

# Winston-Salem Chronicle

"Serving the Winston Community Since 1974"

VOL. VI, NO. 5

22 PAGES THIS WEEK

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

20 cents

U.S.P.S. NO. 067910

Saturday, September 29, 1979

## INSIDE

- Winston Lake Mess...page 3
- Country Music?.....page 4
- Connections.....page 5
- Males in Fashion Fair page 7
- Earth, Wind & Fire....page 11
- Blood Alley.....page 13

## Blacks Urged to Vote No on Arena

### Mayor Says Extra Taxes Minimal

By John W. Templeton  
Staff Writer

Opposition to the \$33 million Winston-Salem Arena surfaced during a meeting of the Democratic precinct committee in the predominantly black Forest Park area Sunday.

"Most of the people here should vote against it," said Cleveland Gilliam, a precinct resident and a member of the Democratic state executive committee. "It's only going to benefit the Hyatt House. We might get 1,500 black janitors, but none of the top jobs."

Gilliam was responding to remarks from county Democratic chairman Norman Nifong, who stressed the importance of the Nov. 6 referendum on bonds to finance the 18,000 seat facility.

"It's a facility that could have a tremendous impact on the city future," Nifong told the gathering. He said he personally favored the bond issue, but was not

attempting to sway opinions.

Supporters of the arena say it would generate 1,500 to 2,000 new jobs, 1,000 new hotel rooms and \$24 million in a new business in the city.

Rev. Howard Wiley, chairman of the housing task force of the Winston-Salem Improvement Association, said during the meeting he would like to see a bond referendum for low- and moderate-income housing either instead of or in addition to the arena proposal.

In another development, Patrick Hairston, NAACP branch president, said he plans to oppose the arena unless guarantees are given that blacks have a share of construction contracts and of jobs produced by the arena.

Told of black concerns about the facility, Mayor Wayne A. Corpening said the facility is not just for big business.

"The only thing they're going to get is to pay for the

interest on the bonds," said the mayor, a staunch backer of the proposal. Bond interest will have to be paid through tax revenues, and Corpening noted that businesses are the largest taxpayers.

"For the person with a \$40,000 house, they'll only wind up paying \$19.80 a year for the extra tax," an amount Corpening said was only slightly more than the gas required for a round trip to the Greensboro Coliseum.

The mayor said the 1,500 to 2,000 jobs created by the arena would come from the development of new businesses attracted by the large crowds.

"Whatever your business, you've got to have people and the more people, the more your business grows, and when it grows then there are more jobs, and that's good for everybody," said Corpening.

Corpening said federal funds would be better used to

See Page 2

## Urban League To Conduct Unique Poll

The Winston-Salem Urban League has announced that randomly selected households in the Winston-Salem, Greensboro, and High Point areas will be surveyed as part of the National Urban League's National Survey of Black Households—Black Pulse, which will take place during the month of October.

The Black Pulse is a combined effort of Urban League staff and volunteers at the affiliate and national levels. Interviews will be conducted in over 5,000 black households nationwide to assess their needs, experiences, priorities, and attitudes on a wide-range of major issues affecting blacks today.

Through door-to-door interviews with blacks in central cities, suburbs, and rural areas, the Black Pulse survey will cover a number of important issues such as discrimination, unemployment, inflation, housing, education, childcare, health, and political participation.

Funded by the Ford Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation, Black Pulse marks the first time that any agency—without government funds—has attempted to conduct a nationwide survey of blacks of such magnitude and scope.

"At present, there are no governmental agencies that regularly assess the needs, priorities, and experiences of blacks regarding major governmental policies and programs of the magnitude envisioned in the Black Pulse," said Thomas J. Elijah, Jr., executive director of the Winston-Salem Urban League.

"The nation vitally needs such a continuing national survey and participation of households in our community is important because it provides an opportunity for blacks who live here to speak out on the issues that mean so much to their well being."

The Urban League has carefully prepared for the survey using the latest and most accurate polling techniques available. Trained interviewers from the local community will go from door-to-door in our neighborhoods with scientifically prepared

See Page 19

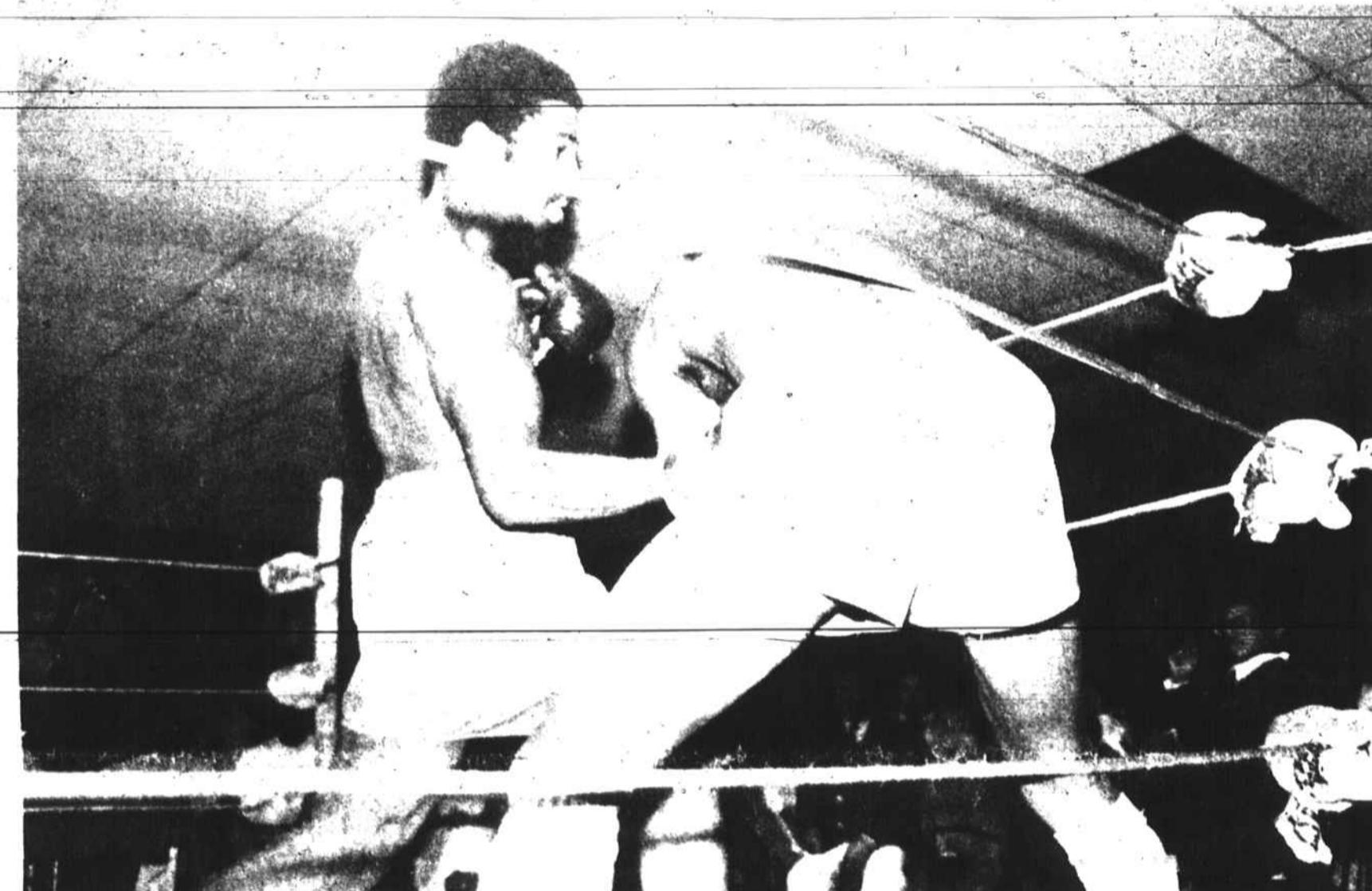


Photo by Santana

Hard  
Right

Former Golden Gloves champion Irvin Hines of Winston-Salem lands a hard right to the body of opponent Ron Vaughn just before flooring Vaughn

during a fast and furious fight card last weekend. Two other local heroes scored knockouts while one was victim of a technical knockout. See story on page 16.

## United Way Provides Many Services

By John W. Templeton  
Staff Writer

From midget football to battered women services, a wide range of community needs are being provided for by the annual one-month fund drive of the local United Way.

Starting Oct. 2, the United Way will be asking for voluntary gifts of \$3,099,264 to help support 27 local agencies and nine statewide groups.

Such services as the youth programs of the Patterson Avenue YMCA, the employment service of the Winston-Salem Urban League, and the Salvation Army

Boys and Girls Clubs which have a large impact on the black community are supported through the United Way.

"I have no qualms about asking a black person to give, because our community is getting a lot out of United Way agencies," said Don Smart, a Southern Bell executive who has been loaned to the United Way to help in the fund drive.

"The United Way is working for everyone," he added.

Before the fund drive started, allocations have already been made to the 36 members agencies. Panels of volunteers reviewed budget requests based on a list of priority needs compiled by the United Way last year.

The seven services in the priority one group received a total increase of 14 per cent over last year's budget. Those services include: community health education, day care, family counseling, emergency assistance, family life education, senior citizen services and volunteer recruitment.

Services in the second priority, which include youth development and employment services, received a six per cent increase.

Programs falling in the third category were held even and fourth priority services were decreased.

Donors are being asked to give .6 of one per cent of their income, or one hour's pay per month as their "fair share."



Harry D. Wheeler

## They Call Him 'Mr. Music'

Harry D. Wheeler has earned the title "Mr. Music" through 30 years of playing, teaching and conducting in Winston-Salem.

In tribute, Wheeler is the honoree of a special gathering Sept. 30 being given by former students, co-workers, friends and people who have enjoyed his contributions, services and performances over the years. The gala will be held in The Benton Convention Center.

Wheeler is a native of Memphis, Tenn. and came to Winston-Salem after a hitch in the United States Naval Air Force Band during World War II and upon graduating from Fisk University.

As instructor of music in the public school system he taught for 30 years with 20 of his years being spent at Atkins High School. During his educational career in the public school system, Wheeler created many "firsts".

He organized the first annual talent and variety show in 1949, which featured young black students of Winston-Salem in outstanding demonstrations of

talent in song, dance and comedy.

These talents shows attracted thousands of community residents and earned Wheeler the title of "Mr. Music" from his students, their parents and his colleagues.

He organized the first Atkins High School annual spring concert, and he organized the first Atkins High School Marching Band which for 20 years gained significant recognition as it played for WSSU's Homecoming Parade, the Christmas parades, football games and parades for other community groups. In 1950 the first Atkins High School Jazz Band was organized.

In 1954 when Wheeler entered the Atkins Concert Band in the North Carolina State Band Competition his band earned superior ratings for that year and 16 consecutive superior ratings thereafter.

In addition to his educational responsibilities Wheeler had several church activities. Under his

leadership at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, the choir has performed at regular worship services, concerts, conventions, cantatas and at other community churches.

He has also been very active in cultural activities, including four summers with the cultural programs of the Experiment in Self-Reliance, seven summers with the art enrichment programs of the Urban Arts and as serving as the director of the well known Jazz-Trans-It Music and Dance Band.

Wheeler was also music director for the first all black cast theatre production "Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope", co-sponsored by the Little Theater and he was the music director for the 1979 "Miss North Carolina Black America Pageant".

A special slide presentation featuring Wheeler's life from childhood to his recent retirement will be shown at the program. James A. Rousseau, principal of Philo Junior High and a former student of Wheeler will be the toastmaster for the program.