

# All Talk, No Action is Sentiment at Discussion on Racism

▲ *Mostly white crowd chastised for saying meeting is good*

By MARK R. MOSS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

African Americans who recently attended a meeting on race relations said such gatherings won't work without better black representation and were critical of meetings that do not achieve results.

The predominantly white audience seemed to be buoyed by the fact that they had gathered at the meeting. But that was before the Rev. William S. Fails, pastor of First United Baptist Church in High Point, issued a reality check.

"There are 15 blacks in this room and 150 whites, and everybody is saying this is good," Fails said. "This is not good! This is dangerous!"

He reminded the audience at "A Public Dialogue on Race Relations" that "racism was predicated on dishonesty," and that they were being dishonest by claiming that it was a good meeting.

The meeting, held on the city's West side at St. Paul's Episcopal Church last Wednesday, was spon-

sored by the Episcopal Churches of the Triad and attracted about 80 people, less than a dozen of whom were black. The next meeting will be held in East Winston.

The panel members were: Mayor Martha Wood; the Rev. Carlton Eversley, pastor of Dellabrook Presbyterian Church; Nat Irvin, vice chancellor for university relations at Winston-Salem State University; and Marcia Epstein, principal of Moore Elementary School. They discussed their worst instance of racism and the most recent incident involving prejudiced treatment.

"One of the best things I've seen in this community," Wood said, "is the size of this gathering tonight."

Wood told of the time she and her husband, who was once a minister at a church in Centerville, had a run-in with church officials. The mayor, who was teaching school at the time, had invited black and white children to her home for a party. The residents were upset that black children were in the neighborhood, and the Woods were told not

to have another party. When they did, Frank Wood lost his job.

The mayor also mentioned the controversy surrounding the naming of the coliseum in 1987 after Lawrence Joel, who was the only city resident to have received the Congressional Medal of Honor. Joel is black. She said the subtle threats she received concerning her political longevity made her feel as if "I was back in the '60s."

"It was an agonizing time for me and my family," she said.

For Eversley, who grew up in Bedford-Stuyvesant, a predominantly lower-middle class community in Brooklyn, he was in the fourth grade when he realized that people lived in neighborhoods better than his. He had been placed in a gifted program in school and was transferred to a school in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, a predominantly Jewish community where the neighborhoods were considered much better.

"I think I represent a lot of people who are tired . . . of educating white folks," Eversley said.

He went on to down play the importance of race as the definition of an ethnic group, and instead focused on his steadfast faith in reli-



Nat Irvin



Martha Wood



Carlton Eversley

gion. "If you take the Judeo-Christian religion seriously . . . every human is sinful in the eyes of God," he said. There were other issues he claimed he cared about "more than someone calling me a name that rhymes with trigger." However, he made the point that "Winston-Salem is one of the most racially segregated cities in the country."

Irvin started his presentation by saying that he was neither a Democrat nor Republican, but is "associated with values."

While growing up in North

Augusta, S.C., where golf was the popular sport, he came close to losing an eye as a boy because of his attempts to play the game and one hospital's unwillingness to accept blacks as patients.

"Most white folks never had to struggle to ride the bus, vote, or go to the library," he said. Today, he said, he has been asked to join three all-white golf courses.

Epstein, who grew up in Cleveland, said that her "confidence and faith" that people can end racism "jives with Judaism, which believes that things can get better on this

earth." Being a Jew has made her "aware of the victimization of people."

The Rev. L.V. Stennis, bishop and chief executive officer of the Christian Charismatic Methodist Church, introduced a sobering note to the proceedings.

He said he had been to meetings like this before, and nothing concrete was ever accomplished because the "people who have the power are never at meetings like these."

## Night Club Shooting Leaves One Dead

▲ *22-year-old arrested; 11th murder in '93*

By MARK R. MOSS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

William Eugene Sanders became the 11th person to be murdered in the city this year after he was gunned down over the weekend in a North Liberty Street night club.

Sanders, 42, of 2515 Greenway Ave., was shot around 2 a.m. Sunday after arguing with a man at the Class Act night club at 2407 N. Liberty St., Winston-Salem Police Department Capt. Michael McKoy said. Sanders died two hours later at Baptist Hospital, McKoy said.

Robert Joseph Franklin, 22, of 4009 Indiana Ave., was arrested several hours after the incident and charged with murder. McKoy said Franklin turned himself in.

An officer was outside the night club investigating a car accident when the officer heard shots inside the club, McKoy said. The officer found Sanders lying on his back on the club's floor with a chest wound. McKoy said officers recovered small-caliber shell casings.

Witnesses said Sanders and another man had been arguing, McKoy said.

The club is not known as a trouble spot, McKoy said, and the shooting "was the most serious

thing that's happened there" in a while.

"Bill," as Sanders was known to his co-workers at Independence Village of Winston-Salem, a retirement home, was supervisor of the dietary department.

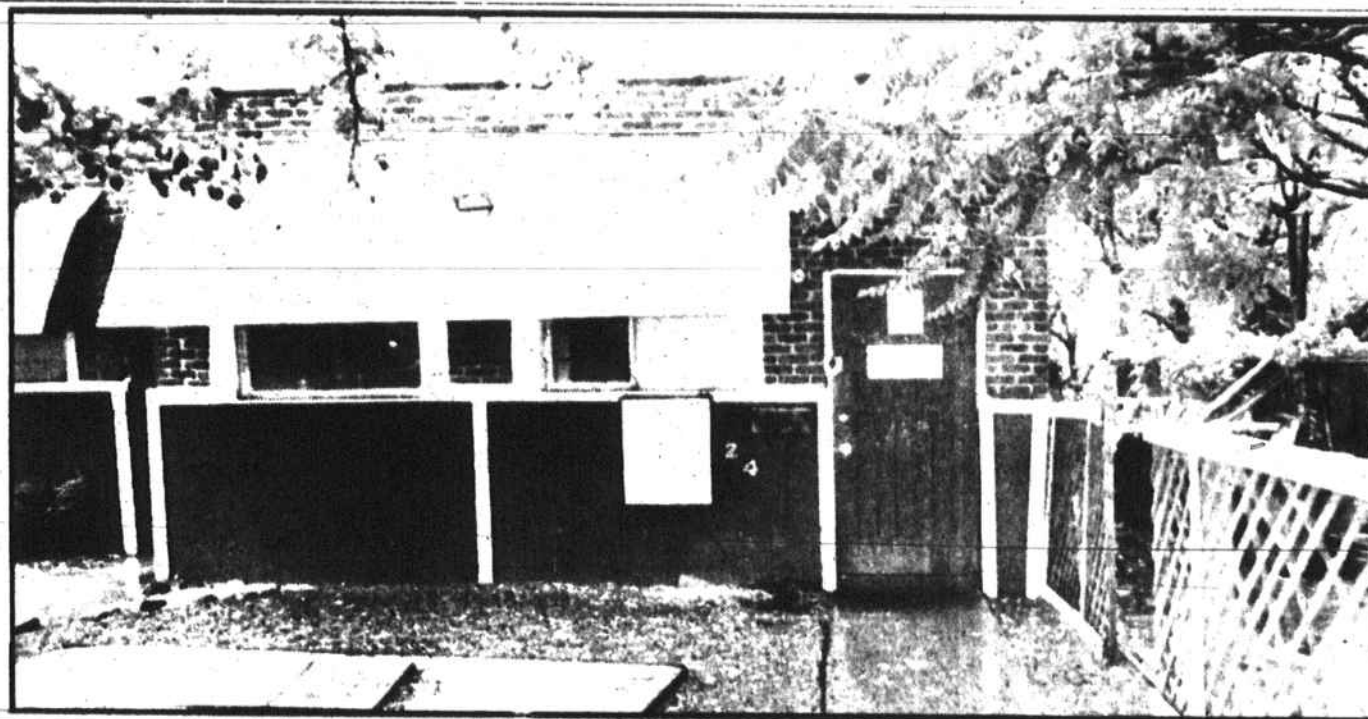
"He was a courteous person who showed respect to his superiors," said Paul Fuller, the home's manager. He said Sanders had worked there about two years. Fuller said he was aware that Sanders had some domestic problems, but he never brought them to work.

Angus McKee, an elderly man found Monday afternoon sitting on the porch of the home where Sanders rented a room, called Sanders a "good fella" who never caused any problems. Sanders' father had been by early Monday morning to pick up his son's belongings, McKee said.

Police Capt. Linda Davis said that of the 11 murders that have been committed so far this year, all but two have been solved. Those two involved the deaths of Ulysses A. Morrison and Consuela Hope McCullin, Davis said.

At this time last year, 14 homicides had been committed in the city.

"We're a little behind last year's," Davis said, "but that's good."



The Class Act night club, at 2407 N. Liberty St., was the scene of fatal shooting.

## NAACP Seeks an End to Violence

▲ *Hopes to head off a long, hot summer*

By MARK R. MOSS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

The Winston-Salem branch of the NAACP has announced that it will work with a number of organizations to help eradicate violence in African-American communities.

"As we prepare for the closing of schools in the next few weeks, we must ensure that this will not be a long, hot summer," local president William Tatum said in the statement he read at Monday's press conference.

Tatum was accompanied at the meeting by a half dozen people who represented a variety of organizations, including members of the

Winston-Salem Police Department, the Winston-Salem Housing Authority, a local minister and two employees of a Greensboro radio station.

"We must frankly discuss the lack of respect for personal life, family disintegration, the loss of long-held values and a lack of respect for law enforcement that exists in our community today," he said. Emphasizing the need to give the police more respect, Tatum said that as part of a new cooperation with local law enforcement, the police will help increase the crime-watch program and will enforce loitering laws. Tatum said the NAACP's action plan includes providing activities for youths, convening meetings between law enforcement and African Americans and developing a partnership with busi-



Bill Tatum

nesses and government to provide summer employment for youths.

"It's time today . . . for us to concede that we are not doing all we should to ensure our collective survival. We challenge the black community today . . . to take responsibility for our fate," Tatum said.

## Watt Opens Local Office



Mel Watt

Rep. Mel Watt has announced that he is opening a Winston-Salem office to serve 12th district constituents living in Forsyth County.

The office is located in the Black-Phillips-Smith Neighborhood Government Services Office, 2301 N. Patterson Ave. The office is staffed by 12th District aide Pam Stubbs and will be open each Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is (919) 727-2975.

The Forsyth County office site brings to four the number of offices Watt maintains in his 10-county district. Other offices are in Charlotte, Durham and Greensboro.

## Special Program Grooms Blacks from page A1

that various boards and committees have representation that accurately reflects the makeup of the county's population. The program trains black professionals to serve on various boards and makes their qualifications available to more than 300 non-profit organizations.

Mayor Martha S. Wood congratulated the graduates and called them "people who are eager to turn this community right-side up."

"In order to be a strong community we must have strong individuals

determined to make it as strong as it can be," Wood said. "It really impresses me to see people who are taking responsibility and making sure there are people ready to tackle the problems we must solve."

Project Blueprint began last fall with 18 out of 20 members of the inaugural class given appointments. Of this year's class, six of the 18 graduates are black males, including class spokesman Michael D. Samuels. Samuels, president of

Connecticut-based Network Plus International, said he participated in the 12-hour training session because he wanted to make a difference in the community.

"Things have changed since I've been gone the last 16 years, so I wanted to come back and help the city progress," said Samuels, who will be relocating his business to Winston-Salem.

United Way President Floyd

Davis said the program was initiated because the county's boards need to become more culturally diverse.

"We are very pleased with the program's success," he said. "Right now all of our previous graduates are either serving on a board or they are in the process of being appointed."

Project Blueprint is currently targeting blacks, but Davis said future workshops will target other minorities, including Hispanics and women.

## Retailer Pulls Ad

The article that prompted Stockton to withhold advertising was not about his business. Stockton said he was upset about a May 6 article on the front page of the Chronicle wherein some members of the black community were critical of Oprah Winfrey for visiting a family on Arbor Road in the city's exclusive Buena Vista.

"The Oprah thing just got under my skin," Stockton said. "I don't think that was news that she went over to Buena Vista." Stockton lives

on Lawndale Drive in Buena Vista. He denied that he said he'd never again run ads in the Chronicle, but later added: "I'm going to do advertising with whomever I choose."

"I did not say we would not be doing any future advertising," Stockton said. When asked what he did say to the Chronicle salesman, Stockton replied: "My comment is between him and me."

Ernest H. Pitt, the Chronicle's publisher, said the newspaper would not compromise its integrity by only

printing articles with which advertisers might agree.

"I cannot be made to print only what an advertiser agrees with," Pitt said. "That's unfortunate that an advertiser believes that they should control what goes into this newspaper."

"We have nearly 30,000 readers weekly and normally an advertiser is more concerned about the number of people who read the paper as opposed to the editorial content," Pitt said.

## from page A1

Joe Doster, publisher of the Winston-Salem Journal and former president of the First Amendment Foundation, called it a "credibility issue."

"I've taken some hits myself," Doster said. "We ran an article on Vic Flow, who's one of our biggest advertisers, that he didn't agree with. You gotta do what you think is good journalism, and sometimes people don't agree with it."

Consumer Information Center  
Department KO  
Pueblo, Colorado 81009



A public service of this publication and the Consumer Information Center of the U.S. General Services Administration

## Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Twin City's Award-Winning Newspaper  
617 N. Liberty Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27102  
(919) 722-8624

Single Copy 75¢

Mail Subscription Rates (payable with order)

In County	
2 years	\$40.95
1 year	30.72
6 mos.	20.48
3 mos.	10.24
Out of County/State	
2 years	\$45.95
1 year	35.72
6 mos.	25.48
3 mos.	15.24

Yes, please send me the Chronicle.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed for  
 2 years  1 year  6 months  3 months

Mail to: Winston-Salem Chronicle  
P.O. Box 1636  
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102

The Winston-Salem Chronicle is published every Thursday by the Winston-Salem Chronicle Publishing Co. Inc., 617 N. Liberty St.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1636  
Winston-Salem, NC 27102

Phone: (919) 722-8624  
FAX: (919) 723-9173  
Second class postage 051 paid at Winston-Salem, NC 27102

The Winston-Salem Chronicle is a member of:

- Audit Bureau of Circulation
- National Newspapers Publishers Association
- North Carolina Press Association
- North Carolina Black Publishers Association

National Advertising Representative:  
Amalgamated Publishers, Inc.  
(212) 869-5220