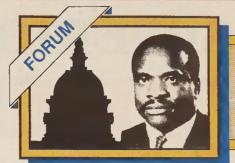


Urban League

House Speaker to speak during **Equal Opportunity Day.**

INSERT



Senate Hearings

Read Judge Clarence Thomas' complete opening statement.

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UNC CHAPEL HILL Winston-Salem Chronicle

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The AG Program

For every 100 students in the school's Academically Gifted (AG) Program, less that 6 (5.6) are African-American. African-American parents are concerned and are expressing discontent with the



white students

black students

AG Program only 5.6% black

In December 1990, there were 2,055 children in the AG (Academically Gifted) program in grades 3-9 in Forsyth County. Of those, 116 were African-American, 41 Asian, three Hispanic, one was American Indian, and 1,891

The local student body is 37% black, yet only 5.6% of students in the AG program are

Why so few black children?

"For the past 12 years we've asked the very same thing, and we never got a satisfactory answer," says Walter Marshall. As former president of the NAACP and current chairman of the education committee, he has monitored the situation closely.

One of the biggest reasons may be that white parents have lobbied long and hard to white people almost go into a frenzy if their kids aren't in the AG program," says Marshall. "At Cook Middle School at one time, about 70% of the white kids were in the AG program, and the rest of them were left in classes with black kids."

Sue Carson, community services manager for the school system, defends their actions. "We make a special effort to find black children who may have been overlooked in the initial testing," she says. "In fact, we test every single child who is recommended by a teacher."

No one knows how many teachers are able to discount race and cultural factors in their choice of students to be tested for gifted classes, but the county does have a fair percentage of black teachers. Of 2400 teachers. 23% are black

The tests used to determine eligibility for gifted classes are the California Achievement kind of IQ test, according to Carson. Both are standardized tests.

Beaufort Bailey, who for many years was the only black on the school board, notes that having too few black children in AG classes is a self-perpetuating problem.

"A lot of parents feel like it is too much pressure, even if their child is gifted, to put them in a classroom with all those white kids. They can't cope. Our children still have a tendency to segregate themselves even in an integrated situation.

One school official wondered if black children are victims of pressure not to excel academically, but Bailey disagrees. "I've never heard one tease another about being smart. If anything, they help each other.'

"We did a little survey, " says Walter Mar-

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ON THE AVANT-GARDE

By TANG NIVRI

For black folks only

This piece is written for black folks only. So if you are one of the many white folks who read Tang regularly, put the paper down and we'll see you next week

Last night I had a terrible dream. The Senate Judiciary Committee found itself hopelessly deadlocked in its deliberations over the confirmation of Supreme Court nominee, Judge Clarence Thomas. Both sides were preparing to fight the "mother of all battles" when a certain senator, running for reelection, decided that he had had a "change of heart" and was now willing to listen to those who opposed the Thomas

Fumbling through his notes, he found the phone number of Ben Hooks, president of the NAACP

"I know it's late Mr. Hooks, but this is Senator Jesse Helms and I need you to tell me one more time why you want me to oppose the Thomas nomination.

When I woke up, I was trembling with fear. It was as if I had seen the future and it did not

Question? When are we going to stop worrying about what white folks think about us? Really, when are we going to do what we genuinely think is in our OWN best interest whether they approve or disapprove?

Right about now some of you are probably saying, "My God, I can't believe the brother is actually saying this. I've felt the same way for so long. Thank God somebody has finally said it."

Well hold on; I may not be saying just what you think I am. This is not some kind of an antiwhite diatribe. This is about the survival of our

I ask the question because it seems to me that every time WE make a move, we do either one of two things: buy the white man's ice because we think it's cooler OR proudly die of thirst because we think he has poisoned the well. We have conceded all middle ground.

These days, everybody is talking about diversity and the demographic changes underway in our society. But for us, the whole issue of diversity is focused on ideology - which is the correct ideology that will ultimately lead us to the promised land — liberal or conservative? Such is the debate which simmers underneath the confirmation hearing of Judge Clarence

The debate has been spirited and even downright nasty. Many of Thomas' critics accuse him of having forgotten that he is black, implying that the brother has the "hue but not the view." Critics point to his record as chairman of the EEOC, his opposition to quotas, they don't like his wife and et. al. One brother even went so far as to say that our whole future

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Turner says Clark lied

Developer faced with charges explains actions now going head-to-head with John S.

By SHERIDAN HILL Chronicle Staff Writer

"Basically, John S. Clark is lying," says Herman Turner, president of New Walkertown Market Associates. " I have not and New Walkertown Market has not

embezzled anyone. We will have our day in court with John S. Clark, and they will get what's coming to

Despite Herman Turner's best efforts, the New Walkertown shopping center and New Walkertown Market Associates are still beset with problems.

Last year Turner made several visits to Paul United Methodist Church to reach an agreement over restitution for

damage to their property. Last week they got nervous and filed suit against his company.

The city is breathing down his neck about how he spent \$195,000, and John S. Clark Construction is suing his company, New Walkertown Market, for \$192,000 owed to them.

In the continuing saga of the New Walkertown shopping center, Turner and New Walkertown Market Associates are building, and then at the end we just

Clark Construction. Last week, Clark added new charges of embezzlement to the suit filed in August against New Walkertown.

Turner maintains that he is prepared to pay Clark the balance of their contract

Additional financing will be

needed to complete project

as soon as restitution is made to St.

Paul United Methodist Church for dam-

ages done to their property. The church

has sued New Walkertown Market for

"We had a fairly decent relationship with Herman," said Ricky Shutt,

spokesperson for John S. Clark Con-

"We thought we built him a good

actual and punitive damages.

financing that Turner claims to

guarantee another loan, this time

for \$200,000," said Ronald Seeber.

city attorney. The city is currently

responsible for \$375,000 of the

\$495,000 that New Walkertown

Market Associates borrowed from

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"Herman has asked the city to

In a statement issued last

week, Herman Turner said, "It is

important for New Walkertown

Market Associates to put the shop-

ping center project back on track

by resolving the Southern National

Bank foreclosure and finalizing

additional construction financing

the existence of the additional

But there is some debate over

already committed to the project."

simply couldn't get paid. He used the church thing as an excuse to not pay us. But if you look at the value of the work they required and the value of damage to the trees, it isn't anywhere near the amount Turner is holding.

Turner says that New Walkertown

Market Associates hasn't paid the \$192,000 bill from Clark Construction because Clark has not compensated St. United Methodist Church for cutting nearly five acres of trees on church property without authorization.

"We asked Clark to take care of this in March 1990, when it happened, and they chose not to do that," says Turner.

While holds Clark responsible, Clark representatives are quick to point out that they subcontracted the job to Bel-Tex Construction at Herman Turner's request.

"We had never had anything to do with them, but as a favor to Mr. Turner we agreed to use them," said Robinson. "Then, without any notice to Clark, Bel-Tex and a subcontractor they hired went

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Herman Turner

Project undercapitalized?

that New Walkertown Market's problems stem from starting out with too little money. Herman Turner disagrees, and has an explanation.

"East Winston is one of the poorest areas in Forsyth County. is primarily black, and it was created to house the poor. That is the result of institutional racism, and we were-taking bold steps to turn that around."

John S. Clark's attorney, Robinson, thinks Herman Turner had the best intentions when he hammered out a variety of

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Petree gets grant for at-risk kids

By YVETTE N. FREEMAN Chronicle Staff Writer

The Winston-Salem Foundation has awarded Petree Middle School a \$25,000 grant to develop a new innovative curriculum aimed at helping at-risk students at the school.

The \$25,400 grant will allow a ninemember team composed of teachers and curriculum coordinators from four middle schools, to develop a curriculum founded in the Paideian concept and focusing on seminar teaching.

The Paideian concept is based on three theories which define how students should be taught - a didactic/lecture presentation, coaching, and seminar teaching. Mandy Lotts, Petree's curriculum coordinator explains the latter as, "When you give students, for example, a piece of literature to read. And then you have a seminar where the leader of the seminar opens up the seminar with a leading question. And from that leading question, if it's a good question, hopefully, you can stimulate anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour and a half of discussion among the students."

She went on to explain the the purpose and importance of this approach among atrisk students. "It's really geared toward increasing self-esteem; toward increasing critical thinking skills," she stated. "And we felt that it would be wonderful for our kids who are at-risk kids, to be in a situation where there is no right or wrong answer;

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Jackie Jackson, guidance clerk; Bill Bailey, home school coordinator; and Mandy Lotts, curriculum coordinator at Petree Middle School, are all excited about the grant awarded to the school.