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28 Pages This Week

Triple-A's Evans makes on-air appeal

By ROBIN ADAMS
 Chronicle Assistant Editor

The future of radio station WAAA-AM is now in the hands of the local black community, said Mutter D. Evans, the station's president and general manager, during the station's weekly call-in show last Friday morning.

"You alone hold the fate of Triple-A in your hands," Evans told listeners during a special segment of "The Talk About Town," which was rebroadcast on tape Easter Monday. "The Talk About Town" is a weekly, hour-long listener call-in talk show on WAAA that addresses issues facing the black community.

Evans' comments came almost a month after a Small Business Administration official told the *Chronicle* that WAAA faced a possible foreclosure on an SBA loan. Evans told the *Chronicle* then that the station was having cash flow problems, but that she knew nothing about a possible foreclosure.

During the extended broadcast, Evans made a 25-minute speech and then answered questions from her audience. Those questions ranged from why the station doesn't broadcast 24 hours a day to whether the station will sell public stock.

But most of the public responses were expressions of support for Evans and the 35-year-old station.

During the speech, Evans never talked directly about how much money the station owes or the possibility of foreclosure. Instead, she outlined six ways the public can provide support for WAAA.

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A 'Celebration'

Cast members from the Black Repertory Co. production "Celebration" did exactly that last weekend at an encore of the show first seen in February. Maria Howell, top, Brian Womble, bottom left, and Stephanie Barber dazzled the audience with their renditions of three of the show's many tunes (photos by James Parker).

NOW letter calls for bi-racial Hunt jury

Letter sent to Tisdale also expresses concern that Hunt might be innocent

By ROBIN ADAMS
 Chronicle Assistant Editor

The trial of Darryl Eugene Hunt could "undermine the confidence in our system of justice and may dangerously divide our community," says the local chapter of the National Organization for Women in a letter mailed Monday to District Attorney Donald K. Tisdale.

Hunt, a 20-year-old black man, has been charged with the murder of Deborah B. Sykes, a Winston-Salem *Sentinel* copy editor who was raped and stabbed to death last Aug. 10. His trial was scheduled to begin next week but has been postponed at Tisdale's request. A new date has not yet been scheduled.

The letter, signed by Winston-Salem NOW President Fran Lusso, as well as Virginia Marcum and Johanna Ettin of the organization's statewide Task Force Against Racist Violence, also asks that Hunt be given a fair trial.

"We are naturally concerned about the safety of women throughout our city, and we call for the punishment of the murderer or murderers responsible for the agonizing death of this one," the letter says. "However, we want to be assured the right man or men are convicted."

If Hunt is not guilty, the letter says, "the real rapist or rapists are free to strike again."

To ensure a fair verdict, the letter asks that Hunt be tried by a racially mixed jury. So that the verdict can be "based on a clearly fair assessment of the evidence by a jury of the defendant's peers,"

the letter reads, "we urge you as strongly as we can to have both races on the jury."

Marcum said in interview Tuesday that the sentiments expressed by NOW are prevalent in both the black and white communities. But many white groups have been silent, she said.

"We hope that, if we say something, it will be easier for them to say something," said Marcum. "This isn't a racial issue. It's an issue about human condition in our community."

Copies of the letter were sent to Hunt's attorneys, Alderman Larry Little, who heads the Darryl Hunt Defense Committee; Alderman Martha Wood, Mayor Wayne Corpening and Police Chief Joseph Masten.

Hunt's trial had been scheduled to begin on Monday, April 15, but Tisdale said he requested a continuance because of an unusual court calendar that week. Because of a judicial conference scheduled for the week of the 15th, court has been shortened to a three-day week, with a substitute judge holding court.

Tisdale said in a local newspaper that he did not want to start the Hunt case with a substitute judge. The trial is expected to last several weeks.

One of Hunt's attorneys, Gordon Jenkins, said the defense team had been prepared to start the trial on the 15th, but would use the extra time for additional preparation.

"Preparation can expand to use whatever time is allotted," Jenkins said.

The-Fowler-Jones question

Black aldermen say commitment needed

By DAVID R. RANKIN
 Chronicle Staff Writer

Mayor Wayne A. Corpening termed jobs for blacks created by the building of a parking deck downtown and the expansion of the M.C. Benton Convention Center "a drop in the bucket" compared to the employment opportunities created after the construction is finished.

Corpening used his tie-breaking vote twice last Monday night during the regular Board of Aldermen meeting to award a total of \$12.25 million in contracts to Fowler-Jones Construction Co. for the two projects.

Corpening voted in favor of the company, which

offered the low bid on both jobs, in spite of the low minority participation in both.

All four black aldermen had voted against the construction company, all four white aldermen for it.

Fowler-Jones proposed to have 2-percent minority participation on the parking deck and six-tenths of one percent on the expansion project. The board had recommended 10-percent minority involvement and 2-percent women-owned company involvement on the parking deck. The aldermen also wanted 14-percent minority involvement and 2-percent women-owned business involvement in the expansion project.

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Marty Yates, 7, gets a holiday trim (photo by James Parker).

Witness glad it's all over

By ROBIN ADAMS
 Chronicle Assistant Editor

After eight hours of testimony, Floris Cauce-Weston was happy and relieved that it was over.

Looking weary from the grueling questions of defense lawyers, including Klansman Virgil Griffin, who is acting as his own attorney, Cauce-Weston took a moment to reflect on the \$48 million civil suit filed on behalf of the widows and demonstrators.

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Apartment plans rolling right along

By ROBIN ADAMS
 Chronicle Assistant Editor

While the debate concerning solutions to the city's housing woes continues, two developers are moving full-speed-ahead with housing projects in the East Winston community.

"Summit Square is alive and well and within the next six weeks we will be doing some very physical

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W. Scott Davis

Fair housing conference begins here Monday

By DAVID RANKIN
 Chronicle Staff Writer

The Winston-Salem Human Relations Commission will host seminars discussing national and local solutions to housing problems Monday and Tuesday as part of Fair Housing Month.

The month-long local celebration of fair housing will continue with a

statewide Fair Housing Conference jointly hosted with the Chamber of Commerce and the Winston-Salem Board of Realtors April 15 and 16 in the M.C. Benton Convention Center. Included on the conference's agenda is a speech April 15 by W. Scott Davis, general deputy assistant secretary for fair housing in the Department of Hous-

ing and Urban Development.

Davis, HUD's third highest-ranking official, will speak during a noon luncheon at the Convention Center. Admission will be charged.

This year's Fair Housing Month activities are more ambitious than in the past, said Patricia Gruening of

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