



Urban League

House Speaker to speak during Equal Opportunity Day.

INSERT



Senate Hearings

Read Judge Clarence Thomas' complete opening statement.

PAGE A4

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The AG Program

For every 100 students in the school's Academically Gifted (AG) Program, less than 6 (5.6) are African-American.

white students
black students

AG Program only 5.6% black

By SHERIDAN HILL
Chronicle Staff Writer

In December 1990, there were 2,055 children in the AG (Academically Gifted) program in grades 3-9 in Forsyth County.

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

Why so few black children?
For the past 12 years we've asked the very same thing, and we never got a satisfactory answer.

One of the biggest reasons may be that white parents have lobbied long and hard to

get their children into gifted classes.
Some white people almost go into a frenzy if their kids aren't in the AG program.

Sue Carson, community services manager for the school system, defends their actions.

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.

The tests used to determine eligibility for gifted classes are the California Achievement

Tests (CAT) and a cognitive skills test that is a kind of IQ test.

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.

One school official wondered if black children are victims of pressure not to excel academically.

We did a little survey, says Walter Mar-

Please see page A8



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.

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 include us.

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 anti-white diatribe. This is about the survival of our people.

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?

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.

Please see page A9

Turner says Clark lied

Developer faced with charges explains actions

By SHERIDAN HILL
Chronicle Staff Writer

Basically, John S. Clark is lying, says Herman Turner, president of New Walkertown Market Associates.

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 St. Paul United Methodist Church to reach an agreement over restitution for damage to their property.

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

now going head-to-head with John S. 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

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. Paul 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 Turner 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

Please see page A8



Herman Turner

Project under-capitalized?

There are those who charge that New Walkertown Market's problems stem from starting out with too little money.

East Winston is one of the poorest areas in Forsyth County, is primarily black, and it was created to house the poor.

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

Please see page A11

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 nine-member 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.

tor 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.

She went on to explain the the purpose and importance of this approach among at-risk students. It's really geared toward increasing self-esteem; toward increasing critical thinking skills, she stated.

Please see page A9



Jackle 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.