around. Everywhere the family goes, they're approached by people asking questions. "It is very, very tough. It has hurt us all very much. ... The pressure gets to you. You get to a certain point, and then you explode."

"We are a household name," said Thomas Tribble Jr., Tribble's older brother. He said the story has influenced his own employment as a designer and builder of window curtains and valences.

"Out of the last 10 of my jobs, nine of the people asked if I was any relationship to Brian Tribble," he said. "I haven't lost any jobs, but I didn't get as many of several jobs because of this. People are very cautious about giving money to a Tribble right now."

Mrs. Tribble says her son's defense has cost the family \$17,000.

"We will be in debt the rest of our life," she said.

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