

Racism Not The Issue
Chronicle columnist Tony Brown says racism isn't the real issue surrounding the NCAA's Proposal 48, which would require prospective college athletes to score at least 700 on the SAT.
Editorials, Page 4.



True Insight
Although radio station WSMX gospel announcer Mary Brice can't see people with her eyes, Mrs. Brice says she sees others with a special spiritual sight.
Church And Religion, Page 20.

Top Runner
Who will be the area's top teams and performers in high school track and field? The *Chronicle* examines local teams and their prospects for the upcoming season.
Sports, Page 14.

Winston-Salem Chronicle

"Serving the Winston-Salem Community Since 1974"

VOL. IX NO. 31

U.S.P.S. No. 067910

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

36 Pages This Week

25 cents

Thursday, March 31, 1983



But Could Increase, Says Bailey

Black Principals: Numbers Still Low

By ROBIN ADAMS
Staff Writer

Are black principals, particularly those on the senior high level, a vanishing breed in Winston-Salem?
Of the five local senior high schools, not one has a black principal.
In fact, only 13, or 20.64 percent, of the entire city/county school system's 63 principals are black. The system serves 14,691, or 37.8 percent, non-white students.

But Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Assistant to the Superintendent James Dew says that the city has almost the same number of black principals now as it had in 1969, when the local schools were desegregated. Dew says that then there were 15 black principals, four of them at predominantly black high schools.

What happened to those four black high school principals after desegregation?

Robert Brower, who was principal at Anderson Senior High School, stayed on at Anderson when it became a 9-10 school. He then became principal of West Forsyth Senior High School, and is now principal of Walkertown Junior High School.

Dew, who was principal of Atkins Senior High School, stayed on at Atkins when it became a 9-10 school for two years and later moved to the school system's central office.

Melvin Scales, who was principal of Paisley Senior High School, stayed at Paisley when it became a 9-10 school until he retired. And Carver Senior High School principal Dan Smith retired one year after integration.

As far as the system's current 13 black

principals are concerned, five are female, and the majority handle the lower grade levels.

Eight of the 36 local elementary schools are headed by black principals -- Brown, Diggs, Forest Park, Hall-Woodward, Kimberley Park, Latham, Lowrance and Moore.

Black principals also head three of the system's 11 junior high schools -- Kernersville, Northwest and Walkertown.

"The community hasn't pushed the school board and politicians for black principals and pressure groups like the NAACP have not pushed this thing in the courts."

-- Victor Johnson

And Kennedy and Paisley, two of the system's nine high (9-10) schools, have black principals.

But the five senior high schools are headed by white principals, a situation that is not uncommon throughout the state. According to a column written by T. Dianne Small, advisor to the NAACP State Youth Conference, the number of black principals in charge of senior high schools in North Carolina is fewer than 10.

But where blacks are lacking in principalships, they are making up for in the numbers on the central office and administrative staff, Dew contends.

"In 1969 there were no blacks at the central office," Dew says. "But now many of us moved to the central office. The state is full of black assistant prin-

Please see page 12

Attorney: Editorial Attacks Free Speech

By RUTHELL HOWARD
Staff Writer

A columnist's criticism of black school employees for publicly voicing opinions on the reorganization of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System has reaped a fiery response from the attorney of a local teachers group.

Editorial writer John Falls of the Winston-Salem *Sentinel* argued, in a March 21 commentary, that city/county school Superintendent Zane Eargle should have reprimanded assistant principals Victor Johnson and Larry Womble

for publicly airing positions on the possibility of neighborhood schools in the lower grades.

"Jim Adams would have been enraged," Falls began the column, referring to former school Superintendent Dr. James Adams. "(But) Zane Eargle greeted the latest harebrained scheme for reopening 'neighborhood schools' with stoical silence. Such is the contrast between the old and the new superintendents."

"It would have been bad enough, in Adams' view, to have two members of the board of education talking 'out of school,'" the column continued. "It would have been unpardonable

for two assistant principals -- whatever their political credentials -- to lend their names to the cause."

Falls also criticized school board members Beaufort Bailey and John Holleman for expressing interest in neighborhood schools, accusing Holleman of using a "political opportunity" to exploit a "phony neighborhood school issue."

Jim Cooley, attorney for the Forsyth Association of Classroom Teachers, replied in a letter to *Sentinel* editorial page editor Bryan Haislip last week that Falls' column expresses

Please see page 3

Alternatives

Former Black Churchgoers Have Found Them

By RUTHELL HOWARD
Staff Writer

This article is the last of a two-month series.
Few black people in Winston-Salem stray from the

Our Black Churches

An eight-part series examining Winston-Salem's black churches



Christian faith, which has been the cornerstone of the black American religious experience since slavery.

But there are alternatives.
Winston-Salem has a growing Muslim community, and there are black people who have chosen to accept the Jewish, Rastafarian and Baha'i faiths. There is also the Unitarian-Universalist Church, which has one black local member.

While there is no one reason why black people leave the Christian church to become members of other religions, many say they left because of dissatisfaction. Others say they wanted a religion or faith that was more meaningful or applicable in their everyday lives.

Such was the case for Khalid Abdul-Fattah, 32, who has been a Muslim for 10 and one-half years, and for Faruq Abdur-Razzak, 36, who has been a Muslim for two years.

Both are members of the Institute for Islamic Involvement and are former Christians. They say they were at-

Please see page 3



Members of the Islamic faith pray during Friday services. It is estimated that there are as many as 150 local blacks who have adopted the religion (photo by James Parker).

Patterson Ave. YMCA Board Pledges \$67,500 Toward Campaign

By RUTHELL HOWARD
Staff Writer

The 30-member Patterson Avenue YMCA Board of Directors has contributed \$67,500 toward the YMCA Capital Fundraising Campaign. This donation made the Patterson Board the highest contributor among the Y branches that made initial campaign pledges.

The Patterson Board, and four other boards -- the Metropolitan Board, the Central YMCA Board, the East Forsyth Board and the Management Board,

pledged a total of \$369,000 to kick off the campaign.

The drive, which will fund various YMCA projects, has as its priority the building of a new Family Y Center at Winston Lake Park in East Winston to replace the aging Patterson Avenue facility downtown.

The immediate goal in East Winston is to obtain 1,000 contributions so that the Winston Lake project can receive a \$100,000 challenge grant from the Mary Babcock Reynolds Foundation.

"It (the board's decision to donate) was a commitment that everybody on that board was willing to

make to see that the building was built," said Mel White, a board member who served on the Patterson Board's Family Gifts Division.

White said the board was committed to giving a "family gift" to help build the new facility and also to provide an incentive for others, especially in the black community, to support the campaign.

"You're talking about 30 people coming up with nearly \$70,000 and we've got nearly 50,000 (black) people in the city," White said.

Added Patterson Avenue Y Director Richard Glover: "In any campaign, you start with your fami-

ly group first. It was an excellent showing. I think it's fantastic."

Marshall Hairston, chairman of the Family Gifts Division, said the board members' willingness to collectively pledge more than \$60,000 sets an example for the community.

Hairston said the board had no specific goal, but that each member was asked to give a "stretch gift" over a period of five years.

"If we contribute, then, of course, we are in a position to ask others," Hairston said. "I was

Please see page 9