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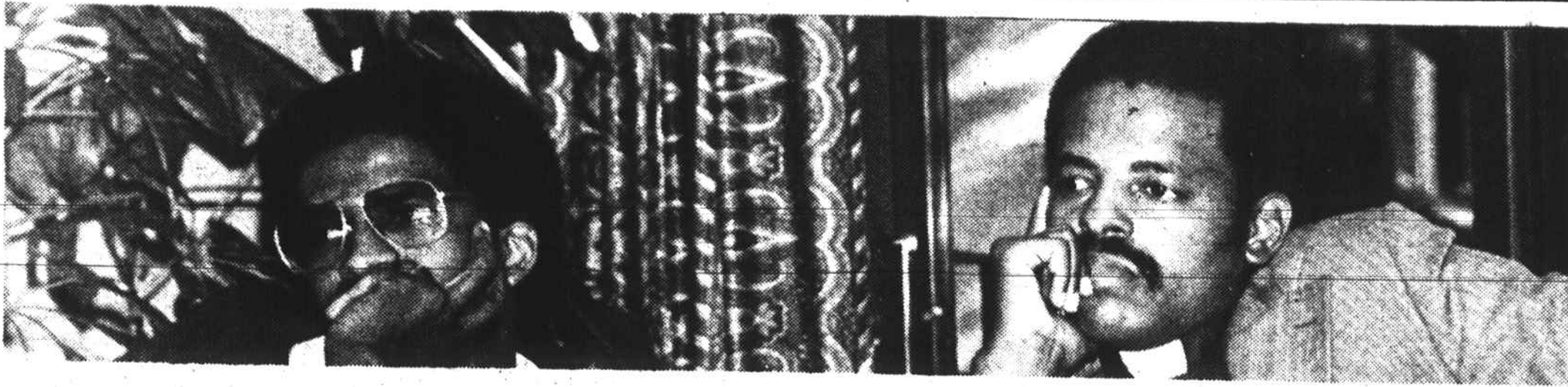
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## Watching, Then Reacting

The Revs. G.G. Campbell, of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and Warner Durnell, of Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, intently watch Maya Angelou's "Sister, Sister" at a screening staged last Monday afternoon by the Chronicle and WXII-TV, then discuss the film's moral and thematic implications. Not pictured is the Rev. J. Ray Butler of Shiloh Baptist Church, who also attended (Photos by Santana).

## At Screening Session

# Reaction By Ministers To Angelou Film Positive

By Ruthell Howard  
Staff Writer

Monday night, a minister cheated on his wife, cheated on his mistress and channeled church funds into his political campaign in "Sister, Sister," a TV drama whose broadcast was opposed by the moral-right Coalition for Better Television.

*"You don't just go out and air your failures and still expect the church to be in high standing in the community. I think the church can clean its own house without hanging out all its dirty linen for the non-church world."*

— Donald Forrester  
President of Winston-Salem Bible College

Local controversy over the film was triggered by a letter written to Channel 12 by Donald Forrester, president of Winston-Salem Bible College, charging that the film depicts "anti-Christian stereotypes" and the main characters, who are Christians, are "cheats, liars and hypocrites."

At the station 5:30 Monday evening, three area

ministers viewed the film, which was written and produced by noted author and Winston-Salem resident Maya Angelou, and expressed mixed emotions about its content.

The Rev. J. Ray Butler, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, said the movie gave a realistic picture of the consequences of sin. "It showed that sin, which is cruelty, deviousness and dishonesty, leads to shame and degradation as an ultimate result," Butler said. However, Butler said he objected to a minister playing the part.

"No minister needs to get in a situation like that," he said. "The gospel is against that."

Butler said the minister in the film "wasn't much of a preacher in terms of depth and personal convictions," and he felt this character may turn prospective converts away from the church.

"I would have loved to have seen the minister go to the church officials in the midst of the pressures and repent," he said.

**BUTLER SAID** he is not negative toward the showing of the movie, and quoted a passage of scripture — "Watch as well as pray that ye enter not into temptation" — as one lesson the film offers.

But he said, "I still would have like to have seen the man



confessing his wrong, because people who have it in for preachers will say, 'Ah hah! I knew that is what that scoundrel was like.'"

Butler said he would like to see positive aspects of the black church, such as its open door concept, portrayed more in films.

The Rev. G.G. Campbell, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church and Ms. Angelou's minister, said the movie was

"well written" and that he sees "a lot of Maya in the film."

Campbell said he initially had problems with the minister in the film giving in to his temptations, because he is a young minister himself and knows what it is to have a life-long ministry ahead. But Campbell said he is also concerned with the wave of conservatism in this

See Page 2

## 'After Serving So Long You Get Tired'

# Hairston Announces That He'll Step Down From NAACP Presidency

By LaTanya A. Isley  
Staff Writer



Patrick Hairston

Patrick Hairston, president of the Winston-Salem Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), will not seek re-election after six years at the post.

Hairston wrote, in a letter that was printed in the NAACP Freedom Fund

Banquet program, that he would not submit his name for renomination.

The letter read in part, "Regretfully, I shall not let my name be submitted in December 1982, for president of the Winston-Salem Branch NAACP."

Hairston also wrote that "this does not mean that the NAACP is going out of business...it simply means that black people must get their priorities straight and

support this organization because this is the only thing we have."

Hairston refused to comment on his decision to step down, saying that the "state office felt it would hinder someone from getting a membership."

Community leaders said they are saddened by Hairston's decision but they praised the work he has done for the organization. The Rev. Warner Durnell,

pastor of Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, said he would hope for Hairston to remain president of the local branch because "his rapport has been an advantage to the NAACP."

Clifton Graves, affirmative action officer at Winston-Salem State University, said Hairston "has demonstrated good leadership for this particular time" and that he is "committed to speaking

out against injustices." "Pat Hairston is aggressive and outspoken and doesn't put on false pretenses. He is wholeheartedly committed to the struggle for justice and equality," Graves said.

Graves also said that he believes Hairston will continue to work with the NAACP and other community organizations.

"Knowing Pat as I do," Graves said, "the mere fact

that he's stepping down will not hinder him from continuing to work for the interest and uplifting of the black community in the NAACP and other community ventures."

Northeast Ward Alderman Vivian Burke praised Hairston's work with the NAACP and the black community.

"He's done a very outstanding job trying to make people aware of what

we need to do. He's been very sincere, dedicated and committed in what he's doing," she said.

Burke said she would hate to see Hairston step down but "after serving so long you get tired."

Norma Smith, chairperson of the East Winston Crime Task Force, said she is "surprised" at Hairston's decision and that she hopes "they can find someone to fill his shoes."



Gwendolyn Ashley really gets excited when talking about her late husband, John Driver Ashley, who was principal of 14th Street School, one of the largest black schools in the South (photo by Alan Guthrie).

## Fairview May Be Renamed For Ashely

By Ruthell Howard  
Staff Writer

Many remember the late John Driver Ashley as the devout principal of 14th Street School, (one of the largest black schools in the South), for 27 years, and others remember him as a compassionate but stern teacher, but to Mrs. Gwendolyn Ashley, his wife of 41

years, "J.D." was a man who "worked hard, enjoyed living and enjoyed people."

"If I would give a summary of him, I would say he was a born educator," says Mrs. Ashley, who said she learned the most from her husband. "As an only child, I was selfish, but he taught me. I learned a lot from him as a person and we became very good

friends."

Bernard T. Foy, coordinator for music education for Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, remembers being Ashley's student. "When I was in school," Foy said, "he (Ashley) was sort of an assistant principal without the benefits of that title who also taught language arts. He was very kind, virile in his teaching and did not im-

pose rules without having good reasons for them."

Foy said even after he had graduated, Ashley was concerned about his career and the direction of his life, and lauds him as a "forward-thinking leader. The first special education program for students with sight deficiencies was located at 14th Street School and he was the first principal within the school system to start an

instrumental music program."

Impressed with Ashley as an educator and supporting friend, Foy suggested to the school board in 1979 that Fairview Intermediate School be renamed after him. The proposal is being considered and a decision will be made June 21 or 28. "Fairview was the name of the old school which was on

See Page 2

## A Brief Respite: Armed Robberies Resume In East Winston

By Ruthell Howard  
Staff Writer

"I don't hurt nobody, I just get the money," the robber said to James Clyde Bess.

Bess was the fifth victim of a sudden recurrence of robberies in East Winston in the past three weeks, by a bandit who covers his face

with a handkerchief. Bess said he had just parked his car and gotten out. "As I got out, a man came around the car and put a gun on me and said, 'This is a stick-up.'"

Bess replied, "Are you kidding?" to which the man said, "No, I ain't kidding." After seeing the gun, Bess said, "I knew he wasn't kidding."

The man made Bess lie down and searched him for money. Then he made Bess get in the trunk of his own car. "He closed the trunk down on me and pulled off," Bess said. "When he pulled off, he rode two miles and stopped. Then he rode two more miles and stopped and in about 15 minutes he came back and I heard two doors slam."

After riding around 20 minutes, the man made Bess get out of the car and robbed him of a 995-dollar diamond ring and a 695-dollar watch and made him get back in the trunk.

Bess said he pulled the tail lights off the car to attract police's attention and got air by pushing a rod through the speakers in the rear of the car. After park-

ing and leaving Bess for about 45 minutes, the robber returned and told Bess, "I'm going to raise this trunk up a little, and don't you raise it up no further until I tell you." Bess said he waited 20 minutes and finally decided to get out of the car.

Bess described his kidnaper to be about five-foot tall, weighing between 125

and 140 pounds, and in his early 20s. "He was nothing but a jitterbug," Bess said, "because he had the music going. I wasn't worried about nothing. I was in the trunk trying to get air." Bess said he thinks the robber had used his car to rob other people while he was in the trunk.

Sergeant F.E. Mason in the Winston-Salem Police

Department Crimes Against Persons Division said the department feels two to three people are responsible for the recent robberies and it is not the man deemed the East Winston Robber, who allegedly was responsible for a rash of robberies in that area that began in early March. "We haven't had a rash like we had before," Mason said, "where we had

several in the same block or centered around the same area."

Mason said the robberies form no time or locational pattern, and while the size and age descriptions from victims are similar, the clothing descriptions have not been the same. Mason said the weapons and types of robbery for different vic-

See Page 2