

Hunt decision angers blacks

From Page A1

(not permitted to work on the case), Mr. Hunt is willing to sign a waiver so that Mr. Sparrow can make the decision in the case.

In his book, "Professional Responsibility," Ronald D. Rotunda discusses "Vicarious Disqualifications" and their application to government and former government lawyers. He says, "Any affected client protected by the principles of Rule 1.10 may waive its protections if each client consents after consultation and the lawyer reasonably believes that his or her representation will not be adversely affected. Rule 1.10(d)."

He adds, "Rule 1.10 does not itself provide for any screening mechanism—any 'Chinese Wall' around the

affected attorney, cf. Rule 1.11(a)(1)—but the affected client may, if he so chooses, agree to consent on the condition that the affected attorney is screened."

Mr. Sparrow said, "I am required under the Code of Professional Responsibility as it was interpreted by the State Bar not to proceed, and they have informed me that it cannot be waived by the defendant. And I'm going to abide by that. I have to."

The Rev. Eversley said Mr. Sparrow is using that ruling as a convenient way to avoid making a decision because the Hunt case is so sensitive.

"The ethical thing to do is exercise the responsibility of the office of district attorney and make a determination in the case," he said.

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The Rev. Eversley expressed concern about the outside prosecutors and said Mr. Bowman is perceived in the black community as a "hanging judge" type of district attorney, and said the community fears that the Bowman team will "come in and manufacture another conviction."

Another committee member said Mr. Sparrow's move was a political cop-out. "The reason for an election is to hold the D.A. accountable to the citizens. With outside prosecutors who are not responsible to the citizens, to whom do the citizens complain?"

The Rev. Eversley said, "The black community and people of good

will hold Mr. Sparrow accountable morally, politically and in every other way for the way the outside prosecutors conduct this case."

On those statements Mr. Sparrow said he had no comment. Neither did he comment on the charge of "abdication and avoiding his electoral responsibilities by not deciding whether there was enough evidence to retry Darryl Hunt," as leveled by The Rev. Eversley.

"The issue is a matter of courage and backbone, and Warren Sparrow has been charged with the responsibility of having them or not," Mr. Eversley said. Again, Mr. Sparrow said, "I don't have any response to that."

Asked if ethics were not an issue,

would he pursue the Hunt case and make a determination, Mr. Sparrow said, "I don't have anything further to say about this. I'm not going to get into any hypothetical discussions about it."

He then added, "The reality is that we have two people here who worked on (Hunt's) defense. The State Bar says we cannot proceed with the decision to prosecute or not prosecute. We can't make any decision as long as that exists, so I will let the system work the way it's designed to work."

"There were two options here," he continued. "One was to get the special prosecutions people from the attorney general's office to take over

the case; the second was to assign someone specially. That's what has happened. I cannot do anything differently, once the conflict existed. That's just the way it is."

The Rev. Eversley remains adamant. "We are asking no favors. Our campaign is for truth and justice. In no way will the community accept this."

Mr. Hunt is serving a 40-year sentence in the Southern Correctional Center in Troy for stabbing Arthur Wilson in 1983. That murder conviction, which a Defense Fund Committee member said was made possible by the Sykes conviction, was overturned and is up for review by the N.C. Supreme Court.

Blacks trail on CAT test

From Page A1

ter than 50 out of every 100 students in the morning group.

Among all students, the largest gains were made by sixth-graders who scored at the 66th percentile, 16 points above the national average, 10 points above the state average, seven more than those in the region (which consists of school systems in Stokes, Rockingham, Caswell, Person, Guilford, Alamance, Orange, Davidson, Randolph, Chatham and Forsyth counties) and five points better than last year.

A look at the performance of Afro-American sixth-graders indicates that their scores were 32 points below that of white sixth-graders. Afro-American sixth-graders in the region scored 24 points less than whites, and those in the state scored

27 points less than white students in the same grade.

Third graders improved their total scores by two percentage points, from 66 last year to 68 this year, according to the test results. Their scores were seven points higher than other third graders in the state and five points higher than those in the region.

Afro-Americans in the third grade scored 36 points below white students. Those in the region scored 29 points less, and those in the state, 30 points less.

Eighth graders improved their scores by one point, from the 50th to the 60th percentile. They also bettered the performance of eighth graders in the region by four points and scored six points higher than the state average.

Local Afro-American eighth-graders scored 31 points below whites, at the 41st percentile. Those in the region scored at the 40th percentile, and those in the state at the 37th percentile.

Last year students in grades four, five and seven began taking the test locally.

"One of the reasons we give the test in grades 4, 5, and 7 is so they can become acquainted with the test and the test-taking process," Ms. Oldham said.

Fourth graders improved their scores by one point; fifth graders' scores went up by three points, and seventh graders' scores were bettered from the 58th to 62nd percentile.

Afro-Americans in grades three, six and eight scored higher than other

black students on regional and state levels. That, however, does not take away from the fact that they aren't doing as well as whites, Ms. Oldham said.

"It's a two-fold kind of thing," she explained. "We want African-American children to succeed, and by all the evidence of the test scores, they are succeeding. But one thing the tests do not do is measure certain factors, like socioeconomics and reinforcement from home."

"We all know the children who succeed come from homes where there's supposed to be two parents that are educated. If there are no books at home, how are children supposed to be motivated to learn?"

Unfortunately, she added, the standardized tests are the only mea-

sure that educators have developed to determine students' progress.

Copies of the test results go to Superintendent Larry D. Coble, principals and teachers throughout the system.

"Curriculum and instruction is the next step," Ms. Oldham said. The superintendent helps curriculum personnel formulate a curriculum to help with some strengthening," Ms. Oldham said.

"We try to make sure we have the proper tools, resources and that teachers have the proper training and we also look at next year's results -- this measures our progress -- not that of the teacher. It's not a question of is this a good or bad teacher but we're looking at the overall system. We are doing a good job overall."

Afro-Americans have long criticized standardized tests like the CAT and SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) for asking biased questions, however, the tests aren't as biased as they once were, Ms. Oldham said.

"I think that the tests are becoming a little more realistic," she said. "If you look at schools' materials that used to be all white, now people are portrayed using different colors. In the 'Dick and Jane' books, Dick may come from a one-parent household or Jane could have a handicap."

"Materials are more realistic and representative of society. The best part about it is now the Indian doesn't have to have parents but is depicted with the red skin color. We, I think, are becoming more in touch with what students' needs are."

Aldermen criticized at meeting

From Page A1

"triadism" and "regionalism" and join forces with nearby Greensboro and High Point to market this area. Gayle N. Anderson, executive vice president for the Greater Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce, best summarized the business leaders' discussion of the issue.

"There seemed to be a general consensus among the representatives of the business community that the entire region needed to work together more cooperatively, to take the initiative and begin to promote the Triad area as a whole to the rest of the country," Ms. Anderson explained. "In a situation like that Winston-Salem would benefit, the whole area would benefit from a regional approach rather than a local one. Together we have nearly one million people and that makes us an attractive area to market nationally."

Winston-Salem used to have a better working relationship with surrounding municipalities, said Richard N. Davis, owner of Davis Management Services and a city alderman from 1970-1977.

"If you look at the last several years, we haven't had cooperation among governmental entities," Mr. Davis said. "When I was on the Board of Aldermen we had regularly scheduled meetings with the county commissioners and the state legislators. We told them our plans and goals and they shared theirs."

"We were, as far as government was concerned, the most innovative city in the southeast. Now aldermen have stopped looking at things in that

innovative fashion. They are now interested in protecting their own turf. Instead of Winston-Salem being a leader we began to follow."

Another businessman accused board members of grandstanding and said the present leadership has no vision.

Alderman Martha S. Wood, who recently filed as a mayoral candidate, was the only elected official at the chamber's forum. She strongly disagreed with criticisms against the board.

"This Board of Aldermen is probably one of the most active boards of any group of city-council boards in the country," said Mrs. Wood. "We regularly attend national meetings, sit on national boards and many of our members sit on national boards and are chairs of policy committees."

"I don't want anybody in this room to go away thinking we're a bunch of individuals looking after our own turfs. We're a board, a group of individuals committed to service without any self-interest."

"I don't believe a word you're saying," one businessman interrupted. Others said that while Mrs. Wood's statements may be true, the community perception of the Board of Aldermen is a negative one.

Another chamber member said the best city-management systems he had seen were those in which officials were elected in non-partisan races and were not paid for their services.

Margaret Tennille, a former state legislator, said she also remembers

when Winston-Salem led the state in the education of its youth.

"I was in the school system when we had the best system in North Carolina," Mrs. Tennille said. "We were 25 years ahead of our time. One of the most important people who needs to be here (attending the forum) is the

new superintendent of schools."

Blanche Robinson, community affairs director with the chamber, told members that their comments would be included in the next newsletter and their concerns conveyed -- maybe in a panel discussion -- with candidates seeking office in the upcoming

November elections.

In the meantime, said Mr. Davis, business people should take more active roles in setting up the community's leaders.

"We just sit back and wait to see who's running," he said. "We need to take the leadership role and go to peo-


ple who (we) feel will make a good candidate and say, 'We want you to run.'

"Tap the right people for office instead of waiting for Tom, Dick and Harry and picking from anybody, nobody and somebody."



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