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Nobody Listens to Us'

Sanitation Workers Seek Respect from City

Yvette McCullough
Staff Writer

The majority of the city sanitation workers joined Teamster's Union, because no one would listen to their problems and grievances, says a leader of the unionized garbage men. The workers are now looking toward the city's three aldermen to listen to their problems. The workers arranged a meeting with the black aldermen, Larry Little, Virginia Newell and Vivian Burke, last Thursday night at Shiloh Baptist Church. The men met briefly with Burke and Newell, but because Little was not present, the two aldermen called off the meeting without listening to the men.

Arthur Dixon, the shop steward for the sanitation workers, told the Chronicle that the city's administration is not doing anything about their problems. "The guys don't believe in the city anymore because they have told us so much and done nothing," Dixon said. "Some guys are shaking about talking about the union because they fear for their jobs, at the same time because of this harassment a lot of guys are thinking about quitting."

"When there was first talk about the union, the administration was around us like flies, asking what they could do for us and making promises," Dixon said. "After we joined the union, they say they'll listen to our problems, but they won't do anything about them."

Dixon said the men want better working conditions and more money, although he doesn't think money is the main issue. He said after trying personally to talk to the administration on behalf of the men, to no avail, he decided to go to the three black aldermen. "I talked to Mr. Little and told him our problem and he talked to the other two aldermen and they agreed to meet with us."

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Ira Smith, David Leak and William Roundtree [l to r] three med school seniors at Bowman Gray School of Medicine talk about the problems they have had at the school.



A Treat In Store

Devra Tabron of Spring Hope, N. C. (left) and Julla Neal of Winston-Salem will be two of the 17 young ladies displaying their talents, Friday and Saturday night at the Miss Black America of North Carolina pageant. The pageant will be held at Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium at 8 p.m.



Med Students Blast Racism

By Yvette McCullough
Staff Writer

Three black students, who will be among the graduating class this month at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine, have found their four-year experience to be a disillusioning battle against subtle racism on the part of some of the students, faculty and staff. David Leak, Ira Q. Smith and William Roundtree, told the Chronicle that their presence was not wanted at the school by some and that they encountered racism in

various forms. "I expected an open minded academic university, instead I found a high incidence of ethnic intolerance among certain factions within the institution," said Leak, a native of Garner, N.C. "It became obvious very early that there were certain individuals that were not willing to accept the presence of persons of different ethnic and social backgrounds."

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State Road Map Hides Black Heritage

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

The official 1979-80 state highway map does not include a single landmark of the state's black heritage in its side "on places to see and things to do." The state Departments of Commerce and Transportation, put the map together, a sister agency, the Department of Cultural Resources is preparing a slide and booklet on the black landmarks in the state. "They obviously haven't been in touch with what the state agencies are doing," said Rodney Barfield, director of the N.C. Museum of History's The Black Heritage in North Carolina exhibit, said of the highway map's preparers. On the back side of the newly-released map, is a list of attractions, historic sites, outdoor dramas and waterfalls. Department of Transportation spokesperson that side was the responsibility of the Department of Commerce's travel and tourism division. Commerce spokesperson Steve Meehan said, "They probably just used the same list they used the year before. I don't think there was any intent to hide anything." Although the map's guide listed such firms as R.J. Rouse's Tobacco Co. and Schlitz Brewing Co. of Winston-Salem, the list of attractions left off, for instance, the headquarters of N.C. Mutual Life

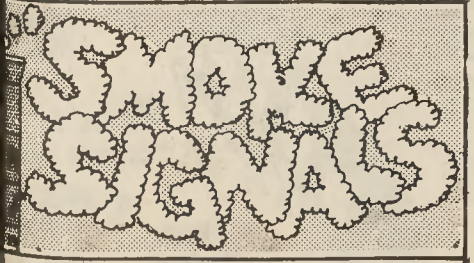


While Eddie Clinton (center) travels the state in the Mobile Museum of History with a display on "The Black Heritage in North Carolina," other motorists have no idea that there is a black heritage based on travel information on the new state official highway map.

Insurance Co. in Durham, the largest black-owned firm in the world. Barfield said, "There are in the neighborhood of 20 historic landmarks on the black heritage they could have placed on the guide." He noted that a house occupied by George White, the last black congressman during the Reconstruction era, still stands. Barfield added that an early building occupied by N.C. Mutual, which has been declared a National Historic Site, could have been included. Another example was the Ovens Memorial Methodist Church in Fayetteville, where a black minister preached to inter-racial audiences in the early 1800s. There is also a museum in Chatham County devoted to the works of slave poet George Moses Horton. "There are plenty of sites they could have listed," said Barfield. According to a release from Commerce Secretary Lauch Faircloth, who declined to return Chronicle phone inquiries, "The map and guide are the keys to our tourism promotion efforts. Last year, we sent out more than 400,000 to persons requesting North Carolina travel information." More than 1.2 million maps have been ordered at a cost of \$138,000. The maps are being distributed free at public libraries, state welcome centers, driver licensing offices and weigh stations.



Five-year-old Atka Griggs moves around the Maypole with other children who enjoy the Old-fashioned May Day Festival at the East Winston Branch Library last Saturday.



Elderly Pool Their Pennies

To Help Support Hot Lunch Program

By Angela Ingram
Staff Intern

Senior citizens at Kimberly Park are pooling their nickles, dimes and dollars to help out the poor folks in Raleigh who can't seem to have enough money to continue the senior citizen's daily hot lunch program. The patrons of the program, operated locally by Experiment in Self-Reliance, recently got a reprieve when the Department of Human Resources awarded \$147,865 in Title XX funds to Forsyth County for the fiscal year. ESR's meals program and the adult day care efforts of Creative Life Center had been told by county officials that they would have to close down at the end of February unless the state

forwarded the funds, which come from moneys unspent by other counties. The programs never closed, as the DHR funds were forthcoming; however, the patrons are wary of next year. The announcement caused the 170 patrons at Kimberly Park, South Park Baptist Church and Kernersville to write letters, make phone

calls and anything else they could think of to everyone from President Carter on down the social services hierarchy. Mrs. Estelle Fries, a Kimberly Park resident, feels the letters and calls helped bring about the extension. When she called, she stressed the problems of low-income elderly gaining food. Mrs. Anniebell Hardy, another of the letter writers, said, "Without this program, I would lie in bed all day without eating." Hardy has an alternative program if the senior citizen lunch program is discontinued at the end of the fiscal year: "The food stamps will have to be increased so that people can afford to buy more food, or increase the checks so that people can pay others to fix their food." Mrs. Lorene B. Thomas, a volunteer worker at the Kimberly Park lunch program and president of the project's tenant's association, said the program has to be the number one's priority now that residents are receiving less in food stamps.

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