

A Different Style

Superintendent Zane Eargle says he has spent most of his first year as head of the city-county schools patiently observing. Staff Writer Robin Adams reports.

Front Page.

Classical Tones

By profession, John Williams is a loan officer, but by training and devotion he's a classical singer -- with a voice to match.

Profile, Page A7.



Champs Again

The Rams downed Voorhees College and Elizabeth City State University last weekend to take their second tourney of the year.

Sportsweek, B1.



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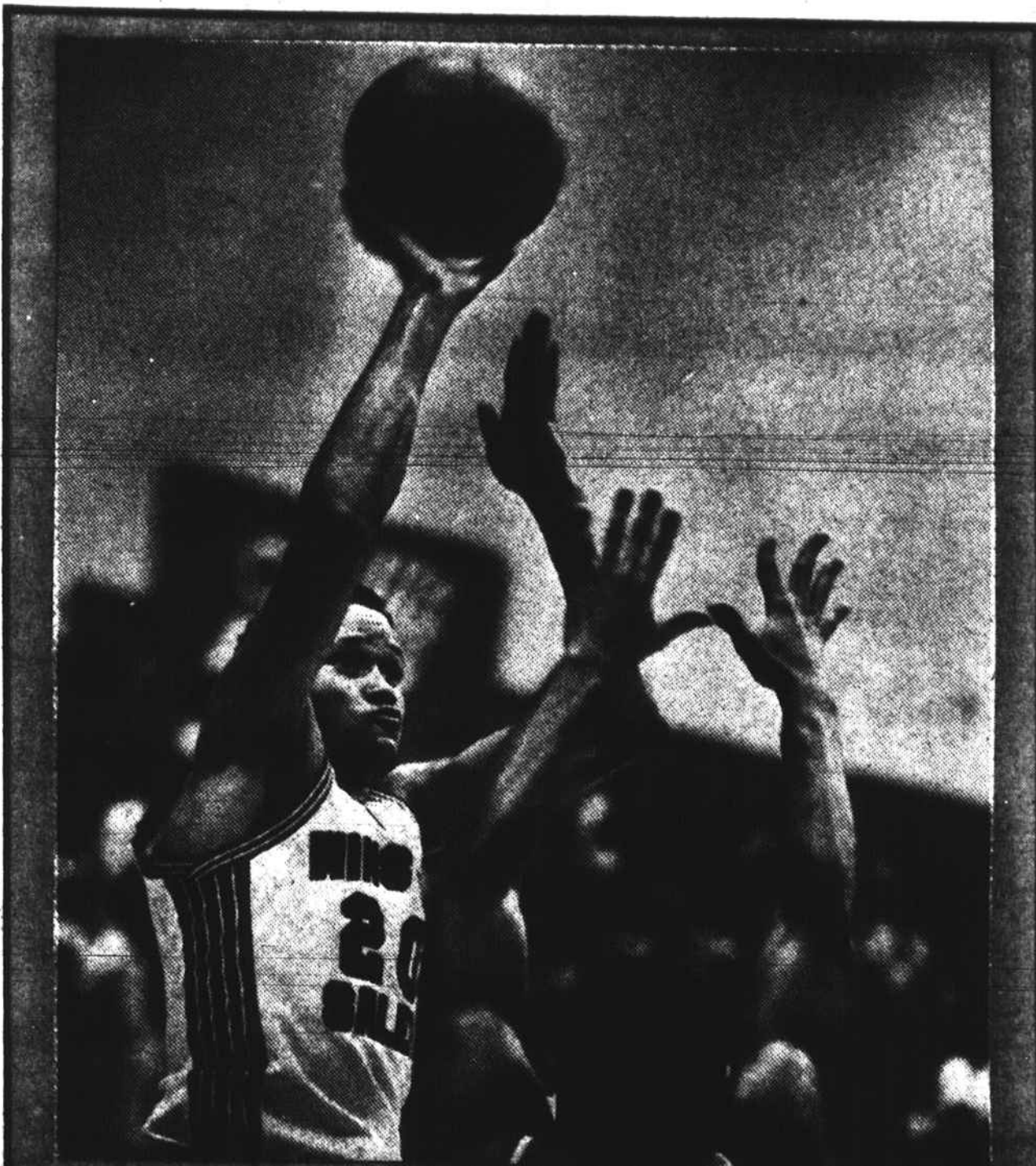
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34 Pages This Week



Ram Tough

WSSU junior Eugene Penick gets off a feathered jump shot despite defensive pressure from Darrell Lavant of Voorhees College. The Rams swept both games of the Schlitz Basketball Classic to take their second tourney title in as many weeks. See "Sportsweek," Page B1 (photo by James Parker).

Index

Amusement	A11
Classifieds	B9
Editorials	A4
Food	C1
People	A6
Religion	B6
Sports	B1

Despite National Leader's Endorsement

Local Baptist Ministers Will Not Support Jesse Jackson

By ROBIN ADAMS
Staff Writer

Local Baptist ministers say they are confused about who Dr. T. J. Jemison, president of the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. Inc., represented last week when he endorsed the presidential candidacy of the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

The Rev. Jerry Drayton, pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church, said he wasn't sure if Jemison was speaking for himself or if he was representing the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., which is said to be the largest black church organization in the country with over six million members.

But in a telephone interview Monday, Jemison said he was speaking for himself and not for the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. "I made a personal endorsement for Jackson and if it was reported any other way, it was in error."

Said Drayton: "If Jemison was speaking for us without first getting our opinions, then the national endorsement is symbolic with no guaranteed effectiveness."

Drayton, who also serves as the chairman of the Political Action Committee of the General Baptist State Convention, said the state convention will decide early next year who it will en-

dorse for president and that the decision may or may not agree with the endorsement Jemison made.

"We met last week trying to reach a decision on a candidate for governor (of North Carolina)," Drayton said. "As of yet, we have not considered the national elections."

Drayton said the decision made by Jemison does not reflect the opinions of all 50 state conventions.

"Unless the president (Jemison) has touched

"His (the Rev. Jesse Jackson's) chances of winning are so slim that a vote for him would be wasted."

-- Dr. Warnie C. Hay

bases with the presidents of the state conventions, and unless they all share the same opinion, the endorsement is not valid," Drayton said. "And I don't think he (Jemison) met with or conferred with all the state presidents before he made his decision."

Jemison said he did not intend to speak for all the members of the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. and did not intend for his endorsement to have any effect on any endorsements other members might make. "They are men who can think for themselves,"

Jemison said.

In January, the state Baptist convention's Political Action Committee will meet to endorse candidates for the state races and may consider a presidential endorsement, said Drayton. "We will meet and come up with an endorsement supported by the entire convention," he said.

Because a Democratic candidate must get 20 percent of the votes cast in the primary before he can get any delegates from the state, Drayton said an endorsement for Jackson would be futile.

"I question whether Jackson can get 20 percent of the votes cast statewide," Drayton said. "When we are considering our endorsement, we have to think about symbolic stupidity vs. reality."

Drayton said his choice for the endorsement is Walter Mondale. "But I am chairman of the committee," he said, "and I have to go along with the committee, but I still have my personal opinion."

Dr. Warnie C. Hay, pastor of Galilee Baptist Church, agrees with Drayton. "The state has not made any endorsement yet," he said, "but there are wide feelings that they don't think it (endorsing Jackson) is for the best interest of black folk because of his chances of winning."

Please see page A3

School Board Can't Decide On Chairman

By ROBIN ADAMS
Staff Writer

As of Monday night, the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education has no chairman and cannot conduct any business.

A 4-4 split over who would be the next chairman prohibited the board from continuing its regular agenda and resulted in a 20-minute meeting.

The first item on the agenda, which turned out to be the last item, was the election of a new chairman and a vice chairman. At the last meeting in November, board member John Wood was voted as the board's acting chairman.

Board members Dr. William Sheppard and Marvin Calloway, last year's chairman, were both nominated for the position. Sheppard, who was in the hospital and participated in the meeting through a telephone amplifier, received votes from John Holleman, Beaufort Bailey and Wood. And Calloway got votes from

board members Mary Margaret Lohr, Margaret Plemmons and Garlene Grogan.

One board member who voted for Sheppard said that if Sheppard had not been allowed to participate in the meeting, a boycott of the meeting had been planned to prevent the necessary quorum for any business to take place.

After the board's first split, Bailey made a motion that Wood be elected chairman until the board could break the 4-4 tie. But Plemmons objected, noting that the board bylaws prohibited such. Holleman then noted that the board's bylaws contains two ways of handling the tie.

According to the bylaws, "An acting chairman, selected by the board from its members at the last meeting in November (who may be the chairman of the board during that term) shall preside at the first meeting until the new chairman is elected," meaning Wood would remain chairman.

But the bylaws also say that "the chairman

shall be elected by the majority vote of the board to serve for a term of one year or until a successor is elected," meaning that Wood's term expires after the first meeting and that Calloway would continue in the position until a new chairman is elected.

In an attempt to explain the bylaws, school attorney Douglas Pungler, who serves as the board's parliamentarian, said, "The Board of Education is the final arbitrator of what its bylaws are."

Because the bylaws do not specify what should be done, Pungler said a simple majority vote of the board could determine which step to take. But again the board could not obtain a majority on whether to let Wood serve as acting chairman and, instead, came up with the same 4-4 split.

The only thing the board could decide on Monday night was to adjourn, and conducted no other business despite the fact that a regular board agenda had been prepared and that a

Please see page A3

Parmon Wants Top Post

By ROBIN ADAMS
Staff Writer

Earline Parmon announced last Thursday that she will seek to become chairman of the Forsyth County Democratic Party Executive Committee, a position left vacant two weeks ago with the unexpected death of Joseph Parrish Jr.

If Parmon, who is now the party's acting chairman, is successful, she will be

the first black to be elected to the position.

"After analyzing from a personal perspective and talking to other people in the Democratic Party leadership, black and white, I decided to go ahead (and seek the chairmanship)," Parmon said. "I don't believe I will be having any problems getting the position and I don't know right now of anyone else who is in-

Please see page A3

Eargle: 'My Style Of Leadership Is Different'

By ROBIN ADAMS
Staff Writer

Dr. Zane Eargle, superintendent of the city-county schools, has spent most of his first year here working on the reorganizational plan, but Eargle says that he has some very definite ideas about running a school system. But for now, he says he is content with just observing.

"My style of leadership is different," says Eargle. "Mine just takes longer to accomplish. I believe in being able to work with people. My job is to set the tone as to how the school system will operate. My changes are long-term kinds of things."

Some of the changes that Eargle would like to see implemented are a stronger science program in the elementary schools (which was strengthened in the schools this year through a grant from the Winston Foundation and R.J. Reynolds Industries), an improved way of identifying gifted and

talented children and additional methods of meeting their needs, a way to reward exceptional teachers and a system designed to meet the needs of slow learners.

But for now, Eargle says he is busy working to implement the reorganizational plan. "What we are doing is a total reorganization of the school system establishing K-5 elementary schools, 6-8 middle schools and 9-12 high schools."

From an administrative point of view, Eargle views differently the Board of Education's plan which calls for independent districting, meaning that children who start to school together in the elementary schools may not necessarily finish at the same high schools. The plan has to be implemented by the 1984-85 school year.

"Personally," he says, "I would have preferred more time to develop the plan. In the 10-12 months since I have been here, we have worked on the plan. But the pressure has been on the school board to get the job

done. I would have hoped we would have two years to work on the plan and implement it by the fall of 1985."

Despite the rush, he has no doubts that the plan will be in action by the next school year. "We will get the job done," he says. "Additional time would have given more emphasis to community involvement. The community is just now coming and responding (to the reorganization plan) when initially there was not much response. I wish they had come earlier and not at the time when we are making the final decisions."

Although the black community has not showed up at school board meetings in record numbers to give its opinion of the reorganizational plan, many black people and the NAACP find faults with it. The major problem, they say, is that the plan closes all the elementary schools in predominantly black communities. The plan also contains pockets of predominantly black

Please see page A3



Zane Eargle: a slow and patient leader (photo by James Parker).