

Winston-Salem Chronicle

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

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East Winston Man Loses Malpractice Suit

By MARK R. MOSS
 Chronicle Staff Writer

A painful reminder of better days practically sits in Paul Dawson's backyard. It is the 15th hole of the Winston Lake Golf Course — a course he has stroked his way through many times . . . in better days.

Now all Dawson, 70, can do is sit and reminisce, because the healthy Dawson went the way of his blood after what he and his wife, Hazel, claim was an unauthorized and botched operation.

Last week, the Dawsons lost their civil suit against Dr. Michael H. Rubin, the gastroenterologist who performed the procedure in his office March 1989. The Dawsons asked

for close to \$1 million for negligent medical treatment. Hazel Dawson, 65, also sought damages for loss of consortium and lost wages. A 12-panel jury unanimously ruled in favor of Rubin.

"He stopped golfing, bowling . . . stopped doing charitable work," said his wife about those months following the procedure.

Lennard D. Tucker, the Dawsons' attorney, has filed for appeal.

"We're going to get that money on appeal," Tucker said.

Rubin doesn't think so.

"A lot of the things she said in testimony didn't correspond to the facts in the case," he

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Lawyers Not 'Club buddies'

By MARK R. MOSS
 Chronicle Staff Writer

To an inexperienced courtroom observer, it appeared last week that the deck was stacked against African-American Attorney Lennard D. Tucker and his clients, Paul and Hazel Dawson, an African-American

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Paul Dawson, an African-American, was unable to convince a 12-member jury that a white doctor botched an operation that caused him to suffer brain damage. The jury of 11 whites and one black voted unanimously in Dr. Michael H. Rubin's favor.



HAWS Holds Banquet

By MARK R. MOSS
 Chronicle Staff Writer

The Housing Authority of Winston-Salem held its first annual banquet last Friday to recognize those whom it serves: The residents.

It was a festive occasion replete with rows of decorated tables and a long dais for the featured speaker, State Rep. H.M. "Mickey" Michaux and other officials.

Mayor Martha S. Wood told the 500 or so attendees that their "influence" was needed "in every community throughout Winston-Salem."

"You can't keep that little candle burning all to yourself," she said.

Applauding those residents who have been asked to serve on the authority's board, Wood said, "I think we may be the only housing authority to have one-third of membership on the board to be residents" of public housing.

She said that there was only one thing that would force her to leave the evening's banquet, and that was the teen-age forum on violence being held at the Sims Recreation Center that same hour.

Brian McKorkle, a housing authority board commissioner and a public-housing resident, lamented those in his community who have given up.



The HAWS Ensemble, a gospel group comprised of employees from the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem, entertains at Friday's Housing Authority banquet at the Benton Convention Center.

"There are a lot of people who I grew up with who turned their backs. . . . They just don't care anymore," he said.

Larry Little, a lawyer and community activist, said during his introduction of Michaux, that Little once grew up in public housing. Admiring such local men as the late Carl H. Russell, a former alderman and community leader, who Little called his "hero," helped give him something to strive toward.

Michaux "will go down in history as the most important politician in North Carolina."

Michaux's speech focused on the moral decline of the African-American community and his thoughts on what can be done to reverse it. It was dotted with those all too-

familiar statistics relating to black death: Nearly half of the murder victims in the United States are black; 28.8 percent of blacks are killed by gunshot wounds; for blacks between the age of 15-33 gunshot wounds are the leading cause of death.

"Yet, even though we find ourselves in the midst of negative numbers . . . our desire to participate (in all aspects of American life) is the same as the rest of America.

"You cannot deny that significant progress has been made," he said.

Urban areas, where three out of four African Americans live, must be revitalized, he said. To give an example of where government funds were being spent, he said that over the last eight years, North Carolina has

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Bus Segregated After Racial Taunts

▲ Black students called "nigger"

By DAVID L. DILLARD
 Chronicle Staff Writer

Black students at Carver High School who ride a bus that picks up students in the Walkertown and Belews Creek areas are separated from white students because the blacks have been targets of name-calling and racist slurs, the Chronicle has learned.

Ironically, the blacks have been placed at the front of the bus and the whites at the back.

Walter Marshall, one of two African Americans on the city/county school board, were outraged when they were informed by a reporter that the practice exists.

"There is no policy in the school system that allows segregation on the buses," Marshall said. "It's against the law."

Carver Principal Dan Piggott said he moved one of the four black students who ride the predominantly white-passenger school bus, behind the driver to avoid any further incidents.

"I had an incident where a kid was called a name on the bus, so I moved him behind the driver so if there were any racial slurs, the driver could hear them as well."

Piggott belligerently denied racially separating the students and said the victim of the slur and another black passenger on the bus are related and therefore both moved up behind the driver.

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N.C. Star Holds 1st Training Session

By DAVID L. DILLARD
 Chronicle Staff Writer

Nearly 40 city college students went through an initial training session recently to learn how to help high-school students talk openly about race and violence.

The students, from Winston-Salem State University, Wake Forest University, and Salem College are volunteers in the North Carolina Students Teach and Reach (N.C.

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NEWS WEEK

NEWS AT A GLANCE

WFU's Queen Africa

African-American men have been unfairly imbued with negative stereotypes that have hurt the black family structure.

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THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

On Nov. 25, 1955, Interstate Commerce Commission banned segregation in buses and waiting rooms involved in interstate travel.

Tensions High Between Police, Project Residents

▲ Resident says young blacks are harassed, arrested; police deny claims

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS
 Chronicle Executive Editor

Some residents of Cleveland Avenue Homes think police are retaliating against them in response to a police car that was vandalized last week.

Police say it's not so.

Regardless of who is telling the truth, relations between the community and police — both of whom smiled broadly at each other at a banquet last month of the 920 Youth Career Club — are strained.

Jackie Peoples, a neighborhood community activist, said the situation got so bad last week that she met with Mayor Martha Wood, who promised that she would investigate.

"It's a terrible situation," Peoples said. The situation needs attention.

The problems, Peoples said, stem from an incident the evening of Nov. 16 when a police squad car was vandalized in the neighborhood. Since then, she said,

police officers have pointed guns at young blacks and have continuously harassed them. Last Wednesday, police were in the neighborhood in riot gear, she said.

"I was so afraid of the way the things had escalated from Tuesday to Thursday," she said. "No one could tell me that someone would not have been killed

said officers have a list of names supplied by the Housing Authority who are banned from the complex, mostly for selling drugs. Housing Authority Executive Director Arthur S. Milligan could not be reached comment.

"We're not going to let them take over the neighborhood," McCoy said. "If they break the law, they're going to get arrested."

McCoy said that officers last week wore riot helmets "for their own protection" after police received complaints about several people in the 1100 block of 18th Street throwing bottles in the street. Last Thursday morning, he said a street maintenance crew had to clear the glass from the streets.

Tension has been at a fever pitch in and around Cleveland Avenue Homes for several months now. In July, a scuffle between a police officer and a resident left the resident dead and the officer wounded.

The officer was cleared in the black man's death.

"No one could tell me that someone would not have been killed Friday the way things were going."

Friday the way things were going."

Police Capt. Michael V. McCoy, who supervises uniformed officers, tells a different story. He said a handful of men have been arrested and charged with disorderly conduct and trespassing in the neighborhood. He said the arrests have nothing to do with last week's vandalism, although the men charged were questioned about the incident.

"That's been an on-going situation," he said. He