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No more life in the fast lane for Mary Wheeler.

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32 Pages This Week

"Many are afraid of what Farrakhan will say and try to stop him. But how can you stop what you didn't start?"
-- Louis Farrakhan

Louis Farrakhan comes 'home' to his alma mater

By ROBIN ADAMS
Chronicle Assistant Editor

IT'S ALMOST as if Louis Farrakhan is two different people. On the one hand, there's Louis Farrakhan the man. He's a husband and father, with nine children, 13 grandchildren. He is a fair-skinned, handsome man with wavy hair, wire-rimmed glasses, an omnipresent bow tie and fiery eyes. He is debonaire. He dresses immaculately. He has the grace of a dancer and he speaks eloquently, though deliberately, possibly to hide a childhood stutter.

"He's a better orator than the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.," said a 1975 *Sepia* magazine article. "He sings better than Marvin Gaye. He's a better writer than Norman Mailer. He dresses better than Walt Frazier. He's more of a diplomat than Henry Kissinger and he's prettier than Muhammad Ali."

Then there's Farrakhan the minister, head of the 10,000-member Nation of Islam.

Until last year, when Farrakhan supported the Rev. Jesse Jackson's presidential bid, many had never heard of either the man or the minister. They know him now.

Farrakhan urged Muslims who had never been involved in politics before to register to vote and to support Jackson. He also provided Jackson with financial assistance, helped him secure the release of Navy flyer Lt. Robert Goodman from the Syrians and loaned Jackson Muslim bodyguards. But, as Farrakhan became more involved in Jackson's campaign, his fiery rhetoric became, in many eyes, an albatross around Jackson's neck.

In just one short political campaign, Farrakhan the minister Please see page A3



Back At 'Teachers College'

Farrakhan: Our minds are fed poison in the guise of education (photo by Art Blue).

Enabling legislation cannot impose quotas

Says state attorney general's office

By DAVID R. RANKIN
Chronicle Staff Writer

Related editorial on A4.

The city's new set-aside law for minorities is essentially useless, said the state attorney general's office last week.

In a letter delivered by City Attorney Ronald G. Seeber to the mayor and the aldermen last week, Special Deputy Attorney General T. Buie Costen said the board could not refuse awarding a city contract to a bidder based on his lack of minority participation.

"... In my view ..., authority to award (a city contract) to a higher bidder if the lowest bidder did not meet the (minority) participation requirements was not accomplished," Costen wrote.

Seeber had asked the attorney general for clarification concerning a clause in the law which says the "lowest responsible bidder" would be awarded the contract.

The set-aside law was passed in June after several weeks of debating and negotiating among legislators.

Seeber said the city is right back where it started from before introducing the bill.

"We don't have the authority

we were looking for in the original bill," he said. "The award can still go to the lowest bidder regardless of his minority requirements."

In the meantime, the city will continue with its educational program for minority-owned businesses, Seeber said. This program is designed to help minority contractors understand and use

"When you start giving people contracts who are not the low bidder, you will have people who don't deserve it driving Cadillacs and owning beach houses."

-- Rep. J. Ray Sparrow

the bidding process. Seeber also said the city will try to get the bill amended "if we can."

Seeber suggested to the aldermen that the Legislature may not be able to consider an amendment to the bill until 1987.

Sparrow knew

Rep. J. Ray Sparrow, D-Wake, added the questionable Please see page A15

Probe of Hunt fund is dropped

By ROBIN ADAMS
Chronicle Assistant Editor

District Attorney Donald K. Tisdale will not request a further accounting of the Darryl Hunt Defense Fund's expenditures.

During a Monday morning hearing, Assistant District Attorney Richard Lyle told Judge F. Fetzner Mills that the state now is satisfied with a previous accounting of the \$4,965 the group raised and wants no further explanations.

Attorneys for the Defense Fund said they haven't given the district attorney's office anything it didn't have a month ago when the Sept. 9 hearing was requested.

At an Aug. 2 hearing, Judge Preston Cornelius ruled that Hunt, sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Winston-Salem

Sentinel copy editor Deborah Sykes, was indigent and reappointed S. Mark Rabil and Gordon Jenkins, Hunt's trial attorneys, to represent him on appeal.

Cornelius also said that the state had no right to request an accounting of how the defense committee spent the money it raised, saying that such a request may violate the First Amendment.

During that same hearing, Cornelius continued the case, at the request of the district attorney, until Sept. 9, puzzling the attorneys for the defense fund, who said they wondered what was left to discuss.

During the Aug. 2 hearing, Jenkins presented the court with a document prepared by an accounting firm saying that Please see page A14



Mitchell: A weekend shooting victim.

Firms complete merger

By DAVID R. RANKIN
Chronicle Staff Writer

A Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Co. executive said Monday that the company's recent merger with Winston Mutual Life Insurance Co. is finished and that people who had policies with Winston Mutual can expect the same service and dedication from the new company.

He also said a group of local blacks may purchase the Winston Mutual Building on Fifth Street.

Charles James, vice president and agency director of Golden State Mutual, was in Winston-Salem to talk with company

employees, discuss company changes because of the merger, announce the role of former Winston Mutual president George E. Hill in the new company and discuss the fate of the Winston Mutual Building.

James, 45, has been with Golden State Mutual for 25 years. The two companies merged on May 29. Before the merger, Golden State had done no business in North Carolina.

James said the old Winston Mutual location will be one of 14 nationwide Golden State district offices. The Winston-Salem office Please see page A11

Warren: WAIR's days in black format numbered

By ROBIN ADAMS
Chronicle Assistant Editor

If black people in Winston-Salem want a 24-hour black-music radio station, they need to put up the money to buy one, said Jim Warren, the former general manager of WAIR-AM.

"The future of black radio has to be through black ownership," said Warren, 37, who resigned from WAIR two weeks ago because of a "shift in station policy and an extremely heavy workload." "The money is there."

Nick Patella, the owner of both WAIR and WSEZ-FM, said Warren surprised him with a letter of resignation two weeks ago. Patella said Warren was under no pressure to leave.

Warren, who said he does not

have a job in Atlanta, as some of his friends told the *Chronicle* last week, said WAIR's "simulcast" arrangement with WSEZ was instrumental in his decision to leave the station.

In mid-March, Patella decided to play Top 40 music from WSEZ over WAIR one-third of the time. During the simulcasts, WAIR listeners hear music and commercials from WSEZ.

"If I were the president of the company, I would think it (simulcasting) was good for the company," said Warren. "But it's not good for the black community. The black community is losing its only 24-hour black station. Most cities of this size have one or more black 24-hour stations."

Unless the community puts Please see page A14



Jim Warren: The black community has not supported WAIR (photo by James Parker).

Roundtable endorsement 'biased,' contends member, candidate Furqan

By ROBIN ADAMS
Chronicle Assistant Editor

An aldermanic candidate said he worries that any endorsement by the Black Leadership Roundtable in the North Ward race might be tainted.

Ghuneem Furqan, a past convener of the Roundtable and a Democratic candidate for North Ward alderman, said he thinks the organization will support NAACP President Pat Hairston for the seat simply because Hairston has more friends in the Roundtable who will vote to support him.

Both Hairston and Furqan are members of the Roundtable.

"All the people who make the meetings are the same people that are with Mr. Hairston in his other events and endeavors," said Furqan. "I hope the community will not look at this endorsement as being valid. That endorsement will be partial."

Even if the Roundtable supports him, Furqan said, the endorsement would still be biased.

"In this particular race, they (the Roundtable) shouldn't endorse anybody," said Furqan.

One problem with the group's endorsements, said

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Furqan, is that they are made haphazardly. Only when endorsements are on the agenda do people take any interest in coming to Roundtable meetings.

"That's a major problem," said Furqan. "It's time the Roundtable and all other black organizations get their thing together. What they are doing (endorsements) is viable but they need to be better organized."

William Tatum, acting convener of the Roundtable, said Hairston has no advantage, as far as friends are concerned, on the Roundtable.

"They (Furqan and Hairston) are both members and we will give equal weight to them and the other candidates," Tatum said....

The *Chronicle* began interviewing candidates Please see page A11