

# Workshop focuses on discipline, communications

By TONYA V. SMITH  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Effective student discipline and the direct transmission of report cards and progress reports from schools to parents were major issues discussed by parents attending the "Making Schools Work for You and Your Child" workshop Thursday in the Happy Hill Gardens Community Center.

Thursday's morning session was one of five workshops sponsored by the Concerned Mothers of Forsyth County, Winston-Salem Urban League, city-county schools, city Human Relations Department and the superintendent-appointed Community Human Relations/Cultural Diversity (CHR/CDC) Committee. About 20 parents, educators and community leaders attended Thursday's workshop.

Mazie Woodruff, who has grandchildren attending the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, said she was concerned about the disciplinary methods teachers use with elementary students.

"One of the things I'm concerned about is when I see little kindergarten boys sitting in the halls with books on their laps, obviously behaving themselves, when they were put out there for misbehaving," said the former county commissioner. "These children are usually little black boys who obviously can behave because they're behaving better in the hall than in the classroom. That upsets me."

"You may integrate the schools, but you can't integrate the mind and we need to realize that. I've said that if I ever saw one of my grandchildren sitting outside the classroom there's going to be trouble."

When there is a need for parental disciplinary intervention because of poor grades or misbehavior, that area is not addressed because the report cards and progress reports don't make it home, parents said.

"That's right," said Kathy Durham, mother of a 5-year-old girl and an 11-year-old boy. "Last year my

little boy got a progress report that said he got a bad attitude and he signed my name to it. I didn't find out about it until the teacher and I were talking and she asked me if I'd seen it."

the Urban League and one of chairs of the CHR/CDC committee.

"There is a lack of understanding of the creativity of our children," Ms. Smith said. "Children are smart, quick, manipulative and if teachers

before you go over and jump all over the teacher, calling her prejudiced," said parent Yvonne Jefferson. "Your child will take advantage of that and say, 'Mom, she doesn't like me because I'm black. She's prejudiced.'"

It's important for parents to communicate with teachers, said Lisa Howell.

"We really had to stick it out together, the teacher and I," said Mrs. Howell. "My son's teacher thought I was like other parents, not interested. But I was interested. For instance, my little boy would not bring home all his homework. He would bring only half of it and when I would ask if that was all, he'd say yes. After talking with the teacher and finding out what was going on, we came up with a system where she would write a paragraph of instructions explaining what all he was to do and she would sign it and I would sign it after he completed his assignments."

"Sometimes if you as a parent go out and show interest and show that you're not going to just accept that your child can't do it, you'll see results. A lot of the times it takes the parents and teachers to educate."

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Lee Faye Mack, far right, participates in the recent education workshop at the Happy Hill Gardens Community Center.

Photo by Mike Cunningham

Before parents and teachers can work cooperatively in the pursuit of education, they must understand children, said Delores Smith, president of

don't know that, parents will continue to be the last to know when there is an academic or disciplinary problem."

"You have to know your child

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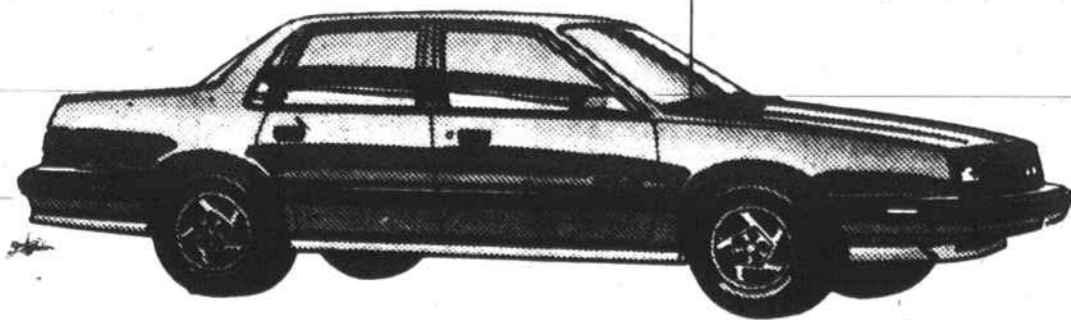
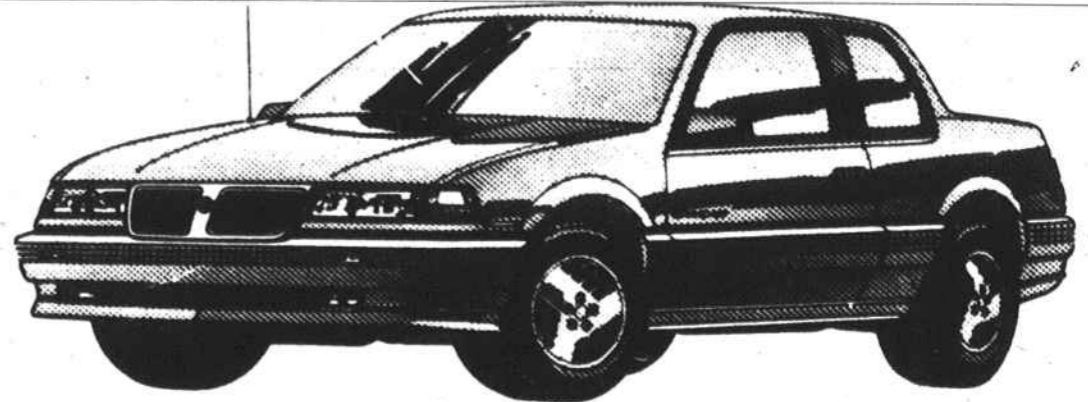
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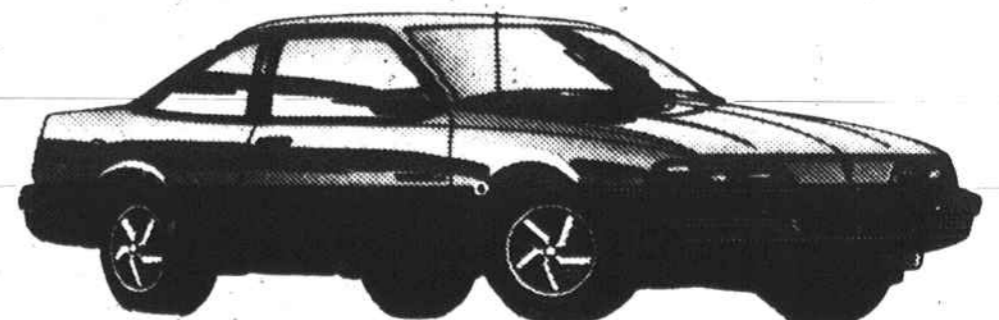
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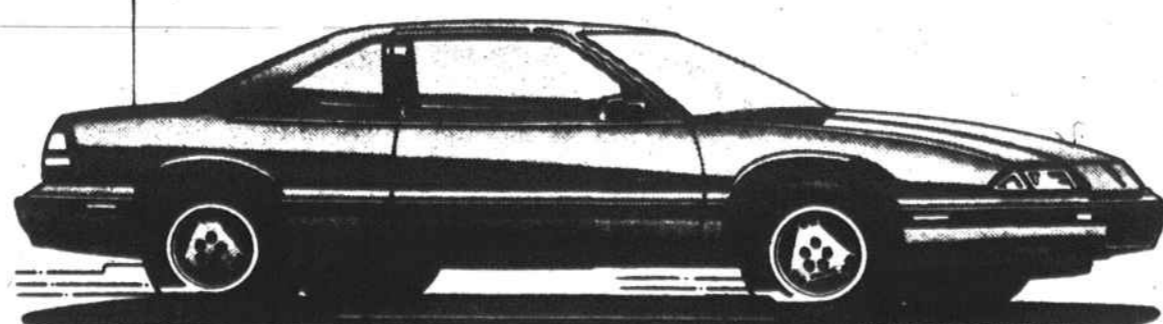
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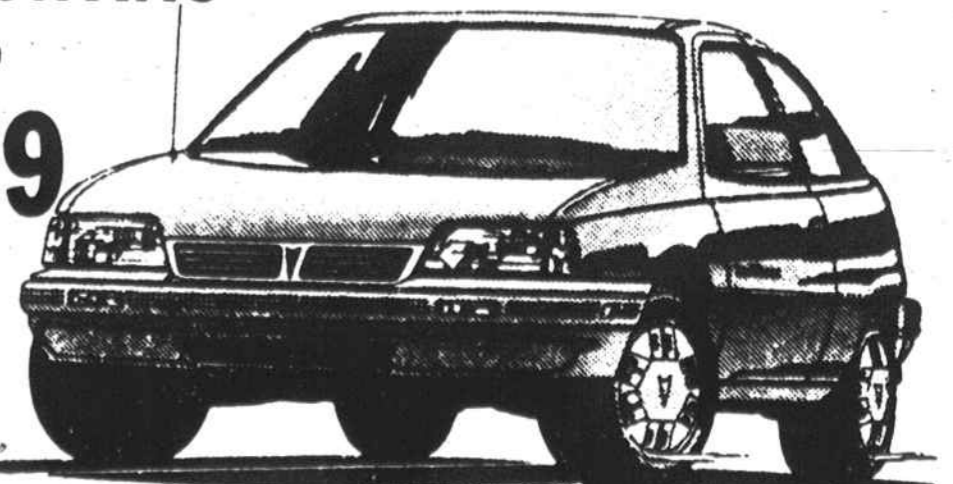


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### WSSU trustees elect new officers

From Chronicle Staff Reports

During its first meeting of the new academic year, Winston-Salem State University's Board of Trustees elected officers and administered the oath of office to new members on Sept. 14.

Robert Emken, former executive of RJR Nabisco, Inc., was elected chair; Rayford Means, deputy district attorney of Philadelphia, vice chair; and Paul Fulton, of Sara Lee Corporation, named secretary.

"This is a great time in the history of Winston-Salem State University," Mr. Emken said, "and I am pleased to offer leadership (to) the board as we continue to set and carry out priorities."

High Point businessman Robert Brown and Robert C. Vaughn Jr. of Petree, Stockton & Robinson law firm were installed as the new trustees along with reappointed member James Mack of Human Resource Consultants. Judge Loretta Biggs administered the oath.

In other matters, the board: heard a report from the chancellor regarding the success of the tree fund. To date, more than \$30,000 has been received to help rebeautify the campus following the May 5 tornado damage.

received a report on this fall's enrollment figures. New students for the 1989-90 academic year number 719, with 490 of them registering as freshmen. The total enrollment exceeds 2,500.

met with new faculty members. Nine of the 16 additions to the faculty have earned doctorates, bringing the university's Ph.D. count to 63 percent.

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