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Staff Photo by Oldham

We've Struck...

...water. Workmen removing the last remnants of the Trade Street Mall struck a water main, bringing forth a gusher Monday. The former pedestrian walkway is set to become a street for traffic again after the Board of Aldermen voted to close the mall.

Baptists Reunite After Schism

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

The General Baptist State Convention has healed the wounds from an internal struggle which threatened to tear the convention apart, says leaders of the 350,000 member statewide organization.

"There's a beautiful spirit of cooperation and togetherness," said convention president Dr. John R. Manley of Chapel Hill as he looked out upon the 3,000 delegates to the All-Baptist Assembly here in Winston-Salem this week.

Out of the dispute which arose over his election as president in 1978, Dr. Manley noted that the convention has become more united. As an example, he said that 95 per cent of the funds collected by the convention for its missions now come to the Baptist headquarters in Raleigh, rather than individual churches sending their donations to Shaw University or Central Orphanage. Also, the convention has raised its first

million dollar budget, with a month yet to go in its fiscal year.

Dr. O.L. Sherrill, 30-year veteran executive secretary of the convention before retiring in 1978, said the uproar had led to reforms in convention rules to limit officers to one four-year term, giving more opportunities for leaders to offer themselves.

The result was that when the Baptists and four auxiliaries met here in Winston-Salem for a gathering only held once every four years, the delegates could concentrate on worship and study.

Allthornton Canada of Charlotte, president of the Sunday School Convention, noted that he had attended 10 such assemblies. "I go to get more understanding of the teachings of the Bible and to share ideas and meet new people."

"I like the worship part of the assembly and the fellowship with the whole convention," said Richmond Turner, president of the B.T.U. Convention.

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Staff Photo by Templeton

Mrs. Margaret Hutto of Charlotte and Rev. Waylon Wallace of Gastonia's Center Baptist Church greet convention registrant Mrs. Sara White during proceedings of the All-Baptist Assembly at the Benton Convention Center.

Citizens Demand a Stake In Multi-Million Hotel Deal

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

Neighborhood groups and black residents called on the Board of Aldermen to require the developers of a \$20 million downtown hotel to involve minorities in construction and all levels of employment before making a \$4 million loan from federal grant money.

The money would come from a program entitled Urban Development Action Grants, designated for cities with a "pocket of poverty."

City staff unveiled Friday a proposal by the Radisson hotel chain to build a 350-room hotel across the street from the Benton Convention Center and scheduled a rush series of hearings and meetings to get an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by July 31.

During a double public hearing Monday night, several angry citizens raised a hail of questions about the ownership of the venture and why the city had been in such a hurry.

Jonathan Edwards, chairperson of the Citywide Neighborhood Coalition, offered his groups conditional support of the proposal if: affirmative action is required in hiring; low-income people are trained to fill all levels of jobs; minority businesses and cooperatives have special incentives to locate in the hotel; and that further UDAG applications focus on neighborhood projects.

Edwards cited the feasibility of locating a shopping

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City Wants \$4 Million

The city is sending an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for a \$4 million Urban Development Action Grant.

If the grant is approved, the money would then be loaned to Hotel Associates of Winston-Salem, a group made up of GRI Investments of Rockville, Md. and Radisson Hotels Corp.

Hotel Associates is putting up \$3.1 million of the \$20 million construction cost. Another \$13.5 million will be borrowed from private lenders.

A Radisson spokesman said Monday the hotel can not be built without the UDAG money. The hotel would not generate enough revenue to service the debt on the full \$17.5 million to be borrowed. However, the chain feels it would take \$20 million to produce a quality hotel for the market.

The terms of the city loan are generous: no repayment of principal for 10 years; repayment of interest at six per cent from years six through ten and repayment of interest and principal at eight per cent interest for the last 30 years.

The city would spend \$800,000 of city money to expand the Benton Convention Center's meeting space and build a tunnel to the hotel and pedestrian walkway to the Cherry-Marshall parking deck.

Klan Recruits Among Police

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

A national officer of the New Empire Knights of the Ku Klux Klan has said that his organization has been actively seeking members in the Winston-Salem Police Department since last year and will do so in the future.

Vernon Logan, national director of the New Empire Knights, said that in March, 1979, a membership drive to attract both law enforcement officers and youth in schools was started and has been in full swing since. "We started back then and have been since then and now people are realizing it," he said.

Logan's comments came in response to those made by Police Chief Lu Powell pertaining to the possibility of a goon squad and KKK members on the police force over the past two weeks.

Powell said last week that although he couldn't definitely say that there were no KKK members on the force, that he hadn't seen any evidence of it.

Logan said he doesn't see what all the fuss is about. "People knew we had members on the police force

when we laid that wreath on the steps of City Hall for the officers who had lost their lives in action several months ago. There are members up there (on the police force) that belong to the NAACP and organizations that exempt both black and white people," he said.

Logan said that his organization of the Klan is concerned mostly with white people's rights.

"Affirmative action is what we're fighting against," he said.

He added that the Klan's membership is not confined to the police department but is present in the sheriff's department as well and the Highway Patrol.

Officers that do belong to the Klan are affiliated with "Law Enforcement Den II," made up of sheriffs, police officers and highway patrolmen and could cover the counties of Stokes, Surry and Forsyth," Logan gave as an example.

When asked about the total number of members from Winston-Salem/Forsyth County, Logan said that if the total number of officers were divided into the number of

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'Vet Gets \$44,000 Claim From U.S.

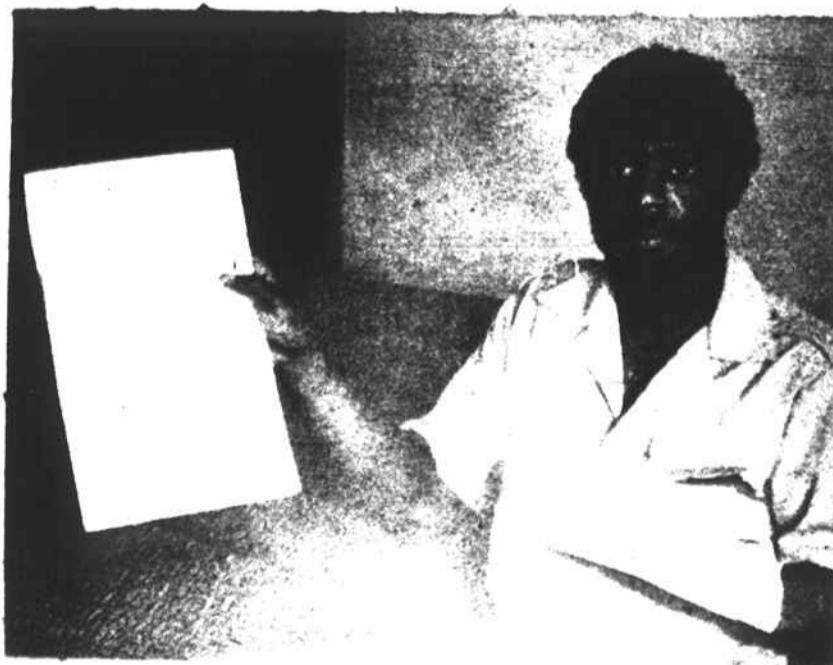
By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

A local veteran who was wrongfully discharged from the U.S. Army after being set-up on a drug charge has received a \$44,000 settlement of back pay from the U.S. government.

An out of court settlement entered in the U.S. Court of Claims this week entitles Belvin Smith of 1413 Gray Ave. to \$44,066.99 for back pay, housing and clothing allowances, bonuses he would have received had he remained in the Army from Nov. 3, 1976, until June 30, 1980.

Smith, then a Specialist V with nine years of service, was given a dishonorable discharge in lieu of a court martial on charges of heroin possession. The soldier then spent two years getting his discharge upgraded to honorable by the U.S. Military Board of Discharge Review.

"I'm pleased, elated, proud," said Smith, brandishing letters exchanged between his lawyers and the U.S.



Staff Photo by Templeton

Ex-GI Belvin Smith holds the letters which announced his \$44,000 settlement with the U.S. government over a wrongful discharge.

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Justice Department. "I feel like I have accomplished something constructive with my life. I had an adverse situation with the weight of the whole U.S. government against me but I was able to turn that around and follow it to its conclusion."

Smith said he hoped his decision would show the Army, "You just can't kick people out because it's convenient."

According to legal records, Smith was an Army medical corpsman disgruntled because he was being used in a motor pool in Aschaffenburg, Germany, back in 1976. Just after Smith had returned from an attempt to get transferred to Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C., another enlisted man, James Green was arrested on heroin possession.

Green was told that he could avoid prosecution if he implicated another heroin user. He then gave Smith some marked money Army investigators had planted on him

HRC Takes Look at City's Hiring Practices

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

The city Human Relations Commission began its second year of operations by deciding to seek information on city affirmative action progress and reports of Klan activity within the

police department. Newly named member Rev. Warner Durnell requested that the commission look into complaints made by the NAACP about a "double-standard" in city government; however several commission members shied away from

using the word "investigate."

Members Bernard Gregory and Jim Davis first suggested that director Herman Aldridge would be in an untenable position investigating his own employers; and then said that the word investigation

implied that something was wrong.

Durnell declined to change his motion and he was supported by members Mrs. Doris Robinson, Mrs. Rachel Jackson, Mrs. Pat McNeil and Mrs. Ann Ryder.

Ryder said, "We have to

make sure our own house is clean before we go into other industries."

Gregory and Davis cast the only negative votes against the motion, during a regular monthly meeting last Thursday.

Aldridge noted several potentially inflammatory

situations in the city during his report. He noted that a black family in Ardmore is still living in fear because of a recent cross-burning.

There have been at least two instances of black females being the object of slurs while on Stratford

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Staff Photo by Templeton

She Named Alumni

Mrs. Olivia Fulp Hairston correctly named all the persons in the picture of the Atkins Class of 1944 run in the July 5 Chronicle. For her accomplishment, she wins a two-year subscription to the Chronicle. Keep an eye out for other photo contests in the Chronicle, your community newspaper.