

SPORTS REVIEW

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SPORTS

Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Choice for African-American News and Information

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

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Slain Security Guard Praised for Bravery

▲ Unarmed guard shot twice at close range; man held on murder charge in county's 43rd homicide

By DAVID L. DILLARD
 Chronicle Staff Writer

Two city police officers and a security guard are being praised as heroes in the aftermath of a robbery last Thursday that left the security guard dead and one police officer thankful that he was wearing a bullet-proof vest.

Maurice Travone Williams,

23, was unarmed when he was working as a guard at the K mart Super Center and approached a suspected shoplifter outside the store.

Williams was shot twice at point-blank range, allegedly by the shoplifter. The two police officers, Steven Spencer and Horace Bryant, were not seriously injured in the shooting.

"What we had was three young men doing their job and one (Williams) gave his life," Police Chief George Sweat said. "(Williams) and our officers did a super job! I think we were in the right place at the right time."

Williams, a native of Washington, D.C., moved to Winston-Salem six years ago. He gradu-

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Maurice Williams



Steven Spencer



Horace Bryant

Law Forum Brings Praise, Criticism

By DAVID L. DILLARD
 Chronicle Staff Writer

A community forum with the county's law enforcement chiefs brought praise and criticism of the work they do in the African-American community.

Ruth Hopkins of Gray Avenue in eastern Winston-Salem praised the Winston-Salem Police Department for helping them rid their area of growing drug trade.

"Our community has had a serious drug problem and the police have been there to help us," she said. "Everytime we called you have responded in record time and we want to thank you."

Hopkins offered her praise to a panel of law enforcement experts, including Police Chief George Sweat, Sheriff Ron Barker and District Attorney Tom Keith, held at New Jerusalem Baptist Church last Tuesday.

While all residents expressed a need for law enforcement, some like Barbara Humbly, said they don't want harassment to be a hazard of increased police protection. Humbly has lived in Cleveland Avenue Homes for 25 years and said she has seen innocent black men being harassed by police.

"I see people who are not breaking any law being stopped and searched for no reason. It's sad to see police officers searching them," she said. "It's like 'Oops, there one is' then they grab him and search him and these men have nothing on them and they haven't done anything

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Community leaders discuss solutions to reduce crime at a forum last week. Panel members included Sheriff Ron Barker, sociologist William Turner, District Attorney Tom Keith, Alderwoman Joycelyn Johnson and state Representative Larry Womble.

Hunt Supporters Continue to Rally Community

By DAVID L. DILLARD
 Chronicle Staff Writer

The Rev. Rayford Thompson, a retired pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, has always been a fighter for justice and, an advocate of truth.

That's why Thompson said he gave

defense attorneys key information about the credibility of the Johnny Gray — the state's key witness in Darryl Hunt's conviction of murdering Deborah Sykes nearly ten years ago.

Defense attorneys had trouble locating Gray until Thompson alerted them that he was a tenant in one of his houses back in

1984.

"He was behind on his rent and he told me he was working on a case and that I would get my money after that," Thompson remembers. "I called Detective (J.L.) Dalton

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Keith Says Black Leaders Treat Him Unfairly

By DAVID L. DILLARD
 Chronicle Staff Writer

It was billed as the "law forum," but District Attorney Tom Keith was a no-show, leaving defense attorney Mark Rabil to solely discuss the Darryl Hunt case last Wednesday.

Keith attended a forum with other law enforcement officials last Tuesday at New Jerusalem and later said that he thought that forum preempted the one Wednesday night.

In an interview last Thursday, Keith said the Hunt case has brought him unfair criticism from leaders in the black community. He was particularly concerned about being branded a racist by the Rev. Carlton A.G. Eversley, an ardent hunt supporter and member of Citizens United for Justice.

"That's the most absurd thing anybody has ever said about me," Keith said. "I tried to alert the community and show the community what we've been doing, and I think his comments were unfair."

Eversley called Keith and the justice system racist last

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Barker: Firings not Racially Motivated

By DAVID L. DILLARD
 Chronicle Staff Writer

Forsyth County Sheriff Ron Barker said firings and demotions in the Sheriff's Department were a matter of personnel — not race.

In the last few weeks, tension has developed among detention officers in the department since Barker won his reelection bid in November.

Barker, however, said the

black and white officers are not directing tension at each other. He said it is a "shared" tension due to working in a stressful environment with inmates all day. He said the new jail should eliminate the frustrations of working in a crowded, dilapidated facility.

"It takes a special person to work in the jail," Barker said in

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This Week in Black History
 December 15, 1934
 Death of Maggie Lena Walker (69), first black woman to head a bank, in Richmond.



Department of Justice to Probe Regional Bankruptcy Officials

Clift Lane, a former Arkansas poultry manufacturer, claims that he lost more than \$35 million from U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of North Carolina while in a Chapter 11 reorganization.

The outcome of Lane's reorganization raised eyebrows of tax attorneys and has led the Justice Department's Public Integrity Section to investigate the case for possible criminal wrongdoing.

Bankruptcy Court panel members Edward Covell, Walter Minger and John Peterson Jr. deny any wrongdoing and cite a string of civil courtroom victories over Lane as proof.

"Mr. Lane's claims that we got his money just isn't right," said Peterson, a retired Greensboro accountant.

Justice department officials say that every crucial ruling in the civil cases occurred before 1990 when panel members paid themselves almost \$8 million from the proceeds of a sale of Lane's stock. Lane said that he was in a reorganization plan where he got to own the stock.

Under the reorganization plan, the panel was

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