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NAACP Mediates

Eight Stores Face Boycott

By Sharyn Bratcher
Staff Reporter

Eight major stores in Winston-Salem may be faced with boycotts within the next few weeks if negotiations by the local NAACP fail to satisfy the complaints of local citizens.

"We are acting as a mediator in this issue," says Patrick Hairston, president of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the NAACP.

Hairston stated that a complaint about the eight stores, whose names will not be revealed at this time, was brought to the NAACP Labor Committee by a group called Concerned Citizens.

The complaint stated that certain stores predominantly serving blacks have a very low rate of black employment. It also charged that the stores' treatment of black customers was unsatisfactory.

"After investigating

tacting the stores involved, we can report some progress made," says Hairston.

"One store has promised to institute a crash program to hire blacks youth within 30 days," he continued. "And they plan to intensify their

general."

"I hope that we can avert a boycott," Hairston stated. "Within 15 days we will turn over all our findings to Robert Henry, the president of Concerned Citizens. They're

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Part I The Sins Of The Fathers

Editors Note: Juvenile crime is growing up. It has reached epidemic proportions both nationally and here in Winston-Salem. This series is an investigation into the causes of that problem.

By Sharyn Bratcher
Staff Writer

A local police officer picked up a 12-year old for shoplifting. When he took the boy home and told the parents what had happened,

they screamed at their son: "Why did you get caught?"

She is a bowling champion with a shelf of trophies attesting to her skill. She also has a 10-year old son. A few weeks ago a social worker took the boy bowling. He had never been before.

"I can't understand my 15-year old daughter," a mother complains. "Ever since she had her baby she has changed. Last week she

hit me in the mouth." These examples are tragic symptoms of a national disease. The body count can be read

Youth aged ten to 17 commit more than half the crimes in the U.S.

They committed 1,002 murders last year; 12 of those were committed by children less than 10 years old. 173,535 thefts were committed by youths under fifteen; over 100,000 more

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Reynolds Health Center Cut-Back

Sickle Cell Program Cancelled

Yvette McCullough
Staff Reporter

One black American in ten is born with the sickle cell trait, and that person is usually not aware of having the trait unless the sickle cell blood test is taken. However, the recent decision not to continue the federally funded program that has operated here for five years may result in fewer people

being aware that they have the disorder.

"This community needs a free sickle cell testing," said Hazel Scott, coordinator of the Sickle Cell Program.

"The program needs to be an outreach because you're not going to reach the people that need to know."

"You can't wait for people to come to the

offices," Scott continued. The program first began in 1971 under the Model City Program. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare granted \$100,000 for a five year period.

Cothe P. Booker, Chairman of the Reynolds Health Center Board said that the program has been in jeopardy the last three years.

"There have been concerns about funding," Booker said. "The federal government will fund another area in the U.S."

The population base that the sickle cell program has been serving has decreased in people

that need to be tested.

"It is unfortunate that the program has been terminated at this time," said N.L. Rhump the director of the program.

"We have not saturated the entire state in testing or education."

Several organizations are concerned not only about the program being terminated, but also about the fact that Rhump may be out of a job.

Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity) president Margaret Vigil said that they find it regrettable that funds had to be cut off, and that Rhump who has twenty years of service to Rey-

nolds Health Center will be dismissed.

"Certainly after twenty years one has tenure," Vigil stated. "We question the administrative judgment of this decision."

"This sets a dangerous precedent in that it opens the door for capricious dismissal of employees without justification" Vigil reported in a news release.

She stated that the Reynolds Health Center Administration is accountable to its employees and citizens and that they want Rhump's dismissal

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THOMAS JACKSON

Black Caterer, Tanglewood Park, Reach Agreement

Yvette McCullough
Staff Reporter

Tanglewood Park and Thomas Jackson, the Park's caterer seems to have reached agreeable terms for operating the park's food service.

Jackson met with members of the Programs and Facilities Committee of Tanglewood Park to discuss Jackson's lease based on his April proposal. The board had been requested by the Forsyth County Commissioners to reconsider its recent action in awarding the park's food service contract to Epicure Management Services, Inc.

The commissioners recommended in a letter to the Park board that the bidding process be started all over again and that Jackson's lease be extended.

The committee decided to pick up Jackson's lease and extend it until Dec. 1. The meeting held Tuesday night was to acquaint Jackson with some suggestions and complaints that have come to the attention of the committee.

Some of the suggestions offered to Jackson were to extend the hours for serving hot food at the club house, and to expand the menu at the Manor House to include a variety of prices and a child's plate. They also discussed the possibility of reactivating the grill at the pool, ways to speed up service and a change in the billing poli-

cy between the Park and Jackson.

Park Manager Roger Lemmons said that the problems in the past may have been due to a lack of communication between Jackson and the board.

"The communication has to be a little bit better," Lemmons told Jackson. "If you have any problems, they need to be brought to my attention."

The committee and Jackson agreed to work on any problems or complaints and Jackson said he was willing to work on rectifying the complaints as soon as possible.

Lemmons told Jackson that they were going to prepare a contract and incorporate the things that they had talked about.

Problems between Jackson and the Tanglewood board began when the board voted to begin negotiations with Epicure Management, a white South Carolina Food service organization, and to terminate the present lease with Jackson who is black.

Some members of the Park Board and the local NAACP voiced concerns that Jackson was being ousted because he was black. Jackson in turn retained Melvin Watt, a member of the Charlotte law firm, headed by Julius Chambers, as his lawyer. The recommendation by the commissioners and the withdrawal of Epicure bid resulted in the present situation between Jackson and the Park.



"I'm not smiling. What have I got to smile about?" "Blacks find us fast enough if they get in trouble." "Blacks will give money for pie in the sky, but not to make things better"

Patrick Hairston

'40 Years in the Wilderness'

By Sharyn Bratcher
Staff Writer

What would have happened if Moses had gotten Pharaoh's permission to leave Egypt, and the children of Israel refused to go?

"I guess he would have just died," sighs NAACP president Patrick Hairston.

Hairston is not ready to give up the search for the promised land just yet, but sometimes he feels that he is getting very little cooperation.

"We are not doing all we could be doing!" He fumes.

Too many blacks are not members of the NAACP ("But they find us fast enough when they get in trouble..."); black youths are turning their backs on education; black on black crime is prevalent.

These facts are bewildering to a man who is trying to fight discrimination. The lack of unity is hurting that cause.

Pat, Hairston came along at a time when blacks had enough trouble contending with racism without making more pro-

blems victimizing each other.

He recalls his Navy experience.

"I wanted to be a gunner. World War II had just started...Pearl Harbor had been bombed... and I wanted to be a gunner."

He went to the Navy recruiting station in Washington, D.C. where a black recruiter assured him that he could do anything he wanted in the U.S. Navy. So young Pat Hairston enlisted, and tried to cash in on that promise -- thirty years too early.

"All gunners all into this line!" bawled the officer, and Pat took his place in line.

Pause. "There must be some mistake," said the officer. "We don't have colored gunners in this outfit."

"Well, you got one now," Pat told him.

But he didn't get to gunnery school. The Navy informed him that he and all the other black sailors, were going to be stewards. This, they explained, involved shining

officers' shoes, waiting on tables...

"I didn't join the Navy to be a servant" Pat replied.

The first time they gave him leave he went home and didn't go back. Finally, his sister, terrified that he might be shot for desertion, persuaded him to go back. He requested a general court martial so that he could tell his side of the story.

He told the judge about wanting to be a gunner and ending up a steward. It didn't get him a change of duty, but the case against him was dropped.

Now many of the barriers he faced are no longer there, but black advancement is still coming too slowly.

Hairston worries about the educational system of today. Is it really teaching black youth?

"A young man came to me recently asking me to help him get a job," he recalls. "So I asked him to prepare a resume. He didn't even know what one was!"

"I explained that to

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The Police Incentive's Children Theater may be one of the programs to be fazed out if funds are not allotted.

Incentive Program Suffers Fund Cut

By Yvette McCullough
Staff Reporter

Although the City Manager recommended that the Police Department's Incentive program for boys and girls be scrapped, the city's finance committee has come up with a way to salvage at least part of the program.

It has been recommended that the program receive \$35,000 so that it could continue on a limited scale.

The Incentive program is designed to improve the communication and relationships between policemen and the community. There are 1650 boys and girls actively participating in the program.

If the program is not continued 900 children won't get the opportunity to go to camp. The program's children theater will be terminated and a lot of children will lose the privilege of being a member of the YMCA.

The program deals with

children from low income families and many are not able to afford the cost of camp or Y dues.

The relationship between the officers and children include mutual participation in recreational activities. The program offers a variety of activities with the main emphasis on value orientation. The activities offered are football, basketball, swimming, camping, track, boxing, tutoring.

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