

"Hoop It Up"

NBA's three-on-three tour is coming to city next month. B1



Summit Planned

African-American leaders hope to solve community problems. A9



New Head Man

West Forsyth's JV team will have a new face on the sidelines. B3

Winston-Salem Chronicle

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 1993 "Power concedes nothing without a struggle." — Frederick Douglass VOL. XIX, No. 52

On Girls' Night Out, She's Left Brain Dead

▲ 16-year-old youth charged in shooting

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Managing Editor

Willette "Tutu" Spease and Renee Lavette Glenn have always been inseparable.

While attending R.J. Reynolds High School a few years back, they were together so much they became known as "partners in crime." Later, when they were transferred to Independence High School, they were teasingly called "Ruthless and Ruth-Less."

For years, it's been their custom to party together come Friday or Saturday night. That was the case this past weekend when they and a few other girlfriends met about 2 a.m. Sunday at a neighborhood rib joint on Patterson Avenue and later went to a Liberty Street night-

club.

Spease and Glenn are still inseparable, but only now the laughter is gone: Spease sits in the fifth-floor waiting room of the intensive-care ward at N.C. Baptist Hospital hoping that her longtime best friend and roommate miraculously recovers from a gunshot wound to the head inflicted by a .357-magnum.

It doesn't look good.

"If her heart is not pumping blood to her brain," said Glenn's mother, Patricia A. Glenn, "then they'll take her off life support."

The shooting occurred about 5 a.m. outside an apartment that Spease and Glenn share at 1663 Lincoln Ave. near the Kimberly Park

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Virginia Newell has often spoken out during her 16 years as alderman.

Newell Leaves Mark On City

By SABRINA JONES
Chronicle Staff Writer

Virginia Kimbrough Newell has slain many giants.

In 1989, she took on the city of Winston-Salem as the only alderman who publicly opposed the construction of a \$35-million prison in predominately black East Winston. As a result, she received criticism from the media, the board of county commissioners and even some of her black friends.

"I was just so mad I could just see sparks in front of my face. I then said that it will never happen, and I took them on almost single-handedly," Newell recounted, with

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NEWS WEEK NEWS AT A GLANCE

Race Relations Seminar

A group devoted to lessening racial strife in the public schools held a leadership forum here last week that will start the ball rolling for such a program to be in Winston-Salem on a permanent basis.

Complete story A6

Senior Citizens' Day

One day last week, two groups of senior citizens participated in some altruistic ventures: one donated money to the victims of the Midwest flood, and the other planted flowers to help beautify their recreation center.

Complete story A5

Hawkers' Picnic

Ah, to be young again. Summer days free to swim, play sports and sell newspapers. Several youths were honored at the annual Winston-Salem Chronicle newspaper hawkers' picnic Saturday at Miller Park for working hard and setting a positive example for other community youths.

Complete story A7

Young Songwriters

ATLANTA — One song is being heard this summer more times, on more radio stations and in more countries around the world than any other tune. Even the hottest rock stars on the planet would envy the air time the popular commercial song for Coca-Cola is receiving in more than 50 countries on six continents.

Complete story B9

Hanes Hosiery

The Hanes Hosiery Recreation Center wrapped up its summer program. Nearly 173 youths participated in the athletic program.

Complete story B1

Bible College Slams Door on Ex-Offender

By MARK R. MOSS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Armidee Franklin Mack said he hopes to turn his life around. He thought that by enrolling in Piedmont Bible College would be a good way to begin.

Piedmont Bible College didn't think so. Mack, 37, was denied admission because he has been in prison and is currently on probation for the conviction of taking indecent liberties with a child.

The Winston-Salem native said he applied to Piedmont Bible College because he felt that "in order to preach effectively, you need that education." But school officials told him that because he is on a five-year probation, he could not be admitted. He was told to re-apply after his probation ends.

Officials at Piedmont Bible College said it is the school's policy not to accept anyone who is on proba-

tion. They cite experiences with ex-convicts who have used the school to feign new-found principles as the reason for the policy. Mack, they said, could help his cause by getting involved with a church, and within a year and with the recommendation of a pastor, they might reconsider his application.

Mack, who served most of his time in the Montgomery County Department of Corrections, was released from the Forsyth County Department of Corrections in April.

Mack said that "when God calls," a man can't wait five years to start preaching the gospel. He emphasized that he did not want to "discredit" Piedmont Bible College, but added: "The point I am trying to make is that this is a Christian school. ...The individual has been cleaned of his past sins."

He said that the school should be "dealing with spirituality or Christianity" and shouldn't be looking at

his past.

Mack refused to elaborate on his conviction. However, the Onslow County assistant district attorney who prosecuted the case said that Mack was originally charged with crimes against nature, statutory rape and taking indecent liberties with a child.

Sarah Seaton, the prosecutor, said the case involved Mack's stepchild, who was under 13 at the time the abuses occurred. The stepchild went to her grandmother, who in turn went to the authorities, Seaton said.

Under a plea-bargaining agreement with Mack's attorney, Seaton said, Mack pled guilty to one count of taking indecent liberties with a child, a charge that could have gotten him 10 years.

An official with the state Department of Corrections said Mack had no previous record. He said Mack was given a "split sentence," which meant that there

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Always a Performer, He Now Enters Business Side

▲ Local musician sets aside stage to concentrate on recording studio

By SABRINA JONES
Chronicle Staff Writer

Michael Hillion has always loved music.

Since he was 12 or 13, he has been showcasing his talent in bands. Not high school or college marching bands, but real bands. The kinds that require multiple hours on road tours and an abundance of energy.

Energy is something that Hillion is far from lacking. Along with his musical activities, he has taken on the business side of the industry as the founder of Media Plus, a recording studio. As the

without it."

Hillion has always been surrounded by music. His father sang professionally with the Twin City Choristers, and both Hillion and his mother provided him transportation to clubs where he performed with his group The Galaxy. Even as an accounting major at N.C. A&T State University for two years, he continued pushing his musical career forward.

"I'm the only person in my family who plays," said Hillion, who plays bass, lead guitar, keyboards, drums and the percussion, in addition to singing.

"I've been tremendously blessed. God has really watched me in everything I do."

general manager and sole employee of Media Plus, Hillion provides studio and location recording to aspiring artists. He is working with two rap groups and composes jingles for radio commercials. His current ambition is to record choirs and gospel groups and to create drug-free commercials for television.

"I like all types of music," he said. "There are only two types of music: good and bad. You can't express anything

Today he still performs in public with his four-member musical group The Society, which he formed in 1983. The Society has worked with such artists as Taylor Dane, Phyllis Hyman and Cameo and performs on both the local and national levels.

His success, he said, is based upon his serious commitment to excel.

"I have to be twice as good and twice as sharp as a black man in the business," he said. "This is a tough business



Michael Hillion has established his own recording studio to help aspiring artists.

to break into — you have to be into it. It's a lot of self-discipline knowing if you don't do something, it won't get done."

Still, with all of his self-determination, Hillion credits his family's support and religious convictions in enabling him to overcome the odds in realizing his

dreams.

"I've been tremendously blessed. God has really watched me in everything I do. There is a potential to make money, but the reason I do this is because I love it," he said.

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THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

On August 28, 1949 a riot prevented Paul Robeson from singing at the Leland picnic grounds near Peekskill, New York.