

Winston-Salem Chronicle

"Serving the Winston-Salem Community Since 1974"

OL. VII NO. 11

U.S.P.S. No. 067910

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

Saturday, November 8, 1980

*20 cents

20 Pages This Week

First Black Federal Judge

Erwin Sworn In

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

A ceremony witnessed North Carolina's highest judicial leaders; family, friends and fellow attorneys Richard Cannon Erwin was sworn in as the first black federal judge in this state since Reconstruction. Erwin was sworn in last night on the sixth floor at the U.S. District Court Building in Winston-Salem.

crowd that was so large that many did not get to witness the ceremony. Others had to stand, the entire time and some had to take turns listening to parts of the ceremony, and then relinquishing their places to others, all under the watchful eye of state troopers and state Bureau of Investigation agents. The judge's friends and associates paid tribute to

him calling him "a good and honorable man," "a man with the characteristics needed to be a good judge," and a "man with integrity, legal knowledge and good, common sense." Ralph M. Stockton Jr., represented the North Carolina and Forsyth County Bar Association of which Erwin is a member and said that Erwin "possesses the qualities we seek in our

own judicial system...basic good character; integrity, background; legal knowledge, experience and common sense." E.K. Powe, representing the North Carolina State Bar told Erwin, "We have confidence in your ability to carry out with fairness and integrity the position of federal judge." The president of the North Carolina Association of

Black Lawyers, Charles L. Becton told Erwin that he "took special pride in participating in the ceremonies. "This is one of the greatest pleasures of my life," Becton said, adding, "You have demonstrated a special sensitivity to the needs of others and a strength of conviction." Among the others witnessing the event were N.C. See Page 2



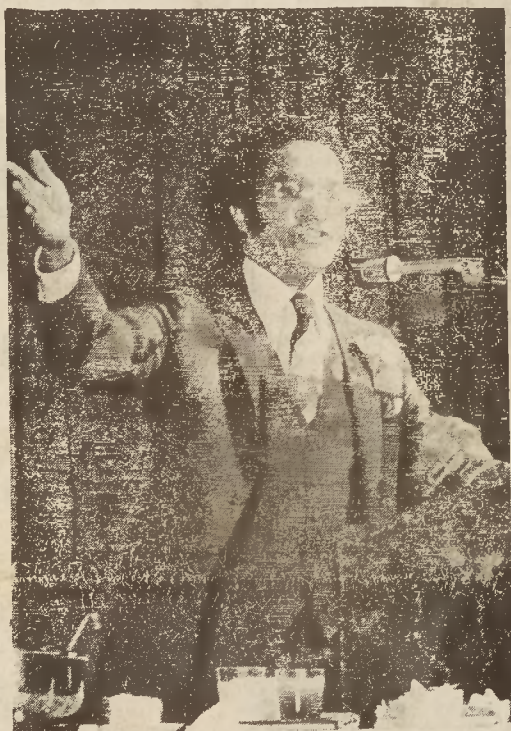
Richard Erwin, the first black appointed to a federal judgeship since Reconstruction was sworn in by Naomi Morris, chief judge of N.C. Court of Appeals.

Brown Urges College Support

More than 300 people gathered for a banquet at the Benton Convention Center last Wednesday night to help radio station WAAA celebrate its 30th anniversary.

Guest speaker for the occasion was Tony Brown, nationally renowned journalist and host of Tony Brown's Journal, a weekly program. Brown received a standing ovation after giving a minute speech that briefly traced the history of black American's contributions to the economy of the United States. The basic topic of Brown's speech was the need to save and preserve historically black colleges. Noting how a very small percentage of blacks

enrolled in white institutions ever graduate, Brown emphasized the fact that the majority of black college graduates hold degrees from black institutions. "We need our black colleges," Brown said, "and we must do all we can to save them from the efforts of some to destroy them under the guise of integration." Several popular former employees of "Triple-A" radio were on hand at the banquet and were presented with outstanding service awards from station owner Mutter Evans. Larry Williams, the station's first announcer who began broadcasting in 1958, and Oscar "Daddy-O" Alexander were cited for their long service to the station.



Tony Brown, nationally known television personality, speaks to crowd at 30th anniversary of WAAA Radio.

Blacks Defeated In Record Turnout

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

Although 64 percent of the black population of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County voted in Tuesday's general election; all of the black candidates seeking county and state offices lost.

The worst defeat was suffered by Democratic District Judge candidate V. Jean Burkins, who lost to Republican David R. Tanis by more than 25,000 votes.

Also defeated were Democratic Board of education candidate Beaufort O. Bailey; Attorney Annie Brown Kennedy, a candidate for State House, and Democrat County Commission incumbent Mazie S. Woodruff.

Ms. Burkins never lead in the race against Tanis, although she did win 15 of the county's 17 predominately black precincts. Ms. Burkins, however, did not win her own precinct.

Ms. Woodruff, who was defeated by Republican Forrest Conrad, lead through most of the race and carried all the black precincts, but Conrad, showed a surprising last minute surge in the county.

At one point, Ms. Woodruff ran neck and neck with Republican Richard Linville, however, Conrad edged them both out.

Ms. Kennedy, an attorney, who was trying for her first elected term in the State House, was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Judson DeRamus, who was appointed to a judgeship.

With 40 of the county's 80 precincts in, Mrs. Kennedy was ahead of Republican Mary Pegg, who is running for her second term.

However, Mrs. Kennedy, who had gotten as high as fourth out of 10 candidates for the House, had her lead diminished by Ms. Pegg.

In the county commission race, Mrs. Woodruff, the incumbent, held substantial leads through most of the race, but with 10 precincts to go, lost her lead momentarily to Linville. Conrad, who gained in white, middle class precincts overtook Mrs. Woodruff, placing her fifth in a race of six.

In other local races, Republican John East defeated incumbent Democratic Senator Robert Morgan. In the fifth District Congressional race, incumbent Democrat Steve Neal won over Republican Anne Bagnal.



Precinct workers at Skyland Elementary School check voters as they prepare to vote Tuesday.

Candidates Disappointed

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

"Disappointment," was the sentiment expressed by many of the black candidates who were defeated in Tuesday's election. School board candidate Beaufort O. Bailey said that black people need a new election and need to reevaluate where we are going as a community." Bailey said that black people also need a "new direction." Defeated county commission incumbent Mazie

Woodruff said she was "very" disappointed. "Every black in the election lost. We would have felt better if at least one of us had won. I've lived through the 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s and the 70s and the 80s seem to be saying get back where you came from. But, we as a people, must not let this get us down," she said. Annie Brown Kennedy, who was unsuccessful in her bid to return to the State House, said that President-elect Ronald Reagan's conservative politics affected

everyone. "This was a tremendous disappointment to all of us (black candidates). We all worked very hard. We were aware of the fact that Ronald Reagan and the other Republican candidates would run strong, but not to the extent that they did, she said. North ward Alderman Larry D. Little said that black people defeated themselves by voting a "straight Democratic ticket." "This election was a disaster," Little said at

election headquarters Tuesday night. "Voting straight Democratic gives the whites just as many votes as blacks in the black precincts, yet our candidates aren't given the same consideration in the white precincts." Little said that in the future, blacks will have to do some "selective voting," in order to get black candidates elected. "The Democrats are electing the Republicans and we're letting them," he said.



Junior nursing students at Winston-Salem State University received their caps and took The Florence Nightingale Vow during the Cap and Stripes Ceremony Monday, October 27. Receipt of the cap signifies dedication and love for humanity. It becomes a permanent part of the nursing uniform. Students recognized at the ceremony were: Antoinette Branch, Deborah Bullock, Sandra Clay, Wanda Clay, Sandra Frazier, Edith T. Green, Bonnie Linen, Veronica Oates and Barbara Parker.

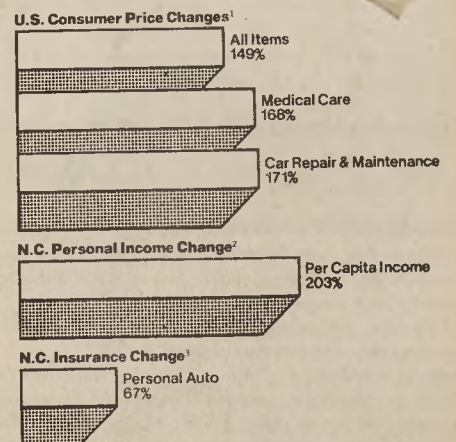
Agency Seeks Rate Appeal

The North Carolina Rate Bureau will appeal to the state Court of Appeals the insurance commissioner's disapproval of the July filing of personal auto insurance rates, the chairman announced today.

The insurance companies will begin collecting the new rates Dec. 1, subject to refund of any portion of the increase disallowed by the court. The overall average increase will be 5.9 percent in compliance with the legislature's cap of 6 percent on annual increases.

"If the commissioner had approved the rates, the level would have been inadequate based on the data collected for the filing," said Thomas S. Carpenter, CPCU, chairman of the

Auto Insurance Rates And Related Increases (Since 1967)



1. Through August 1980. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
2. Through 1979. Source: N.C. Employment Security Commission
3. Including Dec. 1, 1980 increase for private passenger automobiles. Source: N.C. Rate Bureau.
Chart by North Carolina Insurance News Service

the junior nursing students at Winston-Salem State University received their caps and took The Florence Nightingale Vow during the Cap and Stripes Ceremony Monday, October 27. Receipt of the cap signifies dedication and love for humanity. It becomes a permanent part of the nursing uniform. Students recognized at the ceremony were: Antoinette Branch, Deborah Bullock, Sandra Clay, Wanda Clay, Sandra Frazier, Edith T. Green, Bonnie Linen, Veronica Oates and Barbara Parker.