

Floating Away Ailments

The Floatarium might help with everything from ridding yourself of a bad habit to relaxing your nerves.

Magazine Section, B1.



Going For The Green

Winston native William Kennedy has given up on the Olympics and decided to make a go at pro boxing.

Sportsweek, B2.



Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly

VOL. X NO. 42 U.S.P.S. No. 067910 Winston-Salem, N.C. Thursday, June 14, 1984 35 cents 30 Pages This Week

Says Parmon

Democrats prefer white man for seat

By ROBIN ADAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

The local Democratic Party may violate its own policy to keep him from assuming the county commissioner's seat made vacant by the recent death of Fred Hauser, said Winston-Salem NAACP President Pat Hairston late last week.

And if it does, Hairston said, he won't go down without a fight.

According to an unwritten party policy, said Earline Parmon, chairman of the Forsyth County Democratic executive committee, the party normally recom-

local Democratic leaders June 26.

Persons other than Pat Hairston who have been mentioned as possible successors to Hauser, who died June 1 of cancer, include Forsyth Tech Board of Trustees Chairman Robert Joyce, former Winston-Salem Mayor M.C. Benton; city-county planning board Vice Chairman Irene P. Hairston, former president of the National Council of Negro Women Thelma Small; former state legislator Ned R. Smith, and Bonce Williams, who placed last as a candidate for county commissioner in the May 8 primary. Only Pat Hairston and Williams were candidates in the last election.

And, of the seven potential nominees, only three -- Pat Hairston, Irene Hairston and Small -- are black.

In telephone interviews last week, both Irene Hairston and Small said they aren't interested in the job.

"I'm thinking seriously of withdrawing my name now that I see the names of those desiring the nomination," Small said. "In the beginning, there were only two names -- now I see seven and I see efficiency there. They (the other potential nominees) are wise and it is not necessary that I run."

Said Irene Hairston: "I would like to say that, while I am pleased and honored ... at this point, I am not interested and do not choose to run at this time. I have too many responsible jobs."

On the other hand, Pat Hairston said he wants what should be his.

"I'm going to fight it all the way," Hairston said. "If I have to go to court, I will."

In addition, Hairston said he plans to send letters to the 100 NAACP chapters across the state telling them that he has been discriminated against by the local Democratic Party.

If he still gets no satisfaction, Hairston said, he intends to advise blacks in Winston-Salem and across the state to vote for the "other party" in the November general election.

"I was the top votegetter," Hairston said. Please see page A3



The Siege In Retrospect

Newscenter 12 reporter and weekend anchor Susan Bruce made the news herself last week when she became part of a police plan to persuade an alleged murderer and kidnapper to

release his hostage and surrender. Bruce's opinion on being on the other side of the news: "It's our human responsibility to aid when we can be of help" (photo by James Parker).

The day when newsmakers made the news

By JOHN SLADE
Chronicle Assistant Editor

Routinely, say many journalists, the business of covering the news is far less glamorous than it seems.

On rare occasions, however, it can be dramatic, nerve-rending and tragic. And those whose job it is to cover the news can, in the process, themselves become newsmakers.

A case in point is last week's hostage drama at WJTM-TV, Channel 45, in which one man was killed and a woman abducted at gun-

point.

Not only would WXII, Channel 12, cover the event, but the station and its personnel became parts of it. Reporter and weekend anchor Susan Bruce played the most visible role, but technicians from the both the station and Summit Cable Services ironically used the medium that may have spurred the gunman's puzzling behavior to calm him and perhaps save a life.

"Even though it was handled well, obviously it was a conflict," said Bruce four days after the incident which began at Channel 45's

offices on Linville Road and ended several hours later on East 12th Street. "It's hard to be objective once you become a part of the situation."

Last Tuesday morning, 32-year-old Ronnell Laverne Jackson entered WJTM and complained that a religious program, "The 700 Club," as well as stations that carry the program, had been spying on him. Both WJTM and WXII air the show.

After a brief argument with William Norbert Rismiller, the station's general sales manager, Please see page A12

WSSU appoints first white to post

By ROBIN ADAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Pending approval by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors, Winston-Salem State University has appointed the first white vice chancellor in the school's history.

Robert Fenning, who currently serves as acting vice chancellor of business affairs, has been recommended to permanently fill the position vacated by the resignation of Willie Grissom. Grissom resigned last summer to become WSSU's internal auditor-systems analyst.

Last Thursday, at the request of WSSU Chancellor Dr. H. Douglas Covington, the school's board of trustees approved asking the board of governors to accept Fenning's appointment.

The board also approved the appointments of four others to fill key administrative positions:

- Taylor Cox Jr. has been appointed director of the business division. Cox comes to WSSU from Johnson C. Smith University.

- Abraham L. Davis has been appointed chairman of the social science department. Davis had been a professor at Morehouse College since 1972. He will fill the position vacated by Michael Montgomery, who resigned last summer after it was discovered that he possessed neither the

Please see page A5

Chronicle to move to Liberty Street

The Chronicle will be closed Friday, June 15, to move to its new office building at 617 N. Liberty St. Regular business hours will resume Monday, June 18.

The paper, whose major stockholder and publisher is Ernest H. Pitt, has been located at 516 N. Trade St. for the past five years. Before then, the 10-year-old black weekly was housed in the Pepper Building on Fourth Street.

The new building will give the paper a larger reception area, newsroom, production area and darkroom. The building will also allow for more storage space and a printing press, which Pitt says are among his long-range plans.

Effective Monday, the Chronicle's expanded phone system will include the following numbers:

Business Office: 722-8624; Advertising Department: 722-8628; Circulation Department: 722-8628; News Department: 723-8428 and 723-8448, and Black College Sports Review: 723-9026.

The paper will hold an open house later this summer to acquaint its readers and advertisers with the new building.

A community news workshop also is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 28.

The skin of his teeth

That's about by how much Edmisten won among local blacks

By ROBIN ADAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

A scant twenty-three votes handed State Attorney General Rufus Edmisten a win over former Charlotte Mayor Eddie Knox in wards with black aldermen during last week's Democratic gubernatorial primary runoff.

According to results tallied by the Board of Elections, in the 23 precincts located in the four city wards headed

Election Year '84

by black aldermen, Edmisten, who won the nomination in the hard-fought race, totaled 3,386 votes to Knox's 3,363.

But Victor Johnson, one of Knox's campaign coordinators, said Knox was the winner in the inner city, where the majority of the voters are black. In wards where Edmisten scored big, Johnson said, whites were responsible for the margin of victory.

"In precincts like Carver, Skyland, 14th Street Recreation Center, Kimberly Park, Paisley, St. Stephens and Memorial Coliseum, Knox won," Johnson said. "And in

some of the other center-city precincts like Lowrance, we lost by 14 votes and by 17 at Martin Luther King Recreation Center.

Alderman Larry Womble, Edmisten's Forsyth County co-campaign coordinator, said Edmisten's win was helped by an endorsement from the Black Leadership Roundtable Coalition. Johnson disagrees.

"The effort behind the Roundtable really wasn't that good," said Johnson, who is himself a Roundtable member. "In the center-city area, where the Roundtable should have had an effect, the voters chose Knox. And blacks in general did not support Edmisten. The mature, intelligent blacks were not fooled by Edmisten."

Regardless of the margin, Womble said, Edmisten is a winner and increased his local black support in the process.

"You might remember in the May 8 primary that Knox had substantial black voter support," Womble said. "We realized that we had to offset that, so we concentrated our efforts into black precincts and black areas."

That hard work, Womble said, made Edmisten a winner.

"People realized that this was down to the final wire and they looked at Rufus' record ... looked at how sincere and aggressive he was," Womble said. "He wanted the black vote and he worked for the black vote." Please see page A5