

Winston-Salem Chronicle

"Serving the Winston Community Since 1974"

VOL. VI, NO. 6 22 PAGES THIS WEEK WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. 20 cents U.S.P.S. NO. 067910 Saturday, October 6, 1979



Photo by Santana

Contestants in the Ebony Fashion Fair Contest relax during a get together at LaTerre XXI last Saturday. The contestants will be showcasing their talents Sunday at 4 p.m. See story page 10.

Styling

Ministers Get Out Of BPAL Alliance

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

The Baptist Ministers Conference and Associates has decided not to endorse any of the three black candidates seeking the vacant State House seat from Forsyth County as long as they are opposing one another.

Negated is the previous commitment of the ministers to back Carl H. Russell, the choice of the Black Political Action League, a coalition conference leaders helped form with precinct leaders from predominately black areas.

Russell, contacted by telephone after the minister's Tuesday meeting, said the reversal would have "very little impact because nobody's voting but precinct chairmen and vice chairmen."

The county Democratic Executive Committee is scheduled to meet Tuesday, Oct. 16 at 7:30 p.m. to make

its recommendation to Gov. James B. Hunt for filling the seat. There are five announced candidates, but the committee has the option of not picking anyone.

In that case, the choice could be left up to the governor or up to voters in the Democratic primary next spring.

During the heavily attended minister's conference meeting Tuesday, the political action committee headed by Rev. Jerry Drayton proposed the resolution that the conference stay neutral when two or more blacks are vying for the same position.

See Page 11

\$600,000

Poured Into East Winston

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

The almost certain prospect of a half million dollars in development in the East Winston area enhances chances that a shopping center will be built there, according to a principal in two of the three buildings nearing final approval.

Two banks and a group of doctors won bids for tracts on the fringe of the area reserved for a shopping center from the Development Advisory Committee during its September meeting last week. Final approval of the bids must come from the Board of Aldermen.

Tentatively approved were plans by Mechanics and Farmers Bank to build a \$260,000 branch next to the current McDonald's restaurant, by Wachovia Bank and Trust Co., N.A. to build a \$285,000 branch and by four black doctors to build a \$160,000 clinic next to the Winston Mutual Building.

Atty. R. Lewis Ray, counsel for the doctors and for Mechanics and Farmers, said following the committee

See Page 11

Contracts Sought From Arena

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

Black supporters of the \$33 million Winston-Salem Arena have pledged to seek jobs and business opportunities for blacks in the construction and operation of the spectator facility.

Dr. H. Douglas Covington, chancellor of Winston-Salem State University, and former alderman Carl H. Russell said blacks have concerns that priority needs such as housing could be overlooked

because of the arena.

However, Covington said, "I don't feel that blacks see their needs as being incompatible with those of the entire community."

The two leaders were introduced as vice chairmen of the citizens committee in favor of the 18,000 seat facility during a media briefing Monday in the Benton convention center.

"Carl and I plan to certainly have some input in the plans for this facility

and to do all we can to make certain that there's input for others in this facility," said Dr. Covington.

Russell pointed to the example of Atlanta's airport expansion as a model for use of minority contractors in large public works projects.

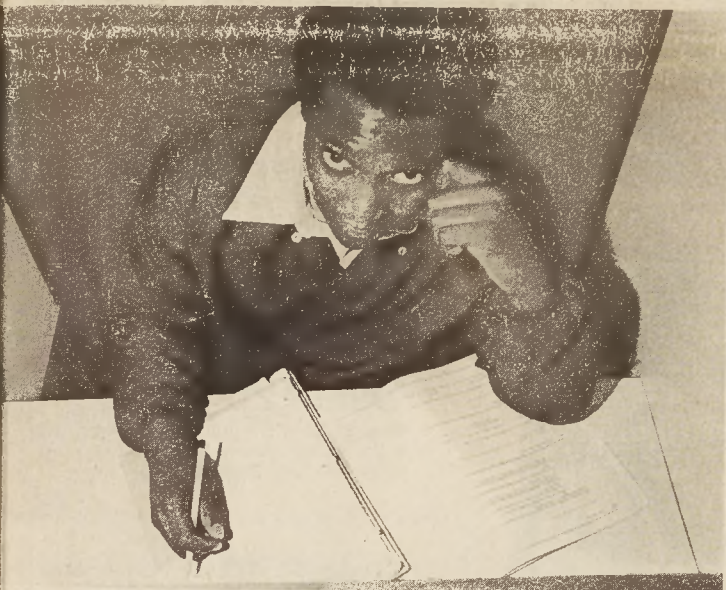
"In Atlanta, minority contractors helped them get finished ahead of schedule," said Russell. He did not call for a strict set-aside program, but said, "If we have people who are qualified

then, I don't think we should limit them."

Russell said the increased jobs the arena would bring are needed in the black community. "Our people want to be fully employed. I feel like the Coliseum will bring some jobs and the majority of the jobs that will be created, we have people who can fill those jobs."

In other developments, the Baptist

See Page 10



Hard at Work

Inside the dilapidated old North Elementary School, more than 1,500 students are engaged in independent study learning such as 10th grader Le Monte Hinson and typing students of Mrs. Clara Fitzhugh, left. Although



Staff Photo by Templeton

many of the students are sent to the school as discipline problems, most prefer the teaching methods to the regular school curriculum.

Students Whom Nobody Wants

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

What happens to the student whom nobody wants? In Forsyth County, about three-fourths of them learn to want themselves enough that they achieve such goals as high school graduation and gainful employment through the force of their own self-discipline.

The place where the transformation happens is the dilapidated old North Elementary School building at 1520 Patterson Ave., home of the Optional Education program of the city/county public schools.

A visitor to the building is apt to see students sitting outside on steps, listening to radios or puffing cigarettes. That reinforces the image of the school as the dumping ground for students who are discipline problems at other schools. But behind the untraditional casualness of the school campus, there is a serious learning taking place with students' heads buried in books or audio-visual equipment and a system of

time clocks to determine who goes to class and when.

"They think that this is a school for people who are dumb or stupid—people that nobody wants," said 11th grader Monica Harris as she looked up from a study carrel where she was viewing a film on careers.

"I felt the same way until I came here," she added. "It's a whole lot different than I thought it was."

What Harris found was a program of individualized study in which each student is given an outline of all the steps necessary to finish a course. The student works at his or her own pace, with help from the teacher when needed.

"Bo" Poole, a 10th grader, had dropped out of school a year ago, his report cards dotted with D's and F's. "I found I couldn't get a job because if you don't have a diploma, they say see you later," he said. "So rather than sit around all day and do nothing, I decided to come back to the 10th grade."

"Now I've started making A's and

B's," he added. "I can work faster and not get held up by a whole classroom of people."

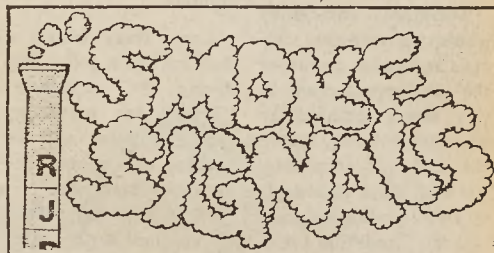
Roslyn Scott is in her second year at Optional Education and wouldn't trade it for regular secondary classes. "With the curriculum being based on individuality, it's a little easier to cope," said Scott.

"I was bored with the regular school system," she added, "but here I'm getting more done." Just after her interview was finished, she handed in an assignment which meant she had finished in two months a course that normally takes a semester.

See Page 17

Inside

- Charlotte politics shaken up.....Page 2
- Poor provide scholarship money.....Page 3
- Tribute to black journalists.....Page 4
- Nature and technology.....Page 5
- James Baldwin returns.....Page 8,9
- Banquet Scene.....Pages 6,7
- Freshman takes charge for Rams.....Page 13



I noted with interest the other day that the District of Columbia (the place Richard Pryor calls "Dark Country") is having a serious problem with discrimination.

It seems that the taxicabs are refusing to pick up black men. This is no minor complaint. The person who made it was a city councilman who waited outside the equivalent of City Hall for more than an hour, having been passed by numerous cabs.

Maybe the cabbies did not know he was a city councilman, but perhaps recognition is not the problem. Two years ago, CBS news anchorman Ed Bradley made a similar complaint about D.C. cabs.

Depending on your point of view, the sad or hilarious aspect of the problem is that most of the cabbies are black, too.

I noticed that during the six years I spent in D.C. watching cabs pass by. On the occasions, I was honored with a ride, cabbies told me that fear of crime was one problem, but they were more concerned that blacks didn't tip and that blacks took long out of the way trips that tied up the cab.

For instance, a rider asking to go to southeast Washington, would be met with "I don't go to Anacostia, man."

So, I always made scrupulously sure I tipped the cabbie just to do my part for the next rider. Obviously, it did not do much good.

Despite that problem, people will get where they want to go.

I remember the freshman week boatripe at Howard University. After a night of gaiety, three of my dormmates managed to get left when the bus back to Howard left.

With the exuberance (read ignorance) of youth, they decided to walk back to campus, not knowing how far the waterfront was from Howard.

Several hours later, they were dead tired and still about ten blocks away on Georgia Avenue. Then, a transvestite in red dress and shoes (it was placed at about six - five or so) yelled: "Come here, darlings."

They ran the rest of the way. By John W. Templeton