



AAU Wrap-ups

YMCA basketball teams battle for wins in play-off and final rounds of AAU.

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Melodic Strings

Local musician puts heart and soul in compositions on acoustic guitar.

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Winston-Salem Chronicle

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1993

"Power concedes nothing without a struggle." — Frederick Douglass

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Knight: Stoner "Just Another Dead Nigger"

Detective reads accounts of grizzly, racial slaying

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS Chronicle Managing Editor

A day after Carlos Colon Stoner's castrated body was found near Washington Park, a suspect in the killing, Rickey Eugene Knight Sr., dismissed the killing by telling police that Stoner was "just another dead nigger," a city detective said.

Detective Tommy G. Young of the Winston-Salem Police Department testified in Forsyth County Superior Court that Knight made that statement during a 32-minute interview that began at 5:35 a.m. on May 28.

"He stated, 'I don't see what the big deal is; it's just another dead nigger,'" Young said.

Stoner was black; Knight and the other three men arrested in killing are white.

Knight is charged with first-degree murder in the death of Stoner, who was found on a greenway off South Broad Street on May 27. He had been castrated, had a gaping hole in his chest and his penis had been cut off and stuffed in his mouth. Young read Knight's entire statement in court before the prosecution rested its case Tuesday afternoon.

Dwayne Gregory Doby, 22, and James Andrew Gilbert, 24, have pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in exchange for their testimony against Knight and Mark Anthony Smith. Both have already testified against Knight.

Knight said he and his friends wanted to beat up Stoner for "talking shit." He said they lured Stoner into

a pickup by saying they had some crack cocaine.

"We told him that we had a rock and we wanted him to go and smoke it with us," Knight said in the statement. "We just decided that we'd take him and beat him up."

After they arrived at the greenway and got out of the truck, Young testified, Knight struck Stoner in the head.

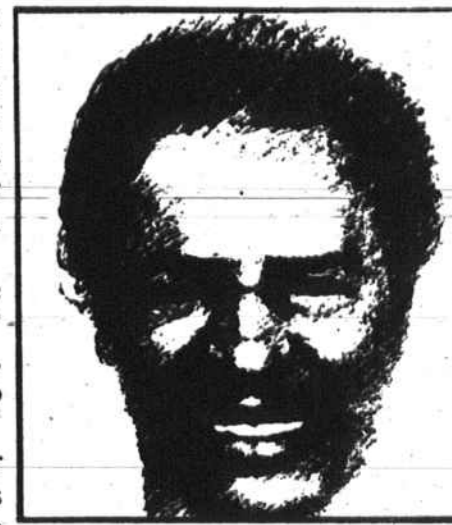
"I said let me introduce you to this. Bam! Hit him in the head. He spun around and Andy (Gilbert) stabbed him in the stomach," Knight said. "I said what you do that for? We just supposed to beat him up. He said 'Let's do this mother-fucker.' He fell on ground and I stabbed him three times after that."

Stoner was left at the greenway, but the men returned a short time later to ensure that he was dead. When they returned, Knight said he "stabbed him in the chest three or four times" stuck the six-inch blade

behind Stoner's ear, twisted it and pulled it out. He said in the statement that it was a trick his father had learned in Vietnam.

"We made sure he was dead," Knight said. "Dead men tell no tales."

Prosecutor Vince Rabil wants to show that



Carlos Stoner Please see page A9

National NEWS

Blacks Killing Blacks

DURHAM - The Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control have funded three pilot programs aimed in large part at curtailing the epidemic of violent deaths among young black males. Currently, gunshot wounds are the leading cause of death among teenage males as a group. But, among black teenagers, the number of murders has shot up by nearly 250% since 1985. In 1985, 643 black males, aged 15 to 19, died of gunshot wounds, but by last year the number stood at 1,640. The CDC pilot programs have begun in Durham, North Carolina, Houston, Texas, and New York City. Their approaches include parent training and developing student leaders. The goal is to determine which approach works best to reduce teen violence.

Politics Fail to Help Poor

ATLANTA - A new study, "The Status of Black Atlanta," is critical of black politicians and suggests that their rise to positions of influence has done little to better the lives of poor blacks. The study was compiled by Clark University's Southern Center for Studies in Public Policy. The center's director, Dr. Bob Holmes, said of Atlanta, "They (blacks) are in the majority in the city council and on the school board, but they need to focus on a general agenda for black people and not a personal agenda." The study focused on Atlanta because it is viewed as a symbol of black political and economic progress. But, Dr. Holmes charged that life for low- and moderate-income blacks has not improved during the 20 years of black political power. He implied that his results probably applied to most other cities where blacks have gained political power.

New Hope for Black Life

WASHINGTON - A new manual from a black anti-aging group suggests that average black life expectancy could surge to over 100 years, if African Americans would "adopt some simple lifestyle changes." Anti-aging researcher, James Nathan, adds: "The three keys to a long life are the strengths of your heart, lungs and mind." Nathan believes there are physical exercises, eating habits and mental techniques which can make the heart, lungs and mind produce life spans in excess of 100 years.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Page Number. Includes sections like BUSINESS, CLASSIFIEDS, COMMUNITY NEWS, EDITORIALS, ENTERTAINMENT, OBITUARIES, RELIGION, SPORTS, and THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY.

Anatomy of a Black Police Officer

Top Black Cop Talks About Stoner, McKellar Race, Law Enforcement

By KAREN M. HANNON Chronicle Staff Writer

Twenty-five years in law enforcement has not made Oliver D. Redd callous, insensitive, cynical or bitter.

And that's no small wonder considering that he has seen some of his comrades in arms lose their lives — three officers within the last 10 months: he has seen white officers accused of treating black citizens unfairly; and undoubtedly he himself has seen his share of racism while climbing through the ranks in the Winston-Salem Police Department, where, as assistant chief, he is the highest ranking African American on the force.

Although the city and the department have been rife with racial tensions over the past year, Redd said a good police officer is able to balance being black and being a police officer.

"A less mature officer, whether African American or not... (is) just out there with blinders on and wants to be a part of a group," he said. "But as the years go by and they gain experience and knowledge and understanding, they become more sensitized about all things that may be improper. After young officers gain some maturity and experience and understanding, they become



Assistant Police Chief Oliver D. Redd

whole and have closure in their ability to deal with the public." The department was severely criticized last summer following the

"If you go to the jail on visitor's day and look at all these people lined up with small kids trying to get in to see somebody, it really is an eye-opener, and it's sad."

— Oliver Redd

deaths of Carlos Stoner and Sheila Epps McKellar, both of whom were black. Stoner was allegedly killed

Chronicle conducted an investigation. Please see page A11

Blacks' Numbers Low In Police Ranks

Many offer explanations, but no solutions on table

By MARK R. MOSS Chronicle Staff Writer

While blacks comprise nearly 40 percent of the city's population, only 18 percent of the Winston-Salem Police Department is black. Of the 419 sworn law-enforcement officers in the department, only 76 are African American.

City officials as well as black community leaders say they are not happy with the numbers. Both say that the representation in the department should mirror the percentage of minorities in the city.

"It's a number that we wish was higher," City Manager Bill Stuart said.

The reasons for the small number of African Americans on the force vary. Some say the negative perception the black community has toward law enforcement keeps them from applying. Others cite the failure of blacks to meet the academic requirements in the police academy, while some say the department does not do enough to attract African-American candidates.

Stuart said the city has a goal of one-third of all protective services — which includes the Winston-Salem Fire Department and administration for both departments — to be black. The current figure for sworn and civilian employees in the police department is 22.5 percent.

The percentage of minorities for all protective services — below the rank of sergeant for police and supervisor for the fire department — was 14.5 in 1980. That included a work force of 372 positions, said Stuart. Currently, there are 521 positions, and minority representation has risen to 29.1 percent.

"That's 150 more positions," said Stuart, "while we doubled the minority percentage."

That doesn't satisfy everyone though. "The police department ought to be more sensitive

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Beaming With Pride, Kinfolks Log Miles for Graduation

Watt tells grads to carry the torch

By MARK R. MOSS Chronicle Staff Writer

Although Rep. Melvin Watt was the featured speaker at Winston-Salem State University's commencement on Saturday, he was not the reason for the healthy crowd who had gathered Saturday morning at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

People like Mary Greene and Willie Thompson had driven miles to see their dream come to life with the bestowing of degrees on their cherished kin, and the fact that the congressman was there was merely embroidery on the dress it took four years to make.

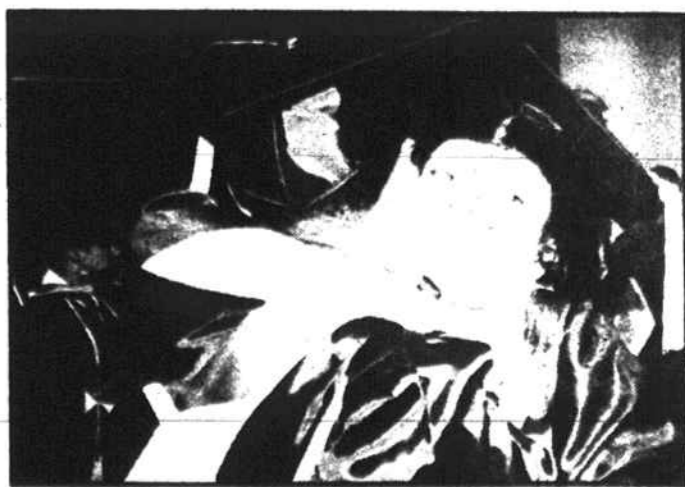
"Oh yes!" Greene responded, when asked was she excited about her granddaughter's graduation. "I'm so proud."

Greene, along with her daughter and grandson, had gotten up early that morning for the four-hour drive from Riegelwood. Decked out in their Sunday best, the three waited patiently for Vita Jacobs to march onto the floor and receive her business communications degree.

"I'm excited, proud and relieved," said Willie Thompson, who came from Roseboro to see his daughter, Dwan Lynnette Thompson, get her nursing degree. Thompson, who was accompanied by 12 other relatives who had come from as far away as Atlanta, said that his daughter had gotten many job offers, and he emphasized that she was going to go to work.

"She's needs to work; she's been dependent for too long," he said, chuckling.

When told that Watt was speaking, Thompson



WSSU graduates say their good byes, shrugged and looked out towards the growing sea of mortarboards assembling in their places below.

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