

**Winston-Salem Chronicle**  
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# Mother laments change in her alma mater

To The Editor:

My career as a Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school parent began in August 1988. My little girl was very excited about going to school. But she was not as excited as I was.

The school my daughter would be attending was the same school I had attended 25 years earlier. I had such good memories of Kimberley Park School. You see, I only spent two years in the Winston-Salem school system, and the remainder of my school days were spent in New York City. But I never forgot those two years. Those years spent with teachers who really cared about who I was and where I was going, and being around children that all looked like me, gave me a sense of identity I was not able to find in the impersonal and insensitive integrated schools of New York.

I'll never forget one day at Kimberley Park when I was in the fifth grade. My teacher, Mrs. Bohanah, took me aside and told me, "Child, you have a good mind, and I mean for you to use it!" Those words echo in my mind even to this day when I feel like giving less than my best.

On the day my child was to go to orientation at my old alma mater, it was all I could do to keep her excitement down and mine too. As we walked inside the Kimberley Park building, I felt a sense of nostalgia. Even though this building was an entirely new one, I still could see in my mind those old gray walls and feel the supernatural presence of my principal, Mrs. Lewis. It didn't take long after that, however, to realize that this wasn't the school I remembered of 25 years ago, but instead had turned into the same impersonal and insensitive school that I had to endure most of my school life.

Valorie A. Hall  
 Concerned Mothers of Forsyth County

## A better world

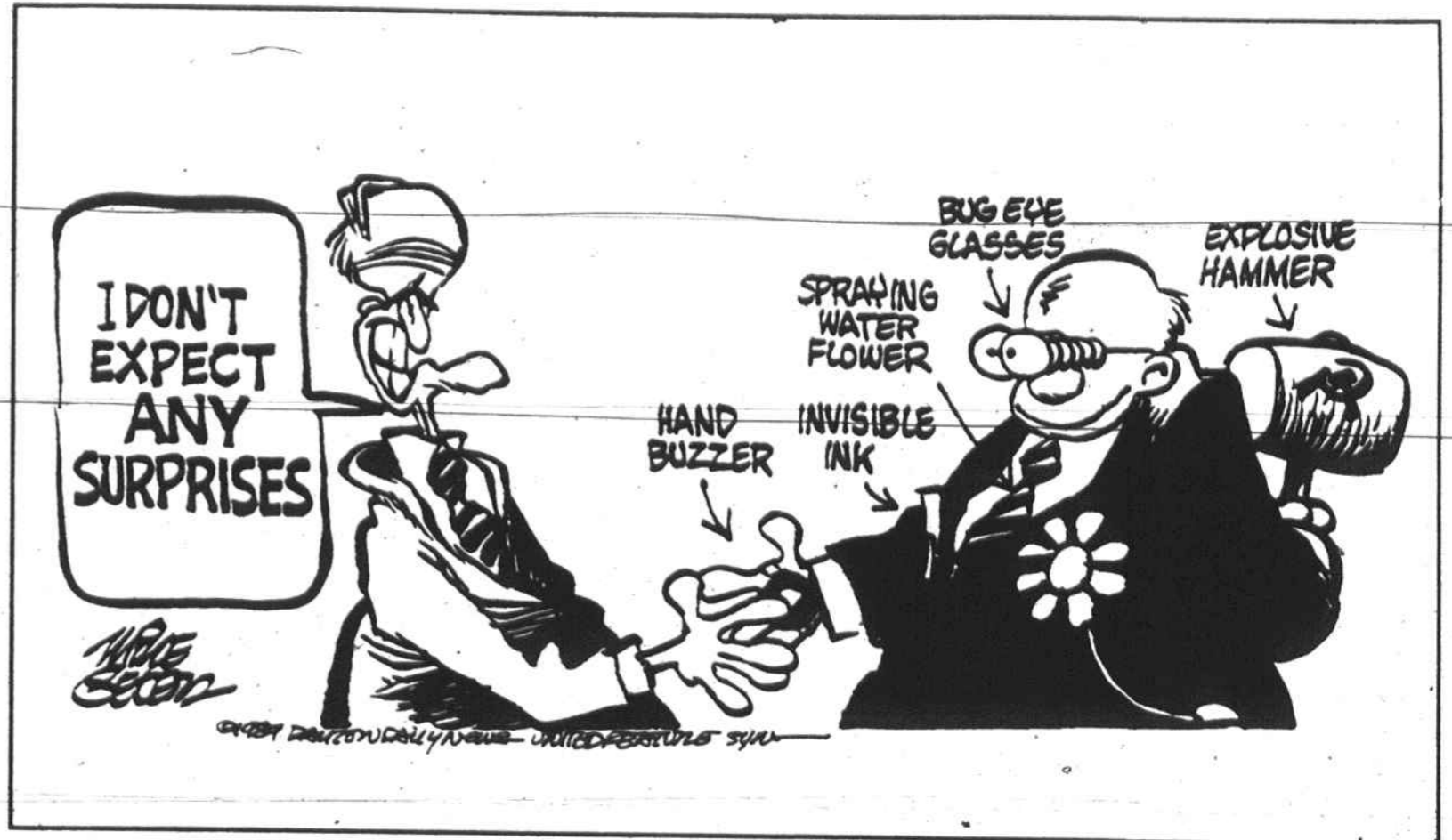
To The Editor:

The youths of the world, born of men who fought during World War II, are now putting their lives on the line for a better world.

In the spring of 1989, our son, Maurice Patrick Byers, born in Louisville, Ky., at the end of World War II, had a group of youth in Winston-Salem (financed by people of the arts) accompany him to Soweto, South Africa, traveling at expenses paid only.

Patrick's wife, Niki (of the same generation -- the "Life Giving Generation," I will call them), remained with their eight children at home. Niki and their oldest son rose early to carry newspapers to help out at home. A tornado touched down in Winston-Salem during Patrick's absence while working to promote cooperation, help and improvement with those in South Africa, both black and white.

Niki and the eight children gathered in the center of their little home by a wall as the tornado leveled much of Winston-Salem and uprooted six trees in their back yard. They gath-



## CHRONICLE MAILBAG Our Readers Speak Out

extensive coverage that you gave the Packer program and Pop Warner football in general. Your willingness to print the news of the Packer program allowed us to distribute positive news throughout the community.

Many times the general public only hears of the negative actions of today's young people. Pop Warner Football is a positive aspect of the lives of all our boys and girls. It is refreshing to be able to read about the good things they are doing. Also, I would like to publicly thank all of the parents, coaches, board members, community businesses and other adult volunteers who assisted in making our 1989 year a success. It takes many hours of hard work to do the things necessary to make this program successful.

Thank you once again for your support of the Packer program. I look forward to continuing our relationship in 1990.

Keith A. Kiser  
 Tiny Packer  
 Football Association Inc.  
 Pfafftown

## Making peace

To The Editor:

In response to the *Winston-Salem Chronicle's* Nov. 30 article, "Cartoon sparks racial violence at Glenn High School," I agree with Assistant Superintendent Palmer Friende that he would be concerned if it were a deliberate act that was designed and precipitated to offend.

It's now time that some of these blacks stopped wearing their feelings on their sleeves, stop being so petty, stop all this controversy, get those "Concerned Mothers" involved in a workshop so that they can learn how to get all the facts before raising hell. Introduce them to the Lord. "If my people which are called by name shall humble themselves, pray, seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will they hear from heaven and I will forgive their sins and I will heal the land."

Those black leaders who cried

wolf against Glenn High School were silent when Larry Little leveled charges of racism against then mayoral candidate Dee Smith, a man who has supported Afro-American causes with his dollars. I also saw that letter in the *Chronicle* signed by some-called leaders calling for peace. Now that the election is over, I offer the following prayer that everyone should pray:

"Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; despair, hope; darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

I love Lee Faye Mack, but God has called her to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, not get involved in all this worldliness. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God. Thanks.

Mary Sloan Jones  
 Winston-Salem

## Thanks for support

To The Editor:

To the staff of the *Winston-Salem Chronicle*: Thank you very much for your enthusiastic support of the 1989 CROP Walk for the Hungry. We appreciate the use of the *Chronicle's* office as a distribution office for materials, as well as the work done, especially by Robin Barksdale, in helping with publicity. In addition, we are grateful for the participation of so many of you in walking, collecting money and food, and buying shirts.

Though the figures are not final for this year's walk, we anticipate raising a total of about \$40,000, an increase of almost 40 percent over last year's amount.

On behalf of the CROP Walk Committee, and the hungry, thank you again.

Nancy Nelson  
 Dixie Sheff  
 Co-Coordinators  
 1989 CROP Walk

## Et tu, Vivian?

WHEN Afro-American voters went to the polls on Nov. 17 and ushered Martha Wood into the mayor's seat, many of them believed it was the dawning of a new era in Winston-Salem politics.

Black voters were euphoric. They believed that the Afro-American community finally would have a Board of Aldermen sensitive to their needs. Newly-elected Mayor Wood had proven her commitment, and another Afro-American alderman was elected to fill the vacancy left by Patrick Hairston.

Those hopes were dashed on Monday when it became apparent that Alderman Vivian H. Burke had no allegiance to the Afro-American community or the Democratic Party. With assistance from Burke, the four whites on the board were able to oust two black aldermen as chairs of crucial committees.

Blacks lost chairmanships of the powerful Finance and Public Works committees. In return, Burke secured for herself the title of mayor pro tem and retained her chairmanship of the Public Safety Committee.

Thanks to Burke, Afro-Americans now have less power on the board than they did before Wood came into office.

Burke betrayed the black community. She betrayed her constituents and she betrayed her fellow black aldermen. And for what purpose?

The most obvious purpose was self-aggrandizement. Burke sold out the Afro-American community for a title. She said that she decided that it would be good for the black community to have a black female as mayor pro tem.

If that is true, then her sense of what is beneficial to the black community is warped, to say the least. Certainly, it would be more beneficial for the black community to have two Afro-Americans chair the Finance and Public Works committees than to have one Afro-American in the inconsequential position of mayor pro tem.

Burke said her position as mayor pro tem would "bring distinction" to her ward and black women. Some misguided soul may buy that; but more enlightened people would agree that it brings distinction to no one other than Vivian Burke.

There also appears to be an element of vindictiveness in Burke's actions. Her dislike for Martha Wood is well-known. Despite her opposition to Wood, however, Burke's ward supported Wood in the mayoral election. So, apparently to avenge her fractured ego, Burke decided to sell her constituents' vote to conservative white Republicans.

What did Northington promise Burke for her betrayal besides the title of mayor pro tem and retention of the Public Safety Committee chair? Did he promise to support her for mayor in four years? Did he promise to put her name on the Public Safety building?

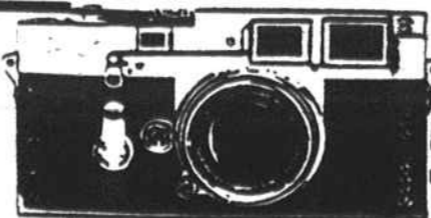
Does Burke actually believe that Northington and the other whites on the board would do more to further her political career than her own constituents?

Burke's actions prove that she has no regard for the welfare of anyone other than herself. That is a sad commentary for the Northeast Ward.

It is a sadder commentary about Burke, who justified her actions by saying that blacks needed to learn to be more "sophisticated" in the political arena.

We can only hope that Burke will one day learn that there is neither sophistication nor glory in vanity and malice, and that traitors eventually lose far more than they ever gained.

# Chronicle Camera



## How effective are city-sponsored drug awareness/education programs?

Winston-Salem joined municipalities across the nation this week in celebrating "National Cities Fight Back Against Drugs Week."

Dec. 3-Dec. 9 was set aside to encourage citizens throughout the United States to demonstrate their commitment to alleviating drug

abuse and related crimes. "Drug abuse continues to devastate the lives of individuals and families and reduces neighborhoods to war zones and causes the expenditure of exorbitant amounts of public funds and energy," reads the city Board of Aldermen resolution,

which declares the week. Educational seminars, public forums, a dinner and a march on drugs are just a few of the activities planned for the special week.

However, this is only one of several such informational platforms designed by city leaders to educate

the community about the drug epidemic in Winston-Salem, the state, nation and abroad.

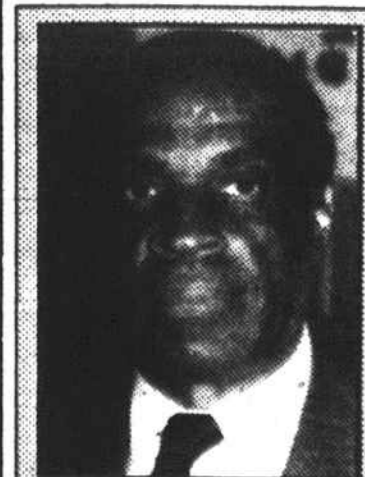
Parents have been shown drugs, told how they can determine if their children are users and given an opportunity to publicly denounce the illegal substances.

Attendance in the majority of the forums has been sparse. However, as assistant manager Alexander Beaty said, "I think if we only have one and we reach that person, we've done all right."

Afro-Americans and whites, men and women comprise the

Citizens Drug Task Force. Their mission is to enlist city residents as soldiers in the war on drugs.

Members of the group, who were surveyed this week, said they are confident in city-sponsored programs and their ability to make a change.



Henry Jones Jr.

"The city's programs have made residents aware of the seriousness of drugs, and how people can take part in fighting back."



Sheila Reynolds

"They're effective but only to a point. We've got to try to get citizens more involved so our efforts can grow."



Sophia Brown

"Most of all they're making citizens aware that drugs are bad for children and grownups as well."



Delores McGee

"They're giving people a chance to air their grievances and understand that there is power in numbers."



Sidney Welch

"I think they're very beneficial in letting people in, educating them about the problems and ways to solve them."