



Photo by Mike Cunningham

A.P. Coleman is a councilman from Wilson and third vice president of the North Carolina League of Municipalities.

Elected officials vary on drug testing

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Your city has a drug problem and the police chief has what he thinks is a great idea to get elected officials involved in the clean up effort: He wants the mayor and Board of Aldermen to voluntarily submit to drug testing and the results made public.

The preceding was one of several hypothetical situations presented by Paul Weinman, assistant U.S. Attorney of the state's Middle District, to a panel of real elected officials during Tuesday morning's general session of the state League of Municipalities annual convention.

"I would commit myself to that," said panelist A.P. Coleman, a member of Wilson's city council and third vice president of the NCLM. "This drug problem is big and we've got to do whatever we can to solve it."

Attorney Lewis Allen disagreed, saying, "I would not take the same approach. Such a proposal would need a lot more discussion. I feel we would run the risk of an invasion of privacy, and it's offensive when you run the risk of inaccurate testing. I don't think it would benefit anyone because it would just be a token display."

"The mayor and elected officials have the responsibility of setting the example," said Mayor Edward E. Carter of Greenville. "I would be willing to submit to test-

ing and would consent to city-wide employee testing if it could be done legally."

When asked if the officials would support random searching of residents' homes, most of the panelists frowned at the idea. Mr. Weinman even suggested that consenting residents have some type of "you can search my home" sticker on their doors.

"Those who agree to have their homes searched probably do not have anything worth finding," said Charles Overton, assistant director of the State Bureau of Investigation. "A better thing to do would be to go into drug-high areas and help people there on matters of education. Be a spokesperson doing something against drugs."

But how do you convince a kid from the projects that it's better to work at minimum wage at Burger King than to earn \$1,000 a day dealing cocaine, Mr. Weinman asked.

"I think the key is education," Mr. Overton said. "But clearly we have to go to the kids who have not yet been effected by drugs and look at helping them."

Mayor R.G. "Chick" Young Jr. of Henderson said establishing community-wide support, suppressing drug dealers and pressuring the judicial system to prosecute would help alleviate the problem.

Mr. Weinman then asked panelists how they would respond after finding out a newly hired city manager had a drug problem.

"I think we should use the same approach with this manager as we would with somebody from the streets," Mr. Coleman said. "I would also suggest that he be given the opportunity to adjust himself and voluntarily resign or voluntarily get in a treatment center."

In a subsequent discussion which dealt with the way law enforcement officers should treat drug dealers and users, Mr. Carter said, "I think users deserve more consideration in terms of remediation of their problems than dealers. I don't think we should make a lot of concessions for dealers."

But how do you get to the dealers unless you put disproportionate pressure on the users, Mr. Weinman asked.

"I just believe we have to look at the problem where it is now," Mr. Coleman said. "I think we've got to assume that with the massive problem we have that all individuals in our society are potential users - whether they be ministers or airplane fliers - and look at them and deal with them in that way."

After a discussion about drugs in school, your 8-year-old son comes home and sees you drinking a martini. He tells you about the discussion in school and that alcohol is a drug. Then he asks you why the drug alcohol is not illegal. What do you say? Mr. Weinman asked.

Please see page A8

NAACP convenes in Raleigh

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Roughly 600 delegates are expected to attend the North Carolina State Conference of Branches NAACP annual State Convention which convenes today in Raleigh, said Mary L. Peeler, executive director.

The convention will be held through Oct. 21, Ms. Peeler said, and will feature various workshops and meetings designed to inform, enlighten and better prepare young and old NAACP members.

In addition to the numerous nationally renowned speakers who will be at the convention, Bessie Allen, coordinator of the local NAACP Learning Center, will make a special presentation during a workshop titled, "The N.C. NAACP Education Program: Setting Up A Community-based Tutorial" at 2 p.m. in the Marriott Hotel in Raleigh.

Today has been deemed "Religious Emphasis Day" and various workshops will focus on the church and the NAACP, Ms. Peeler said.

"The day will open with a morning message at Martin Street Baptist Church in Raleigh," she said. "The Rev. Claude Willie III, pastor of Rush Metropolitan AME Zion Church will render the message at 10 a.m. We'll also have various workshops during the day on the role of the black church in the civil rights struggle, benefits for church employees, counseling the black community on AIDS - a new one, and economic development for the church."

Later a noon luncheon will feature the Rev. Julius Hope, director of the National Religious Affairs

division of the NAACP national office. The luncheon and subsequent workshops on Thursday and Friday will be held at the Marriott, Ms. Peeler said.

Also on Thursday, L. R. Byrd an economic development consultant will conduct an informational workshop on fair share contracts and how to do business with state government.

Other workshops that day will discuss the City of Richmond vs. J.A. Croson Co. U.S. Supreme Court decision and teach Afro-American businesses the art of contract bidding.

On Friday the convention delegates will meet and at noon NAACP regional director Earl Shinoster will be the guest speaker during a luncheon.

"Other nuts and bolts type workshops will be held that day, such as the role of the district director, record keeping for secretaries and treasurers, the civil rights implications of the Supreme Court ruling on abortion, the redistricting process and a special session on the role of women in the NAACP," Ms. Peeler said. "There will also be a public mass meeting at Martin Street Baptist Church at 6:30 Friday that will feature a gospel music extravaganza and the Rev. Emmett Barns, national director of NAACP life memberships, will speak."

The academic role of the NAACP will be the focus of Saturday's workshops, Ms. Peeler said. Maurice Bridges, minority affairs director of Hardees, will speak at a 12:30 luncheon.

Two days of activities for high school and college students who are NAACP members have also been planned, Ms. Peeler said. The youth

seminars will be conducted at the Raleigh Sheraton Hotel. Their activities will include a debate on abortion, workshops on the sciences as a career, color prejudices in the Afro-American community, the new academic requirements for athletes, how to organize and lead students and the history of the NAACP. Jerome "Magic" Johnson, a former national karate champion, will speak to the youth during a luncheon Friday.

An Education Opportunity Fair, featuring 16 colleges and universities from the Carolinas, will be conducted as will a health fair, Ms. Peeler said.

The convention will climax Saturday evening with a banquet featuring attorney Floyd McKissick.

Pine Hall Brick Company would like to remind you that the time to get ready for winter is now. At **The Fireplace**, our home-hearth decorating center on Shorefair Drive, we have a newly expanded line of fireplace tools, accessories and building materials including:

- Hand forged Fireplace Tools
- Hand Made Decorative Bricks
- Peterson Real-Fyre Gas Logs
- Non-Combustible Hearth Rugs
- Brass Fireplace Tools
- Grate Furnace Air Blowers
- Glass Doors
- Decorative Accessories
- Fire Screens
- Chimney Caps
- Outside Air Kits
- Glass Block
- *Handmade* Fireplace Accessories
- Decorative Wood Mantels

THE FIREPLACE

Corner of 27th Street and Shorefair Drive
(In the Pine Hall Brick Company Office Behind Fairgrounds)
Winston-Salem, NC, (910) 721-7555, Monday-Friday 1:30-5:00

A Walk In The Country

Nothing beats a cool autumn day. Bright blue sky, warm sunshine. The rustle of fallen leaves. An occasional nippy breeze. Rich colors - forest green, maple gold, burgundy, plum, pumpkin, berry, chestnut. Now imagine an outfit that gives you that same feeling. You've got it. It's what's being called "country casual" or "country classic."

It's a combination of deep, rich colors, rich fabrics, rich textures. "It's a look most often associated with Ralph Lauren," said Marilyn Koonce, the fashion/special-events coordinator at Belk. "It reminds me of a walk in the country."

Belk opens its Country Casual department this week on Level II of its newly remodeled store in Hanes Mall.

The skirts glaze the ankle and look best worn with boots. The skirts often feature paisley or foulard prints - sometimes as a border along the bottom. The border is sometimes an equestrian or a country scene.

The fabrics include wool, cotton, silk, suede, tweeds, herringbone, leather, challis, corduroy.

Vests add a nice touch to the country casual look.

"Imagine this," she said, "a beautiful challis skirt with a gorgeous silk blouse and over that a sweater vest that might repeat part of the pattern that is printed on the skirt."

The look might be associated with Ralph Lauren, but plenty of other designer lines offer country casual designs: Susan Bristol, Herman Geist, Cambridge Dry Goods, J.H. Collectibles, Liz Claiborne.

"Maybe it's part of our interest in traditional values, in the home, our love of the land," Ms. Koonce said. "This look appeals to that part of us that wants to be outside enjoying nature, the part that wants to visit the folks back at home."

"We enjoy the way it makes us feel."

At Belk, the new Country Casual department is Just For You.



BURLINGTON, EDEN, GREENSBORO, HIGH POINT, LEXINGTON, REIDSVILLE, WINSTON-SALEM
Use Your Belk, Visa, MasterCard, American Express.

Belk IN THE TRIAD

Our boss up there doesn't get around like he used to. It seemed like we were doomed to watch soaps for the rest of our lives. But then he discovered WSTA's lift-equipped buses. Now we go when and where we need to. Who knows, maybe life does begin at 60.

Treat Your Feet, Take a Seat on WSTA.

WSTA Buses, Carpools, Vanpools, Trans-Aid
Winston-Salem Transit Authority
727-2000