

## The Preps

In our first-ever "Fall Prep Sports Preview," a look at 9-10 and senior high football, spiced with photos, features and schedules.

Supplement

## Missing Parents

For reasons not totally clear, black parents elect not to participate in their children's education. Robin Adams investigates the problem.

Front Page.



## A New Direction

'Punk-Funk' maestro Rick James has a brand-new album with a brand-new sound that includes Smokey Robinson and Billy Dee Williams.

Arts and Leisure, Page A 9.



ARCHIVES BINDER  
RT 3 BOX 210  
ALBERTVILLE AL

AL

35950

U.S.P.S. No. 067910

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

Thursday, August 18, 1983

\*35 cents

46 Pages This Week

# Winston-Salem Chronicle

"Serving the Winston-Salem Community Since 1974"

VOL. IX NO. 51

## Registrar Policy Angers NAACP

By ROBIN ADAMS  
Staff Writer

The Forsyth County Board of Elections has denied the NAACP's request to have more blacks deputized as special registration commissioners, says organization Vice President Walter Marshall.

Marshall says he turned in a list of 51 names last week to lone black Board of Elections member Joan Caldwell. But Jim Armentrout, chairman of the three-member Board of Elections, rejected some of the names on the list.

Armentrout said the board has decided that only 316 people will be sworn in as special registration commissioners. Of the 316, the Democratic and Republican parties get the first opportunity to submit names. So far, they have nominated 226 people, leaving 90 vacancies.

In order to give all three of the board of elections members a fair chance at nominating persons, Armentrout says, each member could submit only 30 names.

But according to the "Citizen's

'Awareness Yearbook 1982,' published by the state to familiarize North Carolinians with voting procedures, "There is no limit to the number of special registration commissioners that each county may appoint."

Any county having more than 15 precincts may appoint special registration commissioners, the book says. Forsyth County has 70 precincts.

"We will fight it all the way. We will not let Jim Armentrout stand in the way of getting those folks on the books."

-- Walter Marshall

Armentrout said that the number of commissioners permissible locally is "open-ended," but that he arbitrarily set the Forsyth County number at 316 (multiplying the number of precincts by four) because that is a number he and his office can effectively manage.

Please see page A2

## Bonds To Be On Ballot

By ALLEN H. JOHNSON  
Executive Editor

Southeast Ward Alderman Larry Womble was visibly irritated.

Why, he wondered aloud to his fellow aldermen and an overflow audience at Monday's Board of Aldermen meeting, had an item as important as the city's proposed bond package been relegated to the bottom of a crowded agenda?

"I can't believe that this is 14th on the

agenda," Womble said. Though Womble's question went unanswered, many others were answered during a meeting that lasted until after midnight.

For one thing, the board unanimously recommended that the \$23 million economic development bond issue be taken to the voters for approval in a Nov. 8 referendum.

The majority of the money would be

Please see page A3



"... there is something more important than my being black and female: I can do the job."

-- Susan Bruce

## Anchorers Agree: Looks Do Count On Tube

By JOHN SLADE  
Assistant Editor

Beverly Burke is 32 and says her age doesn't bother her. "I can't change time," she says.

Priscilla Smith is in her mid-20s, and says her age doesn't bother her, either. But she admits that she keeps alternative careers in mind.

One might guess that either lady is a model. But, in fact, both are anchors of area news programs.

Their comments were prompted by Christine Craft's suit against Metromedia, former owner of KMBC-TV in Kansas City,

Metromedia was suing for age discrimination. "I was hired solely on her journalistic skills," Burke says. "I was not hired because of my age."

"I was pleased to see her win her suit," says Burke, co-anchor of the 6 and 11 o'clock news at WTVD, Channel 11 in Durham. "I believe that she was able to prove that she was hired on her merits."

Priscilla Smith, weekend anchor at

WTVD, was surprised at first to learn of Craft's lawsuit. But she says, "When I think about it, it's a good thing for some reasons."

As for the outcome of the lawsuit, she agrees with the ruling. "I was very happy for her," she says. "I hope it will set a precedent for other women in television."

But Susan Bruce, co-anchor of the weekend news at WXII, Channel 33 in Winston-Salem, views the lawsuit in a different light. "I don't think the law is set precedent... I think we're talking about three unique," Ms. Bruce says, pointing

Please see page A3

## McGee's Friends Overjoyed, Say Justice Has Triumphed

By ROBIN ADAMS  
Staff Writer

After nearly two years and two trials, a Caswell County jury has found William W. McGee, former director of the Benton Convention Center and Memorial Coliseum, not guilty of conspiracy to traffic in cocaine.

The jury reached its decision Tuesday after four hours of deliberation. McGee, 44, wept as the verdict was read.

Many of McGee's friends attended the seven-day trial and expressed joy at the verdict.

"I am very happy for McGee," said George Hill, president of Winston Mutual Life Insurance Co. and a character

witness for McGee. "I think justice was served. Given a little time, and with people sticking behind him, he should be able to put his life back together."

Attorney David Wagner, who also served as a character witness for McGee, said, "I feel very good about the decision. I think the entire matter was severely unfair. It was evident from the beginning that McGee was only involved through the actions of Ann Toms and the Police Department."

Mrs. Toms was used by the Winston-Salem Police Department as an undercover agent.

The jury, under the instructions of Judge James M. Long, found that,

Please see page A11



Tisha Evans expresses her views during a student panel in next week's concluding segment of our special series, "Our Children, Our Schools" (photo by James Parker).

## Board Committee To Consider Minority Business Program

By ROBIN ADAMS  
Staff Writer

Deciding who will supply the school system with milk products and groceries is usually a fairly routine procedure for the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education. But the decision Monday night took a little longer after a minority businessman voiced his objections.

Attorney Harold Kennedy III, representing James F. Ford, told the board that small minority firms have done little business with the school system and that "the school board should be responsive to the needs of the entire community."

Following normal bidding procedures,

Ford, a dairy products distributor, had bid on 20 percent of the schools' milk, ice cream and fruit drink needs. Ford was the low bidder on two of the items, cottage cheese and vanilla milkshake base, and was the second lowest bidder on buttermilk and low-fat milk.

When the school system contacted Ford and inquired about his serving 20 percent of the schools' needs for cottage cheese and vanilla milkshake base, he withdrew his bid because he feared he could not make money on such a small amount of business.

Kennedy said school officials told Ford he would have to service all the schools with 20 percent of their cottage cheese and

Please see page A3

## Our Children, Our Schools

# Black Parental Involvement A Vital Missing Link In School System

By ROBIN ADAMS  
Staff Writer

This article is the seventh in an eight-part series.

Education is defined as "the process of training and developing the knowledge, skill, mind and character," according to Webster's New World Dictionary.

Contrary to what some believe, learning is not limited to formal set-

tings such as schools. Some of the learning, if not most of it, must be conducted in the home through the teachings of parents, many local teachers say. Students, teachers and parents must play a major role in a child's education, they contend.

But often the black parent is missing in his or her child's education. Black parents are missing when it comes time to appear at PTA meetings or parent-teacher con-

"Many think that school is a place you send your children to during the day, someplace where kids go and spend six hours with a babysitter."

ferences. Black parents don't participate in the decision-making processes by coming to school board meetings and expressing their concerns and views.

And where black parents aren't

showing visible support for their children, they are also failing to provide encouragement and support when the child comes home, says a former local NAACP president.

"We were victorious in setting the

foul lines," says the Rev. J.T. McMillian. "And now that the game has proceeded, we have not put the vigor and attention in scholastics as we have put into athletics. And the cause of this is parentless homes."

"Oh, I'm not necessarily talking about homes where the father or mother is missing. I'm also talking about homes where both parents are there but they aren't providing any

encouragement, push or discipline for the children," McMillian says.

"The biggest fault of black education has been the lack of attention of parents and the lack of interest from the black institution like the church, clubs and black leaders," he says.

According to McMillian, black parents have lost sight of their goals. After black people won the

Please see page A7