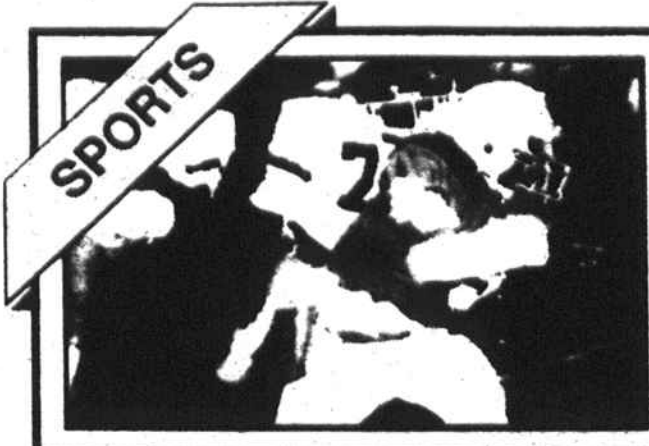


**NCNA Prez-Elect**

Lewisville woman's devotion to nursing pays off with top spot.

PAGE A10

**Eyes on the Prize**

Carver jayvees looking to finish season at 10-0.

PAGE B1

Winston-Salem Chronicle

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Urban Arts dissolved but programs still strong

Reduced funding killed program

By SHERIDAN HILL
Chronicle Staff Writer

Arts programs for people of color have not changed since the official dissolution of Urban Arts in June. That's what Reginald "Reggie" Johnson says, and if anyone thinks otherwise, he wants to know about it.

"The people have not lost Urban Arts," says Johnson. "I think they'll see it bigger and stronger now."

For the past three years, Urban Arts worked on a plan to become an independent organization, but a drastic reduction in corporate funding brought it to its knees. This summer, Urban Arts became known as the programming arm of the Arts Council.

"We don't see any change in services," says Johnson. "At least 80 percent of our programs are in neighborhoods of people of color. Our advisory committee is the same, and they are 80 percent black. Our staff is 80 percent people of color."

Urban Arts put on Carolina Streetscene and Mayfest, which were canceled after last year, when \$85,000 in corporate donations was lost. But all other arts programs are continuing full speed, says Johnson, such as Art 1s, which brings music, drama, dance, and

Please see page A2



Hamlin



Wharton-Little



Scippio



Johnson

'We need to maintain our identity'

Why a separate black group?

Winston-Salem's only independent black arts organization is Delta Fine Arts, founded in 1972 by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. Each year Delta Fine Arts brings a nationally recognized African-American writer to town and sponsors children's workshops.

Delta Fine Arts applies for and receives programming money from the Arts Council. Despite hard financial times the group is determined to maintain independence and not take major funding from the establishment.

Annette Scippio, former president, explains why:

"Organizations of color need to maintain their identity, not adopt the dominant culture. Arts Council funded members are measured by the same kind of criteria. Delta Fine Arts is run by black females. Our board is all black females. If we wanted to be funded by the Arts Council, we would have to add whites and males to our board."

Black groups often don't conform to the funding guidelines or eligibility requirements developed by whites. Some organizations are approaching this problem.

Please see page A2

Black artists call for Arts Center

By SHERIDAN HILL
Chronicle Staff Writer

Black artists in Winston-Salem, who are all but invisible, are making rumblings about forming a coalition. If they do, we can expect to see more black art gracing the halls of local galleries, and perhaps even a black arts center. They have a long way to go and many hurdles to cross, from a lack of funds and lack of public awareness to personality conflicts.

In the past five years, there have been several attempts to organize black artists. The current effort is being led by Glenda Wharton-Little, an artist and art professor at Winston-Salem State University.

Wharton-Little and the core group she has assembled recently submitted a grant application to the Arts Council to establish a facility with gallery space and studio space for black artists. Arts Council president David Hudson says the grants panel denied the request because of problems with the application, but he has assigned members of his staff to help them through the applications process, should they reapply.

Last September, Hudson asked Wharton-Little to

Please see page A2



ON THE AVANT-GARDE

By TANG NIVRI

Edge of Nothingness

Part 1 of 2 parts

We've drifted to the very edge of nothingness. Standing on the precipice of certain death. Only a fool would continue.

Our children know that something is dreadfully wrong. They've been trying to tell us but we've refused to listen.

Somewhere a few miles back — while our children slept in their mother's womb — mother and daddy took a wrong turn. Now the whole family is lost. Yes, children your parents are lost. We don't know where in God's name we're going. We are about as confused as a compass on the North pole. It's time for us to fess up. We're lost and we owe our children an explanation.

In our genuine search for the path to right human action, to human freedom, to right human growth and development, we determined that we alone would establish the values that are necessary to build a right and just society.

So we took prayer out of our public schools — and in its place we substituted nothingness.

Our children immediately sensed that we had made a mistake. But we insisted that we were the parents and they were the children. Father knows best! "But, you'll burn down the forest," they insisted. To which we responded, "yes, but we'll save the spotted owl."

And, now, after a generation of searching, searching, and searching, we must face the fact that all we have been able to find is a fathom of nothingness. A vast void of emptiness. We have nothing. They bought all kinds of tapes and things and listened to all kinds of music that was mostly about being nothing. They wanted to own nothing. And they wanted each other to have nothing. Nothingness. Life without meaning is nothingness.

What our children are saying by their actions is that we as parents — in all of our wisdom — must have determined that religion, and the role it plays in a civil society is not all so very important — for if it were why would we as parents have been willing to risk the survival of the entire forest in order to save the spotted owl. It doesn't make sense to them.

It is any wonder that our school teachers today are spending half the time fearing for their own safety — and that of their students while trying to teach somebody to read, write, multiply and understand.

Citizens rally in support of 'Ike' Howard

'Any action you may have read is not final. It's under my review.'

— Bill Stuart

By SHERIDAN HILL
Chronicle Staff Writer

As the city manager considers the possible termination of Isaac L. "Ike" Howard, black citizens are planning demonstrations of support for the man who served the city for 21 years.

City manager Bill Stuart was taken by surprise at Monday night's alderman meeting when the fiery Mary Sloan Jones took the podium to denounce Howard's termination and give city officials notice that she is organizing a pick-

et and boycott of the coliseum. About 20 people attended the meeting in support of Howard.

Last week, the *Chronicle* reported that on October 21, Isaac L. Howard was suspended without pay pending termination from his position as coliseum operations supervisor. At the alderman meeting, when Mayor Wood asked Bill Stuart to respond to Mary Sloan Jones, he said, "I have certain matters under review and I'm reviewing them very carefully."

Alderman Vivian Burke requested further clarification from Stuart: "Has he

been fired or not?" Stuart responded, "Any action you may have read is not final. It is under my review."

Sloan said she had known him for a long time, and "When Solomon came, Ike learned him everything. A black person ain't even got an opportunity in this town." She held up a sign which read, "Rehire Ike or Close the Coliseum and Let Solomon Go!" Michael G. Solomon is the director of the coliseum and Howard's supervisor.

Although city personnel matters are not supposed to be addressed at the

alderman's meeting, Sloan was allowed to speak at the end of the meeting when Alderman Larry Womble recognized her.

Alderman Nelson Malloy said yesterday that he is disappointed about Howard's possible firing. "Ike is a role model. I've never been aware of any complaints about his job performance. He works with the Boys Club and several other service groups. My experience with him is that he's been an exemplary employee. I'm of the opinion that someone is using some very poor judgment on this."

Winston Lake YMCA begins 'Black Achievers' program

By YVETTE N. FREEMAN
Chronicle Staff Writer

The Winston Lake YMCA is offering a program designed to encourage young African-American high school kids to develop and achieve high educational and career goals.

The program is "The Black Achievers" Program, which will be designed to expose students in grades 9 through 12, to various career and educational opportunities with the help and guidance of African-American adults representing many diverse professional and vocational careers.

"The program in itself is a program that recognizes the professional and community contributions of black corporate professionals. And it uses the skills of these individuals to mentor programs to raise academic standards for our kids. So through a series of mentoring, counseling, workshops, activities that involve showing kids where they're going in life, what's out there, what life has to offer them through educational opportunities, this is what the program actually gives the kids. This is how it works. It's more or less like them having someone to look up to, someone to emulate," said Carole Ragins, director of the Black Achievers Program.

Those mentors will include local and community leaders, business leaders, lawyers, doctors and any other African-American professionals. In fact, Benjamin Ruffin, corporate affairs director for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company is the program's corporate

spokesperson, and Ragins hopes that other local corporations will become involved in the program by providing not only financial support, but also black employees who would be willing to volunteer their time and support to the program.

"We're trying to instill this leadership ability in our youth in the Black Achievers Program," said Ragins. "That's why it is important that we have black mentors. A black mentor is what makes this program powerful because we have such a big problem out here with kids who are rebelling against the system because of the fact that racism is running rampant in our high schools, in our colleges, in our communities."

Throughout the year, the students will participate in a variety of activities which will include: Career Cluster Groups, where they will learn the criteria for accomplishing a particular career from a mentor in that profession; Field Trips and Tours of different colleges such as Morehouse and Spelman in Atlanta, Ga.; World of Work Seminars, where students will observe the daily operations of local corporations and small businesses; and Self-Esteem Workshops, where students will learn the importance of loving and respecting themselves, and coping with peer pressure.

The students will also take part in Black History and SAT workshops, tutoring sessions, career fairs and historical retreats, as well as other activities.

Ragins stated why the program is an important tool for young black kids.

Please see page A2



Carole Ragins, director of the Black Achievers Program, looks forward to helping high school kids raise their educational and career goals.