

NEWS DIGEST

National, state and local news briefs compiled by John Slade

Conrad not reappointed, blames 'petty' politics

WINSTON-SALEM -- Forrest E. Conrad has charged the county's Board of Commissioners with "petty politics" in the way it makes appointments to advisory boards, reported the Winston-Salem Journal last week.

Conrad, a Republican candidate for county commissioner, was not reappointed last week to the board of the Forsyth County Public Library. Three Democratic commissioners, including two who will oppose him in November, voted against him. Republican Richard Linville voted for Conrad.

things," said Conrad. "I'm just disgusted at the way they appoint committees.... They don't go after people who are qualified."

Conrad singled out Commissioner Mazie Woodruff, the board's only black member.

"She will submit a black anytime there is an opening on a committee," said Conrad, "and, being solid

Democrats, the other commissioners go along with her. "She likes to load up these boards all over the county with black people.... I have no problem with black people serving at all -- if they're qualified."

A black woman, Clarice Holt Parker, will replace Conrad on the library board. Conrad said he was not referring to her in his criticism.

Meanwhile, Woodruff, who also is on the library "It's just petty politics and just a cheap way of doing board, said she didn't lobby for Parker, but for Margaret Smith, who is white and was not appointed.

"If Mr. Conrad wants to make a big issue out of this, I'm not going to help him," Woodruff said.

The three Democratic commissioners present at the meeting denied Conrad's charges.

ADL charges Farrakhan with 20 years of racism

organization says the controversy surrounding Minister Louis Farrakhan is only the latest in the Muslim's leader's "20-year record of racism."

B'rith cites Farrakhan's alleged threats against Washington Post reporter Milton Coleman for disclosing to the press that Jesse Jackson referred to Jews as "Hymies" and Farrakhan's praise of Adolf Hitler in calling Jackson a racist. The report also charges that the Muslim minister has recently made threats against Jews.

Farrakhan, 51, has for two decades been the leader of the Nation of Islam, an organization of black American Muslims. When the original Nation of Islam split into two factions, Farrakhan's group kept the original name for the smaller of the factions, which has a reported membership of 5,000 to 10,000. The other faction, the

NEW YORK -- A recently published report by a Jewish American Muslim Mission, has a reported 100,000 followers and is led by Wallace Dean Muhammad. In addition to the Coleman and Hitler incidents, the ADL report said the following are examples of Far-The report by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai rakhan's anti-Semitic and anti-Israel philosophies:

> -- He described Jews as "enemies" of presidential candidate the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

-- made several allegations about Jewish "control" of

-- told Jews that, unless they accept Jesus, "then maybe the angel of death will stop at your door and kill the first-born of your house."

Farrakhan denied that he made death threats against Coleman, and said that he meant, "When ... divine law is established, and our nation is formed out of that law, then these traitorous acts will be punished by death."

County's jobless rate drops to 5.5 percent

Unemployment in Forsyth County was 5.5 percent, time. down from 5.9 percent, between mid-March and mid-April, reported the N.C. Employment Security Commission last week.

Those figures translate into 6,980 more people working during the specified period than during the same period county in April.

percent, or about 10,180 people were out of work at that cent and Graham County's 14.6 percent.

The state's jobless rate in April was 6.3 percent, a 0.9 percent drop from the March rate (7.2) and down from 9.8 percent in April 1983.

Of the 100 counties in the state, 93 reported lower last year. About 125,930 people were employed in the jobless rates from March to April, said the commission. Swain County had the highest unemployment rate, A year ago, the county's unemployment rate was 7.9 with 18 percent, followed by Tyrrell County's 14.8 per-

Open Line

Summer outlets-available to children

Q: I am the working mother of three children, two of Blinded By The Light? whom are very active. What are some educational recreational outlets available to my 8- and 12-year-olds beyond the usual pottery classes and daycare camps?

K.M.

A: Depending upon how much money you want to spend,

fun and learning for your children.

For free and inexpensive activities, you can always count on the Y, neighborhood recreation centers and the ranging from crafts classes to films. For a complete 727-8100 and ask for the Summer Program Activities Resource Box.

Churches and church groups sponsor out-of-town trips throughout the year, and the rates are usually reasonable. You might also try the Boys and Girls clubs and other community organizations that deal with youth.

Q: A solar eclipse passed over our part of the country last week, and, of course, the warnings went out that you aren't supposed to look at the eclipse because you'll go blind. Is there any truth to this? If so, what's the story?

A: Indeed, there is truth to what you hear, and you there are several avenues you can take to provide summer should take the warnings seriously.

Radiation rays from the sun may blind you during a solar eclipse if you look directly at it, says Dr. Astor Harrill, a chemistry professor and chairman of the natural public library, which feature fun and learning activities sciences department at Winston-Salem State University. Though the radiation is always there, the moon's blocklisting of such activities, call the city's First Line at ing of the light during an eclipse allows you to look directly into the rays. Normally, the sun's brightness prevents you from looking at the sun for more than a few seconds.

> Send your questions to Open Line, P.O. Box 3154, Winston-Salem, N.C. or call 722-8624 and ask for John

Youth aren't the culprits

From Page A1

someone who doesn't want to see the Y completed or someone who has a ready market for the types of equipment stolen.

"But it's not those kids hanging around Winston Lake," she says. "When they go to the lake, they're interested in playing and not getting bricks and knocking out windows and lights."

Marie Roseboro, treasurer of the Patterson Avenue Y's board of directors, agrees.

"I don't think it's those kids," she says. "... The young people have waited too long for this (the new Y) to come along to destroy it."

Like Newell, Roseboro says a more likely suspect would be someone who would know how to dispose of the stolen construction equipment.

Youth who regularly gather at Winston Lake are indignant that a finger has been pointed at them.

"They shouldn't be insinuating that it's us," says 19-year-old Rodney Jones, who lives on Salem Valley Road. "A lot of people come through this area, black and white. Anybody could be taking it (the equipment)."

Buster McCrayvey, 19, of Rural Hall, echoes his friend's sentiments.

"The accusation stinks," says McCrayvey, who visits the park nearly every day. "I look forward to the Y being finished. We can go there and shoot ball, play pool and other activities. Plus, it will be nice for the children in this area -- something to keep them out of trouble."

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Before the Metropolitan YMCA, the governing board of all the YMCAs in the county, hired a security guard almost four weeks ago to police the construction site during the crew's off hours, the Y filed two claims with its insurance company. It had to pay a \$1,000 deductible each time, says Brian Cormier, the Metro Board's executive director.

The builder filed other claims not covered by the Y's builder's risk insurance with its own insurance company, says Cormier.

In addition to the security guard, Cormier says, a fence has been erected at the construction site and additional lights are being installed.

Also, Cormier says, it is his understanding that the city will place a permanent gate at the Winston Lake swimming pool, another popular hangout for teens. The gate will be kept closed during hours when the pool is not open.

Cormier said the gate is not an indictment of the teenagers, but that all logical precautions are being taken. As to whether the teens are the troublemakers, he says, "Obviously, it's hard to say. All you can say is that the opportunity does exist."

"Some of the vandalism that took place looks like young people ..., Cormier adds, "(and) other things point to somebody (who is) trying to target the project or is able to market tools to their advantage."



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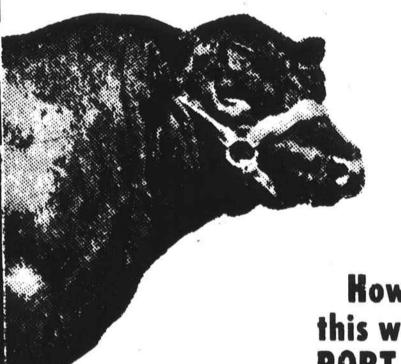
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