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Winston-Salem Chronicle

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Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity wants a portion of Claremont Avenue renamed for Dr. King, and, as a city planner sees it, the change is likely to occur in January (photo by James Parker).

MARTIN L. KING DRIVE

Petition seeks to change name of 13-block stretch of Claremont

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

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Members of a local chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. want to rename part of a city street in honor of one of their most famous brothers.

The fraternity wants the stretch of Claremont Avenue from File Street to Stadium Drive renamed Martin Luther King Drive in tribute to the late civil rights leader. King pledged Alpha Phi Alpha while an undergraduate at Morehouse College in Atlanta.

"If you look around, I can't think of anybody in recent history who measures up to Dr. King," said Jesse Hymes, a member of the fraternity's Alpha Pi Lambda chapter.

In a letter dated Nov. 6, Hymes made the request and sent a petition bearing the names of 27 businesses and residents along the street to the city/county planning department.

The idea to try to get the street renamed to honor King came up about two years ago, said Dr. Willard McCloud, the chapter's president.

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PUSH CONTINUES IN MISS.

By The Associated Press

TUPELO, Miss. -- Blacks are prepared to begin a variety of protest activities unless Tupelo officials comply with a demand to name a major street which runs through black areas of the community in memory of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Alderman Boyce Grayson warned recently.

"There's no question about it," said Grayson, the city's lone black alderman and the only board member to support the name change. "We want to picket and boycott."

Grayson said the other aldermen and the mayor opposed

the effort to rename Green Street -- the main thoroughfare through the black community -- after the late civil rights leader for "racial" reasons.

The claim was denied by Alderman Billy McCarty, who noted that the street in question was named after the late Dr. J.H. Green, a family doctor who lived in Tupelo in the 1930s.

"I just can't see taking away the street name from a prominent doctor," McCarty said. "I don't want to take away from him (Green) to give to anyone, whether it's Martin Luther King or John Smith."

King's name should be given
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Lionel Richie, a graduate of UNCF member Tuskegee Institute, is among the performers scheduled to appear on the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon Saturday night (photo by Chris Mackie).

COVER STORY

UNCF shoots for \$78K goal

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

DESPITE the festive trappings, the stakes will be high Saturday night during the United Negro College Fund's 1986 telethon.

The telethon helps keep 43 private black colleges afloat, said Marilyn Baldwin, area coordinator for UNCF.

"Recently, two of our member schools lost their accreditation because of financial difficulties," Ms. Baldwin said. "It's important that people know that they weren't penalized because of academic problems."

1986 is not only crucial for those two schools -- Knoxville College in Tennessee and Bishop College in Texas -- but for most UNCF schools, Ms. Baldwin said.

"We're pushing ourselves extra hard to raise money so these colleges can regain accreditation and so it won't happen to any of our other colleges," she said. "In 1986 our colleges are in greater need than ever before. They're struggling to attract and retain highly qualified faculty members, to improve teaching and laboratory equipment and to repair and construct their campus buildings."

The national telethon, called the Lou Rawls Parade of Stars, will reach a potential audience of 21 million. It also will feature cut-ins to television stations throughout the nation, including WNRW, Channel 45, in Winston-Salem, which will broadcast from the Hyatt Hotel downtown.

Winston-Salem, High Point and Greensboro have set a joint fund-raising goal of \$78,000. Last year, the Triad missed the same target by more than \$30,000. But Ms. Baldwin is hopeful that this year will be different.

"This year we're quite confident that we will reach and hopefully exceed the goal," she said. "We've had an increased commitment from individuals this year."

Winston-Salem Fire Chief Lester E. Ervin, a UNCF co-chairman, agrees. "We've already done some pre-campaign fund-raising," he said.

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Yuletide hate: White teens arrested in connection with attack on blacks

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK -- Four white teen-agers were charged with assault Monday in the beatings of three black men stranded in a predominantly white neighborhood, police said. One of the blacks was fatally struck by a car as he fled.

Six other males, ages 16 to 18, and a 15-year-old girl were in custody but had not been charged

in connection with the attack early Saturday, said police spokesman Mike Julian of the 106th Precinct in Queens. He did not disclose their names.

"We think we have everyone involved in the assault," Julian said, but he added that the investigation was continuing.

Fearful of other incidents in the neighborhood in the wake of the attack, police assigned extra officers to patrol the area. And a

priest condemned racism to parishioners attending Mass the Sunday before Christmas.

"We want to make sure nobody causes any more trouble," police Inspector Frank Wallace said of the stepped-up patrols in the Howard Beach section of Queens, where Michael Griffith, 22, was killed as he and his companions fled their assailants.

Julian said all of the youths

taken into custody were at a party Friday night in the Howard Beach section. He said three of the teen-agers left the party at one point, encountered the three black men whose car had broken down on a nearby highway, and words were exchanged.

The three white youths returned to the party to get some friends, and they went out looking for the three blacks, according to Julian. One of the whites

was carrying a tree limb and a baseball bat, he said.

They tracked the blacks down to a nearby pizzeria shortly before 1 a.m. Saturday. One of the blacks, Timothy Grimes, 18, got away after being struck once.

But Griffith and Cedric Sandiford, 36, were chased and beaten until they slipped through a hole in the fence of the Belt Parkway.

Griffith, trying to cross the

parkway, was struck by a car and killed.

The gang fled, and no charges were filed against the driver.

"The intention was to kill both of us," Sandiford said in an interview published in Monday's editions of *Newsday*. "It was like a lynch mob. Like something that would happen in the days of slavery."

The attackers, using a racial
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NAACP tutorials: A strong start

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

The head of the NAACP's Education Committee is basically satisfied with the first three months of operating tutorial learning centers at 11 sites around the city, but she feels there's still room for improvement.

"I'm definitely pleased with the results of the centers," said Bessie Allen, chairman of the committee. "Now we've got to put our heads together and come up with ways to make it more effective and ways we can be sure to reach our goals."

The centers, which began operation in September, are now

closed because of Christmas vacation for school-age children, but they will reopen on Jan. 6, Mrs. Allen said.

While the centers are closed,

"The students themselves are the ones, to my surprise, who are seeing the real value of the centers."
-- Bessie Allen

Mrs. Allen said, she and the center directors will be sitting down and assessing the program's first three months.

Plans are also being discussed

to bring an outside expert, such as a Winston-Salem State University faculty member, in to evaluate the program.

Mrs. Allen said that she is most pleased with the children's attitude toward the centers.

"The students themselves are the ones, to my surprise, who are seeing the real value of the centers," she said. "They don't mind telling you that they need help with this or that."

One invaluable component of the centers is the tutors, Mrs. Allen said. "We have been blessed to have tutors from Wake Forest University and Winston-Salem State University."

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QUOTABLE: "... So long as oppression lives, the will to resist will never die." PAGE A4.

Gray calls for self-liberation at Winston Lake Y banquet

By ROBIN BARKSDALE
Chronicle Staff Writer

Rep. William H. Gray III, D-Pa., mapped out a plan of action that he said would allow more blacks to move into America's mainstream during his keynote address last week at the Winston Lake Family YMCA.

Gray, the chairman of the House Budget Committee and one of the most powerful black leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives, said black progress will depend on varying levels of liberation and that black Americans must make themselves

aware of those levels.

"If we are to make progress, we have got to understand that progress is going to be based on three levels of liberation," Gray told the crowd of about 400 on hand to mark the 62nd anniversary of the YMCA. "We must find liberation on the levels of economics, participation in public policy and self-liberation."

Economic liberation, Gray said, is particularly essential if blacks are to establish a foothold in the country's mainstream. He

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