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Erwin Gets Judgeship

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

In a surprise move Monday, the United States Senate confirmed the nomination of Richard Erwin of Winston-Salem as the first black federal judge in North Carolina since reconstruction.

Erwin, who was nominated by Sen. Robert Morgan, was confirmed despite a series of objections from N.C. Senator Jesse Helms, who objected to Erwin's stand on labor several years ago when he was a state legislator.

The latest of those objections came when Helms demanded that Erwin, currently a N.C. Court of Appeals judge, sign an affidavit denying that he had spoken with former United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young, who in his syndicated newspaper column attacked Helms for his objections to Erwin's nomination.

Young, in the column which appeared two weeks ago, accused Helms of pressuring Erwin to reject publicly, his introduction of legislation that was pro-labor while serving in the N.C. General Assembly as a representative from Forsyth County.

Last week, Helms requested from Erwin, and received, an affidavit saying that the judge had not prompted Young to write the column.

Jane Dillard, a press assistant to Sen. Morgan, said Monday afternoon that Helms had read the affidavit on the floor of the senate immediately before the voting, made statements concerning Young and then sat down.

The nomination of Erwin and ten other judges was then unanimously approved.

"I think that Senator Helms was beginning to feel the pressure from other senators because the judges are voted on in a block, and his refusal to okay Erwin, also held up the other 10



Judge Richard Erwin

nominations and the senators wanted to get their judges voted on before the session ends on Wednesday." Ms. Dillard

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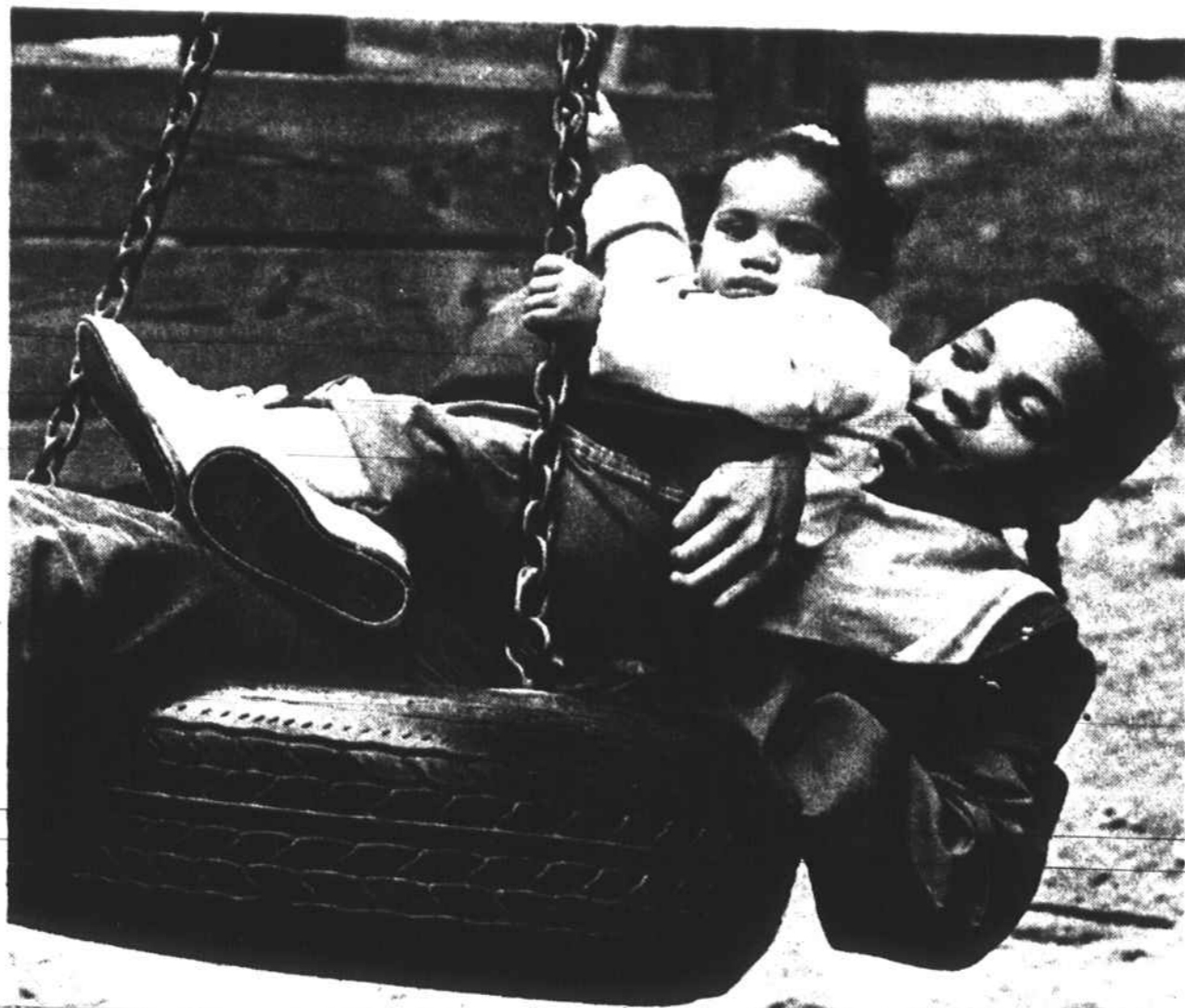


Photo by A. Blue

Swinging

With the help of her sister Lisa, one-year old Natahla Hubbard holds tight as she enjoys an easy ride on the tire swing at Washington Park this past Saturday.

Sheriff's Dept. Called 'Hot Bed of Immorality'

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

Three Forsyth County deputies have called the sheriff's department "hot bed of immorality," and said that racism "is a way of life."

The deputies, who refused to be publically acknowledged for fear of repercussions, said that two of the department's highest officers, Maj. G.R. Dillon and Lt. Preston Oldham "constantly use county vehicles for their own pleasure." The three also alleged that Sheriff Manly Lancaster, an alumni of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, attends all Tarheel games at the expense of the county.

Lancaster said Tuesday when told of the accusations "it's the first I've ever heard of it." "We don't get vehicles for personal use unless it benefits the county. Someone could use a car to go shopping if they have on a uniform and happen to

be out on patrol or their way home," the sheriff said.

The deputies also charged that in at least two instances, secretaries, who could not type or run an office efficiently have been made deputies and now receive higher pay than

black officers with years of experience.

"I know of one instance where an officer died of a heart-attack and a secretary was told to go to his apartment and get his badge, gun and other belongings. The next morning, she was sworn in as a deputy. Now,

she makes more than seasoned black detectives," the deputy said.

Lancaster said that he was surprised at the deputy's accusations and called them untrue. All three deputies agreed that Dillon and Oldham

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A Return to 60's Political Tactics

The North Carolina Black Political Forum concluded its two-day organizational conference Saturday night with a banquet featuring guest speakers Dr. Joseph Lowery, President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Dr. Reginald Hawkins, civil rights leader and two-time gubernatorial candidate from Charlotte.

The Forum was established as an effort to create a

statewide Black political organization to speak to the issues affecting all of North Carolina's Blacks, such as unemployment, housing, health care, education, hunger and malnutrition, and from there, formulate a base by which to select the most appropriate candidates in the November elections.

Lowery stressed the need for a return to the political tactics of the 1960s. He stated that movement was

the only means by which some systems can be changed.

Hawkins stated that blacks should not abandon their Black elected officials, but should make them more responsive to their Black constituency than to white interest groups.

Co-chairman of the N.C. Black Political Forum, the Rev. Leon White commented, "The conference was quite successful. Those who came were strong, and many had been intimidated by the pressure from the political machines in the state. The North Carolina Black Political Forum conference was one of the most significant events to occur prior to the November elections. Black people in the South will determine who the next president will be, and Virginia, North Carolina and Florida will be the swing states.

White continued, "If Carter, Hunt and the Democratic party will sit down and negotiate with Blacks in the state, we will be willing to go out and work for their administration. We extend the same invitation to Reagan and the Republican party. If neither of the parties are willing to negotiate, I will recommend that Blacks split their votes casting one for Carter, one for Reagan and one for Anderson.

Future plans of the Forum will be announced in a mass letter-writing campaign next week.

Friday Says WSSU Can't Make Bid Until 1982

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

Winston-Salem State University cannot petition to purchase Bowman Gray Stadium until January of 1982, according to the President of the University of North Carolina system.

Dr. William Friday said that there have been no further developments in the stadium transfer and probably wouldn't be because of other priorities that WSSU Chancellor H. Douglas Covington has given the UNC Board of Governors.

"The purchase was not approved by this office and something of that dimension would have to go through me and the Board of Governors," Friday said.

Covington first made public the univer-

sity's interest in buying the stadium when he brought the matter before the WSSU board of trustees, who unanimously approved the idea on Sept. 4.

The university submitted an informal bid of \$450,000 to the city, however, three aldermen voiced their reluctance to see the 17,000 capacity stadium, which the WSSU football team uses as a home field, sold.

Friday said that he believed that in light of other requests that Covington has made that at the present time, the stadium is low on the priority level.

"Other activities should come first; given the economic situation being the way it is, we (the Board of Governors) should consider other matters first," Friday said.

Friday said that he was basing his deci-

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Not Enough Women

City Below Goal

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

A new affirmative action program that includes the hiring of women, the handicapped and Spanish-speaking people will be enacted in December to counter-act the affirmative action program that five years ago failed to increase the number of city female employees.

"We're still a pretty good way from meeting our goals as set for 1980," said Alexander Beaty, assistant city manager, during his presentation to the Human Relations Commission last week. Beaty said that "it has been very difficult to find qualified women to fill vacant positions at City Hall."

The commission requested an analysis of the affirmative action program begun in 1975, when the city set a five-year goal for the hiring of women.

The city has come closest to that goal in the hiring of professional women. Five years ago, the goal for females-in-professional jobs was 24.1 percent. Today, the number of women in professional jobs with the city is 22.6 percent.

The presentation revealed that women dominate clerical jobs with the city at a whopping 78.4 percent.

Larry Womble, a member of the commission told Beaty that the results made it appear as though the city had not been actively seeking to recruit women.

The city's five-year goal set for women in administrative jobs was 16.1 percent. The current number is 7.3 percent.

The goal for technicians was set at 24.1 percent, the present number is 9.2 percent.

Women in protective services (police and fire departments) had been set at 13.6 percent. Women

now fill 8.7 percent of those positions.

"In skilled craft jobs, such as carpentry and mechanics, the city had projected a goal of 6.2 percent of the positions. Women now total 1.3 percent.

Women in service-maintenance jobs were supposed to number 11.6 percent. They work at 1.9 percent of those jobs today.

Womble also repeatedly asked Beaty about the lack of blacks in the affirmative action program. Womble complained that, although the city's black population

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Chronicle Racks Encourage Voting

In an effort to promote voter awareness the Chronicle has placed placards in all of its coin operated outdoor vending machines, announced Ernest H. Pitt, editor and publisher. "We are deeply concerned over the low voter turnout in previous elections," Pitt said recently. "We are hoping that our vote signs will serve as a reminder to all citizens."

The newspaper machines are located at approximately 50 locations throughout the city including all the major shopping centers.

In addition to the placards Pitt has committed the paper to providing complete coverage of all local races. "Our forefathers have sacrificed too much for us to sit home on election day," Pitt said. "Part of our struggle for equality and freedom lies in the ballot box. So vote...it is your privilege and your obligation."



Photo by A. Blue

Court Volunteers

The Forsyth Court Volunteers, a group of community volunteers who donate time with youthful offenders, sponsored "Play-Day" last Saturday at Washington Park. Pictured above, Sherry Crouse, administrative assistant, introduces volunteer Alan Brown to the young man he will spend the day with during Play-Day activities. An egg throwing contest, three-legged race, horseshoes, and softball game highlighted the day's events.