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38 Pages This Week

Five Resign From EWLDC

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

Five of the seven members of the board of directors of the East Winston Local Development Company, Inc., resigned Tuesday night because they objected to the way chairman R. Lewis Ray represented the group.

Board members Melvyn L. White, and Ernest H. Pitt, submitted written resignations to Ray during a board meeting held at 516 N. Trade Street.

In his resignation Pitt

said, "I cannot in all consciousness, remain a member of this organization as long as the chairman does not adhere to the stated goals and objectives of the group. Therefore, I respectfully submit this resignation effective immediately."

White's resignation, worded much the same way said, "In the interest of what I believe to be the best for the community, I submit herewith my resignation from the Board of the EWLDC. The thrust of community ownership of

the proposed shopping center in East Winston must not be thwarted. Where there are philosophical differences that cannot be resolved democratically, somebody must step in the background in order that organizational goals can be pursued."

Immediately after White and Pitt had submitted their resignations, three other board members, Bishop S.D. Johnson, Mazie S. Woodruff and Naomi Fuller all offered verbal resignations to Ray. The sixth member of the board,

John Duncan, was asked to resign by Ray, but Duncan refused saying, "I'm not going to let him destroy all our hard work. I am totally opposed to his conduct and actions; that's why I'm staying."

Ray, a local attorney, and the EWLDC began having problems last month when he made statements at a meeting of East Winston Development Council chaired by Alderman Virginia Newell.

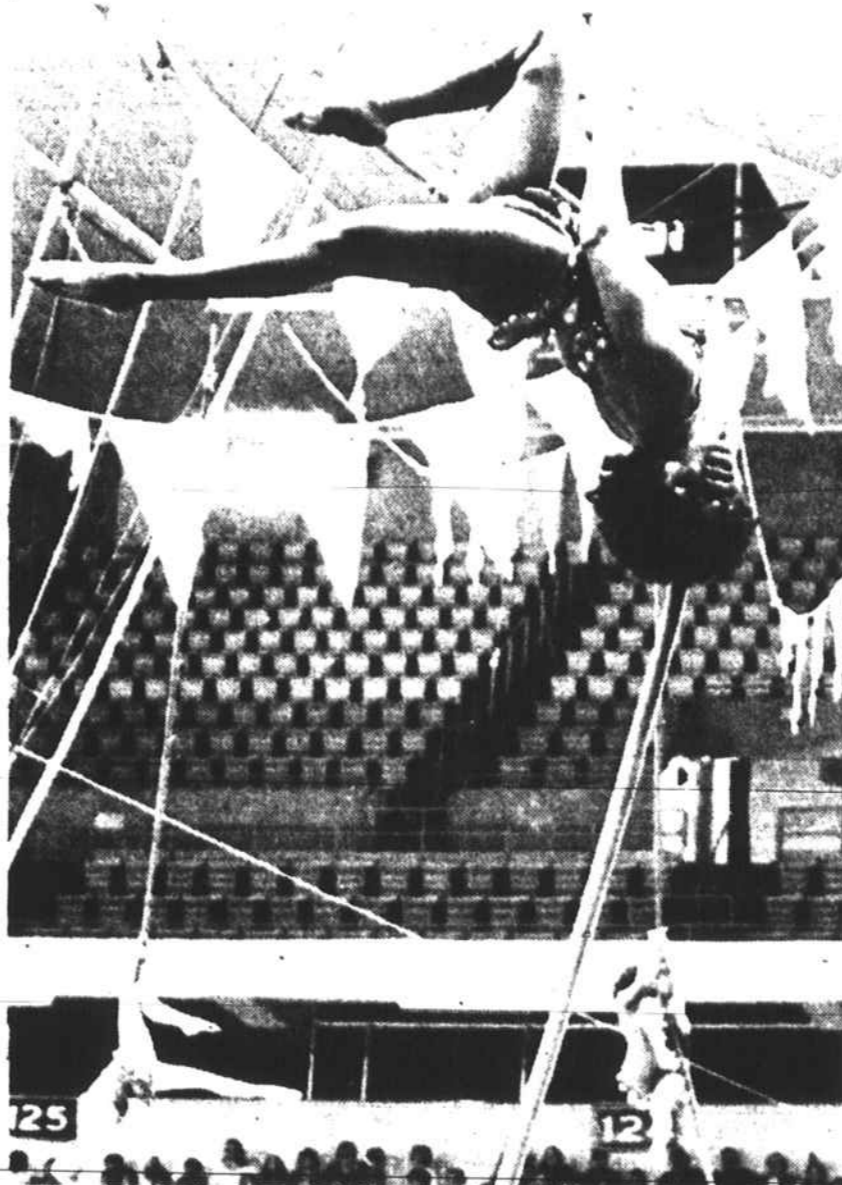
Ray called for the two groups to bury the hatchet and pool their resources and work together. However, he spoke without consulting the EWLDC, the former board members claim.

"The problem is with the chairman, who has a love and affection with dealing with the press. I can't tolerate the confusion. Someone needs to step in the background and let the group move on," White said.

Pitt said that although he believed in the local development non-profit organization, he doesn't agree with Ray's methods or politics.

"What we hoped to do

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This lady trapeze artist is one of only three black entertainers with Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus.

Law Students' Bias Case Is Dismissed

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

Wake County Superior Court Judge Hamilton Hobgood Jr., has dismissed the case of 11 black law school graduates who filed suit against the Board of Law Examiners of the State of North Carolina.

The 11, who all failed the exam last year, have since taken the exam and are waiting their scores which are due the first week in April.

They charged that the board unlawfully and illegally denied them their due process rights by not providing them with a constitutionally adequate level of review after they were notified that they had failed the exam.

The board in turn asked Hobgood to dismiss the actions for 1. Lack of subject matter jurisdiction. 2. Failure to state a claim

upon which relief can be granted, and 3. Failure to join a necessary party.

Hobgood allowed the second motion and would not address the other two.

According to Denise Welch and Clifton Graves Jr., both of Winston-Salem, two plaintiffs in the case, their attorney, gave notice of appeal in open court after Hobgood dismissed the case.

"We're getting our file together and preparing to perfect the appeal. We were optimistic but we were realistic, so the outcome wasn't unexpected," said Graves.

The two said that they have gotten calls from white and black members of the legal community offering their support. Other professional organizations including a nurses' group and the North Carolina Association of Black Social

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Klan-SWAT Alliance Predict City Violence

By Donna Oldham
Staff Writer

One of the organizers of Southern Whites Against Tyranny (SWAT) has said that his group will resort to violence, if necessary to make their objectives understood.

Warren Brooks told the Chronicle Monday that the recent Klan-SWAT Coalition headed by Klansman Joe Grady and himself have a specific target, wealthy white citizens of Winston-Salem.

"We are after the wealthy, white manipulators who run this city like a private country club. They respond to money, bloc votes, petitions, violence and threats of violence," he said continuing. "The function of the Klan-SWAT coalition is to convey grievances of low and middle income whites

through violence and threats of violence and intimidation." Contrary to public opinion, Brooks said, SWAT isn't "anti-black, but pro-truth, justice and fairness. "Wealthy whites are the targets, there is something wrong with the system," he said.

According to SWAT literature SWAT ...

1. "Is a Klan-backed white activist counter-force to Communist-backed black activists."

2. "Is the working white man's answer to corrupt officials and wealthy manipulators."

3. "Will specialize in pragmatic politics."

4. "Will deal fairly and in a straightforward manner with minority members of society who are pragmatic enough to realize the inevitable role of minorities in a democracy, like Fleming El-Amin."

5. "Will turn those who think the tail should wag the dog over to the Klan phase of the operation, like Larry Womble."

6. "Will insist that those

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Jackson Rouses A&T

By Yvonne Anderson
Staff Writer

Greensboro - The Reverend Jesse Jackson, Director of the Chicago based organization PUSH (People United to Save Humanity), challenged the student body and faculty of North Carolina A&T State University "to remain true to the school's original mission."

Jackson, a 1963 graduate of A&T, addressed a

capacity audience last week, in the university's Moore Gymnasium. He was taking part in the Founder's Week program at A&T as the university celebrates its 90th birthday.

"All schools have a mission, the Harvards, Yales, Columbias, Brandeis, Yeshivas," Jackson said. "The original mission of A&T and other black colleges and universities throughout the country was

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Bryant May Oppose Newell

Retired educator and realtor William A. Bryant may challenge East Ward Alderman Virginia K. Newell in this fall's election, according to a source.

Bryant, who retired several years ago as an assistant principal at R. J.

Reynolds High School is being urged by members of his community to run for Mrs. Newell's seat, because as one of his supporters said, "she's just not doing anything."

Although he said that he really hadn't made up his mind, Bryant said that he had given the matter "some consideration," and would definitely make up his mind in time for the July filing date should he decide to challenge Mrs. Newell.

Sources in the East Ward told the Chronicle that should Bryant decide not to run, the community would have possibly another candidate to run against the current alderman.

Sources also told the Chronicle that challengers were being sought in the Northeast Ward to run against Alderman Vivian Burke, however, no name was readily available.



Jessie Jackson

Gregory Urges: 'Be Prepared!'

By C. B. Hauser
Special to the Chronicle

Dick Gregory delivered what he called a moral message to a near capacity audience in Wait Chapel, Wake Forest University last Tuesday.

Although he spoke for nearly three hours, most of his audience was on hand when he finished.

Gregory urged his listeners to use the God force within them to stop the playing of games sponsored by a few old greedy manipulators while the masses are being ripped off. "This will be a big job," he said, "but united, we

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Dick Gregory

Frustration, Pride Hallmarks Of 30 Years with Fire Department

By Donna Oldham
and
Yvonne Anderson
Staff Writers

On March 1, 1951, eight black men of varied backgrounds and vocations, came together and made history as the first black firefighters hired by the City of Winston-Salem. The eight, who will always be known as "Company Four," were also the first black city firefighters in the state.

None of the members of "Company Four," had dreams of being firefighters as children or in their early adult years, but all, once they joined the fire department, made a career out of the firefighting profession.

Dr. Kenneth R. Williams, chancellor emeritus of Winston-Salem State University and pastor emeritus of United Metropolitan Baptist Church was instrumental in encouraging the city to hire black firemen.

"The reason the group succeeded was due to the caliber of the men employed. Their training and experience was far above that of the other trainees," Williams said.

He continued, "the mayor at the time was Marshall Kurfees, and he was not opposed to the idea of hiring black firemen. Another alderman, Charles Church, supported the idea from the beginning. So, together the three of us had to get the other aldermen to go along with the plan. The NAACP was also instrumental in helping get these men hired."

Williams began pushing the idea of hiring black firefighters in 1947 and it took more than three years for the program to gain ground.

"There was a station right in the heart of the black community on Dunleith that had never had a black fireman and I felt that the community had a right to have blacks working in their community.

Williams said that when the fire department was

operated on an "all-volunteer" basis, blacks were welcomed and participated, but, when the city took over the fire department and firefighters were paid, "blacks were pushed out."

"I felt it was time to get blacks back in the system, he said.

When the Board of Aldermen finally did vote on the issue of whether to hire black firefighters or not, the vote was split four to four. Kurfees broke the tie and voted in favor of the hiring pushing the proposal to victory.

The selection process for the city's first black firefighters was an awesome task, according to Williams because the city's first also had to be the finest.

"I feel the city got a bonus because all of us had either graduated or had some college exposure prior to becoming a fireman," said Raphael O. Black, one of the original "Company Four."

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Fire Chief Lester Ervin