

Winston-Salem Chronicle

"Serving the Winston Community Since 1974"

VOL. VI NO. 7

20 PAGES THIS WEEK

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

70 cents

U.S.P.S. NO. 067910

Saturday, October 13, 1979

An Editorial

UNC-TV Policy Against N.C. Goals?

For the past few weeks, the Chronicle has been proud to offer the Connections: Technology and Change Courses by Newspaper to our readers along with two other Forsyth County newspapers, the Clemmons Courier and the Suburbanite. Connections is truly a magnificent effort, combining the efforts of newspapers, the Forsyth County Public Library, Winston-Salem State University and the University of North Carolina television network through a weekly series of the same title.

Accordingly, it was quite disturbing to discover that, in the midst of this cooperation, that someone is not cooperating.

See Page 4

Prices Up 30%, But Aid Decreases

Poor Face Major Fuel Crisis

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

A 30 per cent boost in prices and uncertainty over emergency assistance may combine to create a major crisis of fuel supply for low-income families in Forsyth County.

"People on fixed incomes are not going to be able to buy fuel; it's that simple," said Mrs. Ginny N. Britt, director of the Crisis Control Ministry, which supplies fuel to needy families during the winter.

Local oil retailers contacted by the Chronicle said their prices are up 20 cents per gallon from last year's figure of about 60 cents for both kerosene and fuel oil. "We have written a letter to our customers whom

we've supplied for a long time telling them how hard it's going to be," said Bill Shelton, president of Southern Coal and Oil Co.

Although the costs are going up the major source of emergency fuel assistance available for the past two years is currently not available.

Close to 4,000 county families have received \$390,240.72 since August 1977 under the fuel aid program operated by Experiment in Self-Reliance, according to Ms. Brenda Evans, director of the ESR Problem Center.

The program is now held up at the federal level following President Carter's attempt to link such aid with his windfall profits tax proposal. The administration has

recently come up with a proposal to fund fuel assistance under general tax revenues.

"We've already had 250 people come in to apply for assistance," said Evans. "But there was nothing to apply for. All we can do is take their names and telephone numbers. As soon as we know something, we'll be contacting them."

Even if ESR and the Crisis Control Ministry, which uses local donations for its fuel aid funds, have the same amount this year as last year, it would not be enough.

"Last year, for every \$100 we spent, we could buy three people 50 gallons of oil, now we can just buy 50

See Page 2

Disabled Woman Denied SS Benefits

By Yvette McCullough
Staff Writer

An unemployed handicapped woman who was told she is qualified for disability benefits by the state has been told by the Social Security Administration that she is not eligible.

Ms. Rachel Campbell was told by Robert H. Ward, director of the Department of Human Resources that because she is eligible for and receiving Medicaid to help with her medical expenses she should also meet the Social Security's definition of disability that she would qualify for benefits under the Supplemental Security Income Program.

The Social Security Administration

denied Ms. Campbell's request because they said her condition is not disabling within the meaning of the law, according to a letter sent Campbell.

Ms. Campbell said that she can no longer work and that she is not capable of doing anything. As a child she was a victim of polio and as a result is now required to wear a leg brace. She said she takes eight different medications daily and that she has hypertension and arthritis.

She did work for the Experiment In Self-Reliance but was laid off because of a lack of funds. She said that because she only worked part time she is not

See Page 10



Stre-e-tch

Limber Pat Cason almost doubles herself over backward during warm-up sessions for a modeling class being held for four weeks at the 14th Street Recreation Center. According to organizers, the twice weekly classes have attracted 40 students from ages 13 to 37 who are learning about exercise, diet, carriage and fashion.

Vandals Deface 5 WSSU Buildings

An early morning spree of vandalism Tuesday left four buildings defaced with spray paint at Winston-Salem State and cost as much as \$1,000 to have cleaned up.

Among the buildings defaced was the just-dedicated Hall-Patterson Communication Arts Building. Also hit was the Blair Administration Building, Hauser Student Union and the O'Kelly Library.

Willie E. Grissom, vice-chancellor for business affairs, said the paint had been cleared away by outside workers on contract by the end of the business day Tuesday. Still left were a number of posters promoting the Revolutionary Communist Party, which gave a Chicago address.

Grissom said the paint was first detected from afar by WSSU security officers around 7 a.m., but was dismissed as a fraternity prank or homecoming rite. The officer who opens the buildings at about 8 a.m. recognized the severity of the problem and reported it to Chancellor H. Douglas Covington.

The estimated cost of the clean-up job was \$500 to \$1,000 according to Grissom.



Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines, the man whose athletic feats are larger than life, may get deflated a little bit as ten roasters take their best shots at the nation's winningest basketball coach during a "Big House Roast" for muscular dystrophy in the Benton Convention Center Wednesday night, October 17.

Ex-G.I.'s Bad Discharge Reversed

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

Three years ago, Belvin Smith felt "as close to death as you can come" after being given a dishonorable discharge from the U.S. Army.

Yet, he took on Uncle Sam in a two-year battle to regain his dignity and won despite overwhelming odds.

The Winston-Salem native had only \$21 and no job or hope of finding one. "But I made a vow to follow this thing to the end," he said in a Chronicle interview about his case.

Belvin Smith's case involves an alleged drug set-up, the suggestion of improprieties involving his constitutional rights and the larger issue of how the military uses its discharge authority in lieu of court martials.

Now a freshman majoring in business

administration at Winston-Salem on Veterans administrations benefits, the 30-year-old Smith can talk about it all with a sense of satisfaction, deserved according to his lawyer.

"He's (Smith) a very persistent guy," said David Addlestone of Washington, D.C., co-director of the National Veterans Law Center at The American University.

"The problem is most people with bad paper (dishonorable discharges) don't appeal," said Addlestone. "The unusual thing is that he pursued it."

Pursuing it in Smith's case meant acting as his own private investigator to track down in New Jersey the witness who first implicated him in drug sales and then whose recantation made Smith's upgrading possible.

Smith re-enlisted for his second term in the Army in 1972. For the next three

years, according to service records, he was a medical corpsman at the Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington. Doctors, nurses and other co-workers, plus one patient commended him for his work in letters submitted in his appeal brief.

In January, 1976, he was transferred to Aschaffenburg, Germany to serve as a company aidman. "They were using us to grease wheels in the motor pool and I wanted to practice my skills in a hospital," said Smith of his experiences there.

Smith attempted to get transferred back to the hospital with no success. During his next leave, he went to the hospital to seek the help of his former commanders.

When the soldier returned to Germany, he was three days AWOL and, in addition, a customs agent caught him

with several grams of marijuana.

But his real trouble was still to come. A private facing charge on heroin possession was allegedly told the only way out would be to set up another user.

The private, James Green, was given marked money by Army investigators and told to make a transaction. Green went to Smith and paid him \$70 of a \$100 debt using the marked money.

Green then returned to investigators with some of his own heroin, saying he had purchased it from Smith. The unknowing Smith was arrested with the marked money and Green was given a discharge and sent home.

Green acknowledged that sequence of events in an April 16, 1977 affidavit given in support of Smith's appeal. However, he had earlier told about the set-up.

See Page 2

Housing Progress Begins in 2 Areas

NE Council Picked For Project

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

The Northeast Neighborhood Council, Inc. has been selected to receive technical assistance from the National Urban Coalition in developing strategies for improvement of the Northeast area.

Bill Murphy, a NUC staffer from New Orleans, arrived in Winston-Salem Tuesday night to begin working with the council in assessing community needs.

The Neighborhood Counseling Project, as the NUC program is titled, is operating in 30 cities around the country under a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Each neighborhood advisor is trained to prepare neighborhood improvement strategies, help secure funds for projects and help residents impact on the community development block grant process.

Alderman Vivian H. Burke, D-NE, who worked with city staff to obtain the assistance, noted that the council has already gotten status as a non-profit corporation, which allows the group to seek grants on its own.

"With the extra help we will be getting, we should be able to do a lot," she added.

Council president Marty Penn said, "Rehabilitation is the No. 1 concern in the Northeast neighborhood." He added that such ideas as the long-expressed goal of a mini-park in the 24th Street and Manchester Street area will also be explored with advisor.

A recent study by community development officials reinforces Penn's feelings on rehabilitation. Of 1,100 structures in the area bounded by 14th

See Page 3

Relocation Begins in Liberty-Patterson

By Yvette McCullough
Staff Writer

Ten families in the Liberty-Patterson Area will be relocated out of the blighted area if the Board of Aldermen approves the condemnation of property in the area.

About 33 rental units on Patterson Avenue between Seventh and Eighth Street have been recommended for condemnation by the Community Development's Department.

"Ten families should get moved this month," said Alderman Larry Little, D-North. "Basically it will be families living in the Seventh and Patterson area and they will be moves as soon as the city staff people are able to relocate them."

"Some of the families will be trapped in for another winter," Little said. "Many have meager resources and if

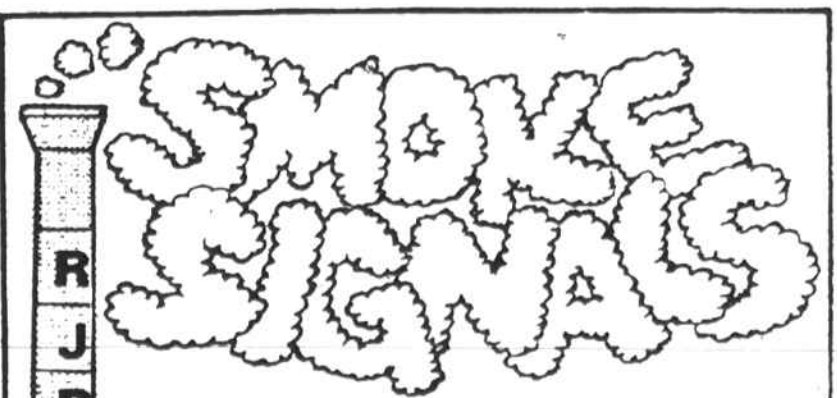
they are relocated it would be to a higher rent area."

Finding affordable housing for residents to be relocated is a major problem the city of Winston-Salem has with the demolishing of dilapidated housing said John Roberts, codes and rehabilitation inspector.

"The biggest problem with code enforcement is that the tenant is forced to move," Roberts said. "The tenant usually gets hurt because the rent of a marginally poor house, has double the rent of a substandard one and the tenant can not afford to move."

Locating the number of people living in substandard housing is a problem said H.H. Disher, superintendent of the minimum code and enforcement office. He said that the city has no record of the number of people presently living in

See Page 3



After attending two of the three Black Women: Coping series sponsored by the YWCA on Glade Street, I couldn't help but be impressed by the speakers and the discussion.

The series, designed to investigate everyday problems from the black woman's perspective, confirmed to me what I've known all along; black women have a lot of important things to say about different problems in their life and they need an outlet for their expressions.

Women at the seminars talked about interpersonal relationships, coping within the power structure and how

See Page 9