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**Making A Racket**  
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## On The Ball

Record-breakers from education, business and athletics recently came together at the First National Bank of Chicago to cash a \$250,000 check from R.J. Reynolds Industries Inc. to the United Negro College Fund. A basketball imprinted with the check was presented at the bank by Marshall B. Bass, right, vice president of RJR, Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines, center, athletic director at Winston-Salem State University, and Christopher F. Edley, president and chief executive officer of UNCF. Related stories on pages A2 and B13.

## NAACP committee to elect new president

By L.A.A. WILLIAMS  
 Chronicle Staff Writer

The question of how to fill the unexpired term of local NAACP president Patrick Hairston seems to have been resolved. But who that successor will be is still undecided.

Hairston, newly elected alderman for the North Ward, is resigning in the middle of his fifth two-year term from the helm of the 76-year-old civil rights organization's local branch.

His resignation will mark the end of an era and, without doubt, the beginning of a new one.

Over the past 10 years, Hairston has steered a course of

aggressiveness and action that has seen the NAACP come to the front in most issues affecting the black community.

Largely as a result of his untiring efforts, the local NAACP has achieved a level of effectiveness unmatched in the state. During this period, the name Pat Hairston has become synonymous with results.

Whoever succeeds him has a tough act to follow.

According to Hairston, his official letter of resignation was received by the NAACP on Saturday. The resignation becomes effective at the Jan. 12, 1986, NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner.



Walter Marshall

Section 2 (Duties of the Executive Committee) of the NAACP's constitution says all vacancies are filled by the Executive Board. This means that neither an open election nor a natural succession of the first vice president to the post will take place.

Instead, the 24-member local

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## Black community seen as the key to DA's race

By ROBIN ADAMS  
 Chronicle Staff Writer

The winner of the upcoming district attorney's race could be determined by the black community, said local attorney R. Lewis Ray.

"Joe (Gatto) is a candidate that can pull a lot of support from other parts of the city," said Ray. "That, combined with support from the black community, should make him a winner. (District Attorney) Don (Tisdale) isn't counting on the black community."

Although the race for the county's district attorney is almost a year away, an anti-Tisdale fund-raising committee has been formed. The committee of 15, headed by lawyer and former judge Gary B. Tash, was not formed specifically to sup-

port Judge Joseph Gatto, but Gatto, a Republican, has indicated that he is interested in the seat.

In addition, Republican Mickey F. Andrews said he is a candidate for the seat. Andrews ran against Tisdale in 1982 in the Democratic primary. Andrews changed his political party last year.

Tisdale has not made it official that he is a candidate, but said in a recent interview that he is expecting a fight.

Tisdale also said that he has not been viewed as the "darling" of the black community and won his election in 1982 without their support.

Tisdale has been criticized by the black community for his handling of the Jean Berkins case, for his refusal to hire a



R. Lewis Ray

black assistant district attorney and for his prosecuting the case against Darryl Hunt, although many feel there was not enough evidence to warrant an arrest.

Throughout that time, Tisdale

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## Hardy says he's not interested in selling property to the city

By L.A.A. WILLIAMS  
 Chronicle Staff Writer

The Board of Aldermen's Public Finance Committee was unable for the second time on Tuesday to quiet the protests of an angry property owner who is not interested in giving up his property to make way for improvements in the area of the new coliseum.

The city is interested in purchasing Francisco Hardy's property, along with four other pieces of property on the Deacon Boulevard corridor, as part of an effort to improve the appearance of the streets surrounding the site of the new coliseum.

Hardy says no.

"I'm not interested in selling whatsoever," Hardy said before appearing at the meeting. "If I can go on with my usual business and not have to worry about coming down here to defend what's already mine, I can get on with what I want to do with it."

The city staff says it wants to acquire the proper-

ties for five reasons: to protect against development that might not be compatible with the coliseum, to increase flexibility in the positioning of the building, to tie in landscaping for the new coliseum with Deacon Boulevard, to improve access to the coliseum, and because it is more economical to purchase the property now than at a future date.

Resolution D-22840 authorizes the city staff to pursue acquisition of the property by deed or condemnation. City appraisers estimate that purchase of the entire five properties will cost approximately \$750,000.

City staff members were instructed to contact owners of the properties and let them know that purchase of the land was to be considered at an October Finance Committee meeting. Three of the owners agreed to sell.

The city staff, much to its surprise, did not find out until the night of the meeting that Hardy owned

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## Golden State's Ivan Houston: 'We still pick up the premiums'

By ROBIN ADAMS  
 Chronicle Staff Writer

Ivan J. Houston literally took to the streets Wednesday morning.

Houston, chairman and chief executive officer of Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Co., which recently merged with Winston Mutual, was in town for his yearly visit to all the branch offices. Instead of the usual stuffy meetings with branch officials, Houston, son of one of the three founders of the company, spent most of the day with one of the company's agents as she made her rounds.

"It's hard to believe it, but we still pick up the monthly premiums," said Houston. "That's what the people want. I believe that our purpose is twofold. One, we get a ready audience for new policies, and we always get to talk to the people whom we serve."

"Second, our agents are more than insurance people. There are a lot of lonely people out there, and the insurance agents get the chance to talk to them. It's a social kind of thing."

In fact, on Wednesday morning, Houston said the agent sold a new policy to a present policyholder's sister, who just happened to be in

when the agent came by to call.

Houston said he enjoys getting out into the field, but that was not his major reason for coming to Winston-Salem. Although talks had been going on for some time, Golden State merged with Winston Mutual in January, renaming the local office the Winston Region of Golden State Mutual.

The merger makes Golden State the third-largest black-owned insurance company in the nation in terms of assets and the second-largest in terms of income and insurance in force.

But the merger removes from local residents the thought of having a local-owned company in town. People who knew the owners of Winston Mutual and felt that the company was a vital part of the black community feel that something has been taken away from them. That's the furthest thing from the truth, said Houston.

"We want the people to feel that they are a part of something bigger and better," said Houston.

"Golden State is located in 23 states and the District of Columbia. We are a company with a big future. We know Winston Mutual was an integral part of the community, and we want to keep

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Ivan J. Houston, center, chairman and chief executive officer of Golden State Mutual, shakes hands with a well-wisher as George Hill, vice president and former president of Winston Mutual, looks on.