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OPINION

INNER-STRENGTH

A&T SIGNAL CALLER GETS INSPIRATION FROM HIS PARENTS

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The Choice for African-American News and Information

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1994

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

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75 CENTS

Dad of Dead 9-Year-Old Boy Still Angry

▲ City makes improvements near site of fatality

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Executive Editor

Although upgrades are under way to the section of Carver School Road where a 9-year-old boy was fatally struck by a car last month, the boy's father remains upset.

For Kenneth William Wright Sr., the improvements are too late.

"I think they are doing it too late," he said. "The first day of school I knew it was a bad stop. We told them

that." Wright's complaint fell on deaf ears, apparently because he called the wrong school. Four days later his son, Kenneth William Wright Jr., was killed about 100 yards from his home while crossing Carver School Road en route to his bus stop.

Wright is also angry that charges have not been filed against Mary Clark Toney, the driver of the 1984 Chevrolet Blazer that struck his son, and that Toney, 54,

has not called the family.

"The lady hasn't talked to us since the accident," he said. "The lady could have called and said something, like 'I'm sorry' and hang up. Ain't nobody going to do nothing to her."

He has received a sympathy card from her.

While coping with the death of his son, Wright has had to single-handedly care after his other three children

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Kenneth Wright Sr. says improvements too late.

In Spite Of Opposition, Early Start Is Approved

By VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Despite the cries of opposing residents and some school board members who equated a school-run 4-year-old program for educationally at-risk children with welfare and day care, the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school board voted to implement Early Start.

School board members voted 6-3 last Thursday to begin a pilot program Jan. 1, ending at the close of the school year in June.

Board members Jane Goins and Dale Folwell argued that it is the parents' responsibility — not the school system's — to prepare children for kindergarten. Gloria Whisenhunt joined them in opposition, saying she could not vote for the program because of the space problems the school system has now.

Opposers and supporters aired their views to the school board before the vote was

made.

Joan Fleming of Lewisville said because so much money is already spent in children's welfare, school board members should question whether the program is an approved use of the money.

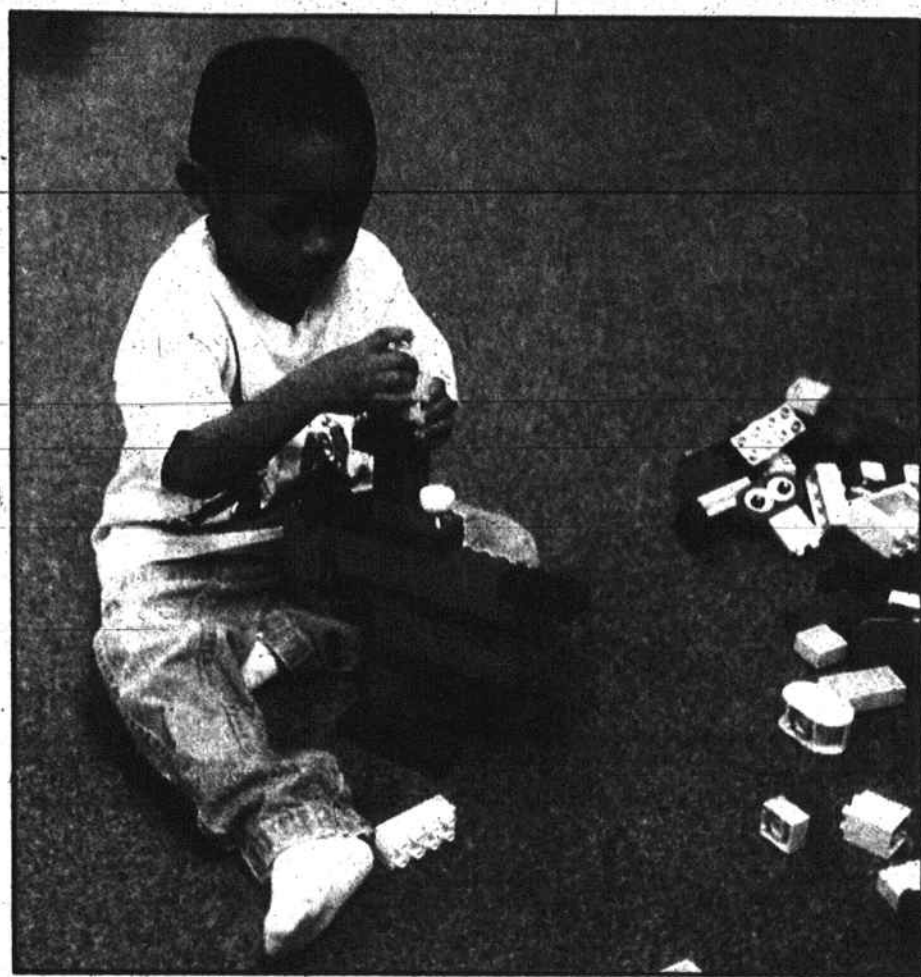
"I say give these people a voucher and send them to a day care near their home," she said.

Supporters, which included teachers and administrators, said the program will give educationally at-risk youngsters a chance to enter school on the same level as their peers.

"It's worth every dime you can spend," said Coleen Oliver, a teacher of 4-year-olds at Latham Elementary.

The Rev. Carlton Eversley, pastor of Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, said the opposition to the program comes from a "middle-class, narrow-minded, white reac-

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Everett Dumas enjoys playing with building blocks.

Teens Draw Life Terms

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Executive Editor

A 15-year-old boy who pleaded guilty to two counts of second-degree murder was sentenced this week to two consecutive life terms in prison.

Stephon Lavonne Crawford of 1805 E. 25th St., who was 14 in August 1993 when he killed Steven Terrance Harvey and Thomas Fulton in February, will be eligible for parole in year 2004.

Lorenzo Lamont Thomas of 205 Lake View Blvd., who was Crawford's co-defendant in the Harvey killing, pleaded guilty to a charge of second-degree murder. Thomas, 17, was sentenced to life in prison, plus 10 years on an unrelated robbery charge.

Prosecutor Eric Saunders said he was happy with the sentences handed down by Forsyth Superior Court Judge William H. Freeman.

"The killing was premeditated, planned and thought out," he said. "They went out looking for someone they thought shot their friend. They hunted down who they thought did it and shot him down in the street."

Thomas, who 16 at the time of the shooting, will be eligible for parole in about 15 years, Saunders said.

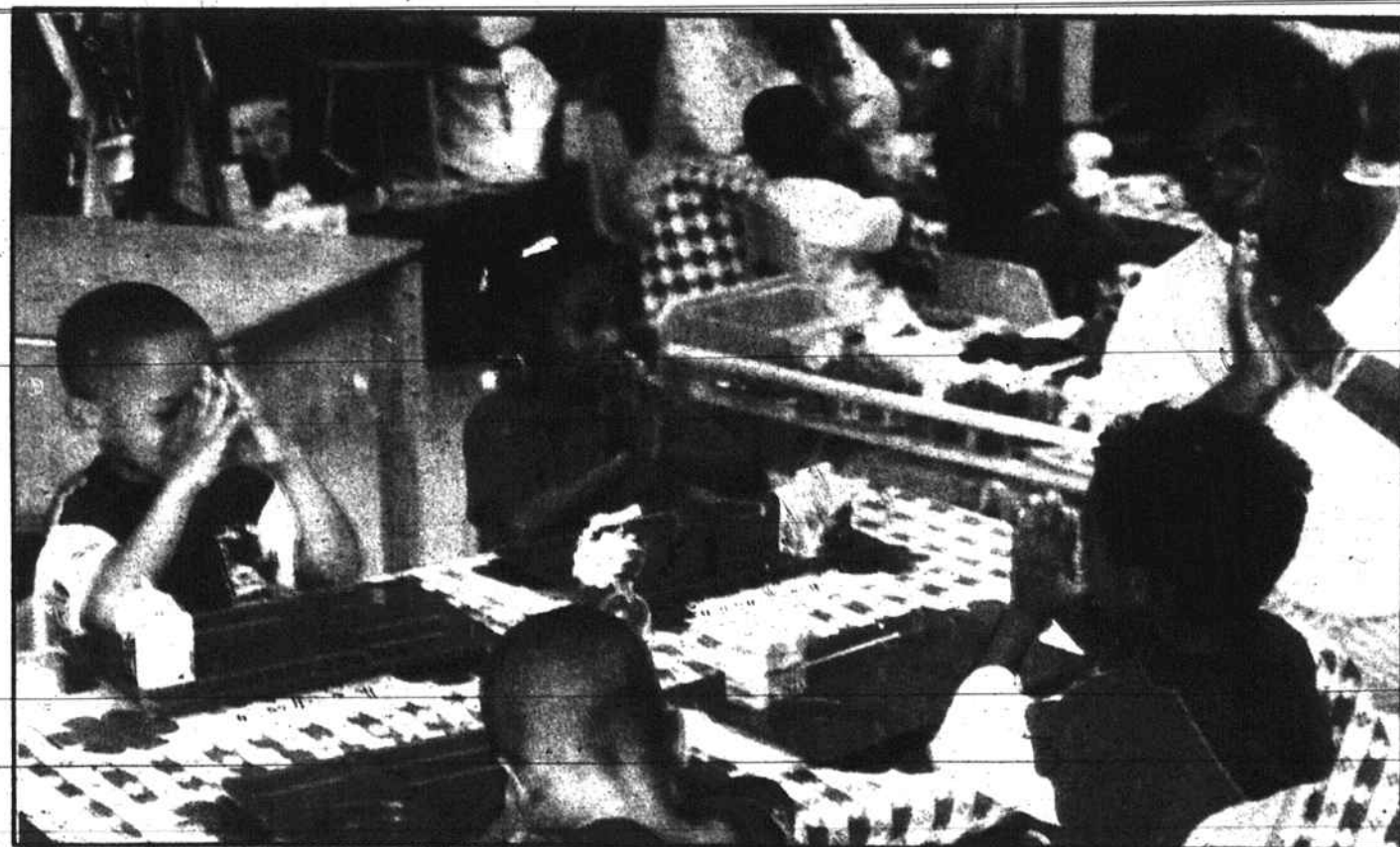
The shooting of Harvey occurred after Crawford and Thomas went seeking revenge after a friend of theirs was shot in the knee, authorities said. There was no evidence that Harvey was involved in the shooting of their friend, authorities said.

On Feb. 9, police arrested Crawford for the Harvey killing. Two days later, they charged him in the killing of Thomas Fulton, which occurred a day earlier.

Two other people were involved in the Harvey killing. One of them, Warren Mitchell, was killed Aug. 30, 1993, in a shooting unrelated to the previous case. Anthony King was charged with double homicide in that case, Saunders said, and he received 70 years in prison. The fourth person, the driver of the car, was never charged, he said.

David Freedman, Crawford's attorney, said his client got off better by pleading guilty to the two second-degree murders. He said if Crawford had gone to trial, he would have been convicted of two first-degree murders and would have been eligible for parole after about 40 or 50 years.

"It was best, even though it was a good possibility he knew he might get two life sentences," Freedman said. "He had given a statement (to the police) implicating himself and there were several witnesses against him."



Mrs. Branson leads her grandson Brandon and other kids in a prayer.

Easton 4-Year-Olds Find Learning Fun

By VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writer

When the children in Beverly Strickland's class go outside, they can choose to play in a variety of North Carolina cities.

Four-year-old Jasper spends a lot of his time in Raleigh. There, he tries to master the art of passing his small body across the monkey bars, taking one arm swinging to the next bar until he maneuvers his way across. He says he's going to keep practicing until he can do it.

He has good role models in Tiffany and George. They glide across with ease, and often climb all the way on top of the bars to show their gymnastic talents.

Other popular cities are Wilmington, where a child's imagination can take him to Wrightsville Beach with the water and sand. The Biltmore House stores all of the toys for the outdoors. Students can also go to

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WSSU Gets Grant to Bridge Gap among Parents, Schools

By VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Winston-Salem State University has won a grant totaling \$103,050 for a community-based project that will focus on training teachers and forming relationships with schools and parents.

The award, granted over three years by the Hitachi Foundation, will train teachers to develop inclusive classrooms, enhance parental involvement and link teachers and community leaders so they may address relevant issues.

Lelia Vickers, dean of education who

wrote the application for the grant, said it will help to train veteran teachers on how to deal with the changing demographics in the classrooms.

The two participating county schools are Hall-Woodward and Bolton elementary. Vickers said those are the two schools viewed as professional development schools that train teacher interns and a number of them eventually find employment.

Ann Shortt, principal at Bolton, said teachers are always open for new ideas.

"We have a staff with a lot of experience."

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This Week In Black History	
September 22, 1862	
President Lincoln warned South that he would free slaves in all states in rebellion on January 1, 1863.	

WHERE TO FIND IT

WSSU Studies Model of Ability-Based Education

By VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Winston-Salem State University, along with three other colleges, is participating in a program geared toward expanding a teaching model that focuses on ability-based education.

The college will be participating in Alverno College's expanded ability-based teacher education reform program during the next two years.

"Alverno's approach is being widely studied as more and more states move

toward mandating specific outcomes for teacher education programs, and this contribution will help us meet the challenge of improving our nation's education system," said Sister Joel Read, president of Alverno College.

Alverno's model focuses on ability-based education. The three school participating in the project will be involved in designing coherent curriculum and performance assessments to both develop and document those abilities.

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