

Pop Warner
Action continues in city's football leagues for youngsters



Barrister Minister
Wentz Memorial's new pastor meshes legal, ministerial careers

50 Pages This Week

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Principal cleared on assault charges

Parents angry over judge's ruling, threaten to boycott, picket school

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Parents of the children who were allegedly shoved, kicked, scratched and slapped by William E. Honeycutt are disappointed and outraged with Judge Margaret L. Sharpe's decision to dismiss charges against the elementary school principal.

Mr. Honeycutt had been charged with seven counts of assault on children less than 12 years old. The charges were filed after the Mineral Springs Elementary School principal allegedly boarded a school bus on Sept. 11 looking for a student, became angry and began shoving and kicking students, according to children's testimonies.

All seven misdemeanor charges were dismissed Wednesday in Forsyth County District Court. Judge Sharpe said prosecutor Victoria L. Roemer did not prove that Mr. Honeycutt acted maliciously on six of the charges. She dismissed the seventh charge saying that the

state failed to prove that an assault took place.

However, two parents filed new charges against Mr. Honeycutt. One of them, Angelita Cherry, said she was disappointed with the judge's ruling.

"My daughter was just a witness in the trial, but after I saw what was going on yesterday I went to take out a warrant myself," Ms. Cherry said.

Her 10-year-old daughter Angel said her arm was twisted when Mr. Honeycutt allegedly shoved her into a seat on bus #553.

"Honeycutt has been doing this for years, this is nothing new," she said. "I had children at North Elementary when he was there and I know what he'll do. That man's been mistreating children since he's been in the system. And not only children but black teachers too!"

—Gracie Summers

The seven children whose parents had filed the charges and five others who were witnesses on the bus, testified that Mr. Honeycutt came on the bus saying he was "tired of this mess," and then began shoving them and kicking feet out of the center aisle.

"I was just trying to get to my assigned seat, and he just told me and this girl to get in our seats, and he shoved me on the shoulder and

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Photo by Mike Cunningham

Vikings Pee Wees cheerleader Ahkiah Allen gives it her all as she belts out a cheer for her team, which was competing with Walkertown.

Group wants Hunt released on bond

DA Sparrow to oppose defense request

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Attorneys representing Darryl Eugene Hunt are reportedly preparing materials to ask a judge to release on bond the man whose first- and second-degree murder convictions have been overturned by the State Supreme Court.

The Rev. John Mendez, a member of the Darryl Hunt Defense Fund Committee, said he spoke with Attorney James E. Ferguson II of Charlotte last week and that counsel is doing some preliminary work on the request for bond.

However, Forsyth District Attorney Warren Sparrow said Mr. Hunt poses a threat to the community and said he would oppose a request to release him on bond.

Last week, the N.C. Supreme Court overturned the jury's verdict which convicted Mr. Hunt of the Sept. 17, 1983, murder of Arthur Lee Wilson, who was robbed and beaten. Mr. Sparrow said he intends to retry Hunt in that case.

In June 1985, Mr. Hunt was convicted of the murder of Deborah B. Sykes, a copy editor with the now defunct Winston-Salem *Sentinel*. However, the Supreme Court overturned the jury's conviction in that case in May, saying that prosecutors improperly used hearsay evidence, particularly that of Mr. Hunt's then 14-year-old girlfriend who was a prostitute. Surry County District Attorney H. Dean Bowman has been assigned to decide whether he will retry that case.

Since the first-degree murder conviction of Mr. Hunt was overturned, members of his defense committee have called for his release. The defense committee was established by Attorney Larry Little during the investigation of Ms. Sykes' death. The most recent Supreme Court ruling has spawned an even greater effort to make Darryl Hunt a free man again, said Rev. Mendez.

"We're glad about the recent decision and we've anticipated it all along," he said. "We hope to have Darryl on the streets soon."

The pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church said he isn't surprised with Mr. Sparrow's decision to oppose bond for Mr. Hunt.

"We know he's as spineless as they come and he's going to bow to the pressure," said Rev. Mendez. "There's no reason for his office to deny Darryl the right to bond with the circus his court put on to hang Darryl. And their efforts were thrown out, rejected by the State Supreme Court. He should abide by that decision and grant Darryl bond."

Mr. Sparrow said the state's decision has nothing to do with his

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The Battle For Mayor

Smith rejects racist labeling

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Democratic mayoral candidate G. Dee Smith said he is tired of being tagged a racist, and his entourage of prominent Afro-American supporters are working hard to prove that he has the skills and the heart to lead the city's black and white communities.

With less than a week left before the Oct. 17 Democratic Primary runoff election, both Mr. Smith's camp and Martha S. Wood's are in a battle against time — both trying to erase negative labels from their respective political resumes.

On Sept. 26, Mrs. Wood lost a very close race to Mr. Smith — 87 votes separated the two.

Throughout the campaign Mrs. Wood has been

deemed the "anti-business" candidate, and most recently Mr. Smith the "good ol' boys" or "old guard's" choice.

Mr. Smith acknowledges that his troubles with the Afro-American community began when he said he favored the at-large election of city aldermen on a questionnaire prepared by the Winston-Salem Retail Merchants Association and the Greater Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce.

The results of that questionnaire was published in a booklet and made available to city residents, however, most of the Afro-American community became aware of Mr. Smith's stance when Attorney Larry Little, one of Mrs. Wood's supporters, circulated fliers a week

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A history of the office

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

The days when candidates climbed atop the stump in the center of town to proclaim why they should be elected have passed, and in their stead are the highly expensive, computerized campaigns visible in the 1989 city elections.

Winston-Salem's mayoral campaign really began before it was to begin, as Democratic candidate Martha S. Wood paid a political consulting firm \$10,000 to study the feasibility of her candi-

dacy.

To date, the four remaining candidates combined have spent more than a quarter of a million dollars and the general election is still three weeks away.

The man Mrs. Wood will meet in Tuesday's Democratic Primary runoff election leads the pack having spent \$128,860. Mrs. Wood is a close second with \$112,214. The Republican candidates, both businessmen, have been a bit more thrifty. The leading vote getter in

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Newell succumbs to illness

From Chronicle staff reports

After 84 years of service to his family and community, George F. Newell succumbed to a lengthy illness and died Tuesday night.

Mr. Newell, the husband of East Ward Alderman Virginia K. Newell, was born Nov. 3, 1905, in Clarkton to Charles Fisher and Aureila Jones Newell.

He received his bachelor's degree from Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, and a master's degree from Indiana University.

Mr. Newell moved to Winston-Salem in the early 1920s and was employed as a teacher at Atkins High School. He later left the city to pursue the teaching profession at Washington and

Ligon high schools, both in Raleigh.

His interests turned towards the Boy Scouts of America, and Mr. Newell completed executive's training with that organization in Mendham, N.J. He returned to the Twin City and became the first Afro-American troop leader.

Returning to teaching, Mr. Newell was an associate professor of physical science at Winston-Salem State University. He worked in the university's Student Services division and retired as Dean of Men.

Mr. Newell was a member of First Baptist Church, a former Sunday school teacher, a member of the Board of Directors of Mechanics and Farmers Bank and

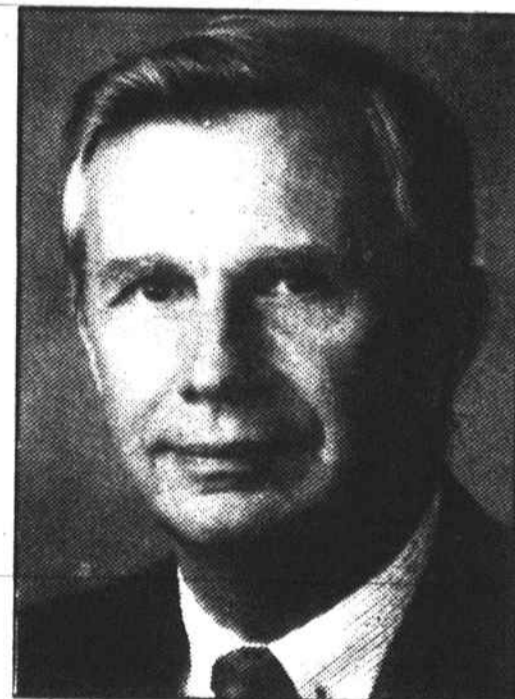
Experiment in Self Reliance, and a former member of the state Human Relations Commission. He was a charter member of the Alpha Pi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Newell; daughters, Dr. Virginia Deanne Newell-Banks, Youngstown, Ohio; Dr. Glenda Newell-Harris, San Francisco; sisters, Vivian N. Price of Wadesboro and Pochontas N. Michael of Clarkton, five grandchildren and one niece.

Kenneth R. Williams, chancellor emeritus of WSSU, said Mr. Newell's death represents a great loss to all who knew him.

"I knew Mr. Newell from the

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Dee Smith



George F. Newell, shown here with his wife Virginia, died Tuesday after a lengthy illness.

File Photo