

**A tribute
to local moms.**

PAGE A7.

**Carver ready
for sectionals.**

PAGE B1.



**Thomas garners
NAACP golf win.**

PAGE B1.

**Dynamic storyteller
grabs imaginations.**

PAGE A10.

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34 Pages This Week

Tisdale can make his bank trip now

By ALLEN H. JOHNSON
Chronicle Executive Editor

■ A Chronicle commentary.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY Donald K. Tisdale has said that he would laugh all the way to the bank if he were not re-elected.

He now has that opportunity.

Challenger W. Warren Sparrow weathered the incumbent's punches in the white community, then KO'd Tisdale in the inner city's predominantly black precincts to win the Democratic nomination Tuesday night.

Champagne flowed at Sparrow's headquarters in a Hyatt ballroom after the final tally was announced. He no doubt felt redeemed after the *Winston-Salem Journal* saw fit to endorse Tisdale, who has been called the scourge of the black community --

Please see page A3

Sad Tidings

Above, Evelyn Terry consoles her friend, Mazie Woodruff, while William Tatum, center with paper, and supporters stare despondently at the bad news (photos by James Parker).



Black voters oust Tisdale in primary

But Woodruff fails to make the cut

By L.A.A. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Black voters denied District Attorney Donald K. Tisdale his chance for a fourth four-year term in Tuesday's Democratic primary. The controversial Tisdale lost to challenger W. Warren Sparrow largely on the strength of the city's black precincts, 11,580-10,700, in unofficial totals.

The final tally represented the largest margin separating the two throughout the night. Before that, the two took turns grabbing the lead and relinquishing it, before Sparrow pulled away in the final hour of returns.

By contrast, Joseph J. Gatto, who resigned his District Court judgeship in February to pursue the Republican nomination for district attorney, put away his two opponents, attorneys H. Dwight Nelson and F. Mickey Andrews, early. Gatto polled 6,676 votes, to a combined 3,285 for Nelson and Andrews.

But Forsyth County Sheriff Preston Oldham and Senate candidate Terry Sanford polled the highest number of votes and registered the largest margins of victory in county races.

Oldham beat his chief of detectives, Ron N. Barker, 14,817-6,177 in the Democratic race for sheriff. Oldham faces no Republican opposition in November.

Sanford, the former North Carolina governor and Duke university president, ended hopes of a runoff in the Democratic Senate race by taking an early lead against nine other candidates and stretching it as the night went on.

Sanford, who also won the statewide nomination, finished

with a total of 14,715 votes in the county, to just 2,514 for his nearest competitor, former Insurance Commissioner John Ingram. Democratic candidate Ted Kinney, the lone black candidate in the field, finished a surprising third in Forsyth County, with 1,896 votes. William H. "Bill" Belk, who was considered to have more local black support than Kinney, totalled only 1,212 votes.

In the county commissioners'



Donald K. Tisdale

races, Democrats John S. Holleman Jr. and Wayne G. Willard held off incumbent Mazie S. Woodruff to claim the two party slots for November's election.

Holleman's total of 12,397 votes was only 76 votes better than Willard's. Mrs. Woodruff fell behind early and never quite made up the difference in one of the night's most closely watched races. She totalled 10,968 votes.

On the Republican side of the commissioners race, incumbent

Please see page A2

Triumphs, frustrations, surprises, drama: The aftermath of the May primaries

By JOHN HINTON
Chronicle Staff Writer

W. Warren Sparrow was hesitant Tuesday night to declare himself the winner over incumbent Donald K. Tisdale.

"I didn't want to make a victory speech until I was sure that I won," Sparrow said at his celebration party in the Hyatt. "I wanted to win so badly."

Sparrow defeated Tisdale 11,580-10,700 in the Democratic

election. Gatto, a former District Court judge, received 6,676 votes, defeating H. Dwight Nelson (1,833) and F. Mickey Andrews (1,452).

Sparrow attributed his victory to his grassroots campaign and public discontent with Tisdale over the handling of the Darryl E. Hunt murder trial. Hunt was convicted in June 1985 for the rape and murder of Deborah B. Sykes, a newspaper copy editor.

received so far," he said.

In the county commissioners race, John Holleman and Wayne Willard won the two available nominations, while incumbent Mazie S. Woodruff finished third. "There is no need to be upset," said a subdued Mrs. Woodruff, who had hoped to at least win enough votes to ask for a runoff, but fell short. She was the only black candidate in the contest and the only black county commissioner.

Mrs. Woodruff had said earlier in the evening that the turnout was disappointing. "I wish it had been larger," she said. "If the people don't vote, they have no reason to gripe. They need to use that valuable tool. It's more precious than money."

Holleman came in first in the Democratic primary with 12,397 votes and Willard was second with 12,321 votes. Mrs. Woodruff received 10,968 votes.

Mrs. Woodruff said her campaign could have been weakened by a low voter turnout, especially at several black precincts in East Winston.

Willard, a retired radio

Please see page A16



A Family Affair

The Burke family basks in the glow of another victory: From the left, son Todd, Alderman Vivian Burke and state House nominee Logan Burke (photo by James Parker).

**Election
Year '86**

primary for district attorney. His margin of victory in an agonizingly close race came from the black vote.

An emotionally spent Tisdale, who congratulated Sparrow after the election, said he ran an effective campaign. "We dug ourselves out of a hole," he said. "I went out the way I wanted to go out with my head held up."

Sparrow will face Republican Joseph J. Gatto in the November

"We have defeated a tough candidate and a tough organization," Sparrow said. "There was a lot of dissatisfaction by many county residents on how Tisdale has been conducting himself."

Sparrow said he is going to make changes in the district attorney's office, including the hiring of black assistant district attorneys. "They (blacks) are entitled to a wider participation in that office than what they have