Page A6 Winston-Salem Chronicle Thursday, July 15, 1993

Chief Calls for Investigation

By MARK R. MOSS Chronicle Staff Writer

Winston-Salem Police Chief George Sweat has asked the State Bureau of Investigation to investigate an incident involving an arrest last week that ended with a black suspect being hospitalized after he became unconscious while in police custody.

Lawrence Francisco Cannon remained in critical condition at Forsyth Memorial Hospital this week, following his early-morning arrest July 7. A hospital spokesman said Cannon had suffered a heart attack.

As has been his custom, Sweat did not return a *Chronicle* reporter's calls.

However, Capt. G. C. Cornatzer, of internal affairs, said Sweat called in the SBI because he wanted to "take a look at everything involved." Emphasizing that he was not speaking for Sweat, Cornatzer added that he thought the chief wanted an investigation that would be as objective as possible. When pressed, he said that past incidences in which the police were accused of brutality, such as the Sheila Ann McKellar case, may have been factors in the chief's decision. McKellar died while in police custody a year ago, and the district attorney determined earlier this year that the five officers involved in her arrest were not culpable.

The police said that an unidentified man flagged down an officer in the 1000 block of East 15th Street around 4 a.m. on July 7 and pointed to a man lying in the front seat of a 1978 Ford LTD. The car's owner told the officer that he didn't know who the man was and wanted to press charges.

A second officer arrived, and when the two attempted to handcuff Cannon, he resisted and the officers used pepper spray, police said. After Cannon was taken to the warrant office and charged with tam-



Lawrence Francisco Cannon

pering with a motor vehicle and delaying an officer, he was taken to the Forsyth County Jail.

Police said Cannon tripped and fell on the steps "without apparent injury." The jailer refused to admit Cannon until he was treated at Forsyth Memorial Hospital. When they arrived at the hospital, police said, Cannon was unconscious.

Emergency medical personnel worked on Cannon in the parking lot for several minutes, then he was moved to the emergency room where they continued treatment.

Cornatzer said that around midnight that evening, Cannon had been accused of assaulting someone in the 1200 block of N. Liberty St. The man who reported the incident attempted to file charges against Cannon, but a clerk in the warrant office couldn't find probable cause to issue an warrant. About two hours later, the owner of a Liberty Street convenience store told police that Cannon was causing a disturbance. The police arrived and asked the man to leave, Cornatzer said.

Cornatzer defended the use of oleoresin capsicum, or pepper spray, by saying that it helps prevent fights and the injuries that are the consequences of altercations.

"Statistics show that when they use that stuff nobody gets hurt," Cornatzer said.

In Concord, N.C., over the weekend a black man died after the spray was used on him.

Kappas Honor Hill Middle School Students

Terri Locus, Taurin Davis and Paul Jackson, students at Hill Middle School, are this year's winners of the Winston-Salem Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.'s special incentive program awards.

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The chapter awarded Locus, a 6th-grader, Davis, a 7th-grader, and Jackson, an 8th-grader, a \$50 gift certificate from Hanes Mall during the Awards Day program at the school.

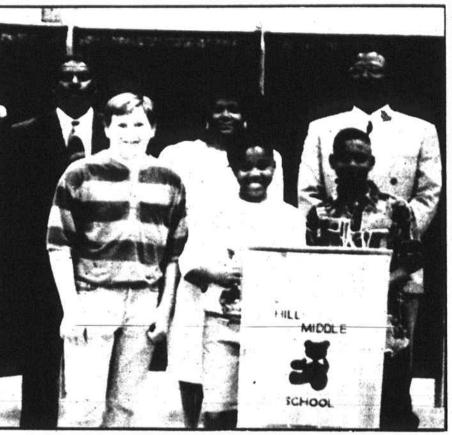
The chapter sponsors the program during the school year for 6th- through 8th-graders. The chapter recognizes a student from each grade, who has made the most improvements in academics and conduct during the fourth quarter of the school year. Students are nominated by their teachers, and a committee of three members of the chapter interviews finalists to determine a winner.

Fraternity members strive to encourage students to achieve their

goals and improve academically. The chapter's community projects include: acting as tutors, mentors and proctors; sponsoring little league baseball teams and a Guide Right Program for young students; providing scholarship assistance to undergraduate members of the fraternity at Winston-Salem State University; contributing to the NAACP, the Best Choice Cemer. the Urban League of Winston-Salem and the United Negro College Fund; participating in the Pan Hellenic Council; and sponsoring an evening with actor Danny Glover and.Felix Justice at the Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium at WSSU.

Ronald Buchanan is the chapter's program chairman. Alease Cary is the curriculum coordinator. Curtis Little is the principal of Hill Middle School.

The fraternity's theme is "Achievement through sharing responsibility."



(L.. to r.): (front row) Paul Jackson, Terri Locus and Taurin Davis; (back row) Ronald Buchanan, Alease Cary and Curtis Little.



Post Elects Chaplain

Martha G. Jones was elected to serve as department chaplain 1993-94 at the 73rd American Legion Department Convention held at the Raleigh-Hilton Hotel recently.

Jones served as department historian from 1991-93. She was music and community service chairman from 1989-91. She served as a Tar Heel Girls' State commissioner for seven years and was an 18th District vice president and president from 1987-89.

She is a member of the Ralph R. Morgan American Legion Post 220 Auxiliary, where she served as president of the auxiliary from 1984-86.

She is a member of Zion Memorial Baptist church, where she serves in many capacities.

Jones is presently serving a second term as worthy matron of the Sisters of the James H. Young Memorial Chapter 592 Order of the Eastern Star.



Martha G. Jones

She is an employee of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service - N.C. State University, where she has worked for more than 22 years teaching food and nutrition in Forsyth County.

She is involved in a number of community activities and is the widow of Halique B. Jones.

Students to Participate in Kaleidoscope Program

Fifty-two academically talented African American students from high schools in the Stokes County, Thomasville and Winston-Salem/Forsyth County are participating in Kaleidoscope, a program designed by Ernie Wade of Wake Forest University and Nancy Crouch of the Western Triad Region of the North Carolina Science and Mathematics Alliance.

The initial portion of this program, a week-long residential summer experience at Wake Forest University, is being conducted by the staff of the Office of Minority Affairs, participating university faculty, teachers from surrounding schools, and selected graduate and undergraduate students. The summer program runs through July 17. Students are participating in activities designed to provide them with study skills, enrichment activities in chemistry and biology, a historical and culturally specific view of the origin of mathematics, activities including small group discussions

dealing with peer pressure and its impact on achievement, and a wellrounded week's experience balancing academic enrichment and social and recreational activities.

After completing the summer experience, the Kaleidoscope students will return to their high schools in the fall to establish student leadership teams under the direction of their faculty sponsors. The main tasks of these teams include promoting leadership within the student body, serving as a resource for students to learn of opportunities that nurture that leadership, and introducing the students to leaders in the community, especially African American leaders in science, math and technology. Students will attend three full-day sessions at Wake Forest to assist them in developing their skills and in building their teams at the high schools. Speakers, academic and "fun" activities will be planned as a part of these all-day sessions.