

## Chronicle picks All-County Team

PAGE B1.

## Special Olympics: More than medals

PAGE A6.



## Papers to sponsor Jazz Ambassadors

PAGE A8.

## Minister: 'Moore' than meets the eye

PAGE B9.

# Winston-Salem Chronicle

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## AN ANGRY RESPONSE



Former Ga. state Sen. Bond is being investigated by federal authorities following reports by his estranged wife that he uses cocaine. In a press conference earlier this week, the civil

rights veteran angrily denied the accusations that he abuses drugs and strongly criticized reporters for their handling of the story (file photo by James Parker).

## Julian Bond: He has not used cocaine

By DICK PETTYS  
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA -- Civil rights veteran Julian Bond has angrily blasted news reports about allegations by his estranged wife that he uses cocaine, saying that he does not use drugs and has not committed any crimes.

"What is at issue here is a

family affair of concern only to those who are intimately involved," Bond said Tuesday in a statement issued to reporters. He criticized "those professional scavengers and gossip mongers who have made life hell for innocent people whose only crime is that their last name is Bond."

Bond, a former state senator

from Atlanta, left abruptly after reading the statement and refused to answer any questions.

He appeared later, however, on a radio talk show to discuss the matter in more detail. He said he agreed to be interviewed because his responses would not be edited.

"I've never used cocaine.

Never at all," Bond said. But he said he would not take a drug test.

He said he did not know the details of the charges made to police by Alice Bond and had not discussed the matter with any law enforcement authorities.

U.S. Attorney Robert Barr

Please see page A3

## COVER STORY

## Turnouts low for drop-ins

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

■ Related editorial on A4.

MISINFORMATION may have been the cause of a low turnout at Tuesday's East Winston Area Plan drop-in session, a planner said this week.

Three adult residents and a Boy Scout troop attended the session at the Piedmont Recreation Center on East 29th Street.

Ann Massey, a senior planner in the city/county Planning Department, said that she had heard from one person who did not attend the session that some residents were told at a neighborhood Housing Authority meeting that the East Winston Parkway would not affect them.

But the proposed new expressway and a spur connector to Highway 52, which are among transportation improvements mentioned in the plan, would affect the Piedmont Circle area, Mrs. Massey said.

She also said she was extremely disappointed by Tuesday's turnout.

Monday's drop-in session was a little more successful, drawing about 25 people, she said.

The majority of the people who attended, however, were members of an urban politics class from Winston-Salem State University who were accompanied by their professor, she said.

"We were happy to have the class," Mrs. Massey said. "Some

of the people already live here in East Winston, and some when they graduate will live in the area, so they will have a stake in it."

The students cited the need for a greater variety of stores at the East Winston Shopping Center and the need for local banks to reinvest in the area, she said.

The students were also pleased that the area will get evening bus service soon.

With four of six drop-in sessions already completed, the planning staff has learned from

"Unless they (residents) support it, it (the plan) may never come about."

-- Ann Massey

the community despite the low turnouts, Mrs. Massey said.

But Mrs. Massey said she would like to have even more people come out and give their input.

"What is a little distressing is that people assume that because there is a proposal or a plan, that it is going to happen," she said. "But unless they support it, it may never come about."

Four drop-in sessions have been held so far. Another will be held Thursday, April 16, at the 14th Street Recreation Center, from 4 to 8 p.m. The final session, co-sponsored with the Chronicle, will be held on Thursday, April 30, at the East Winston Branch Library, from 1 to 7 p.m.

## UPDATE

## NAACP: Marshall is pleased after meeting with police chief

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

■ Chronicle Update is a regular feature that focuses on developments in news and feature stories previously printed in the newspaper. It will appear during the third week of each month.

NAACP President Walter Marshall said recently that he believes Police Chief George L. Sweat is interested in resolving concerns expressed last month in

a letter from the organization to the chief.

Marshall said that he and Sweat met last Thursday.

"The meeting with the chief went well," Marshall said. "I felt pretty good about it, and if we can continue to agree, we'll see some changes being made in the near future. He was open and sincere. He has just as much at stake as we do."

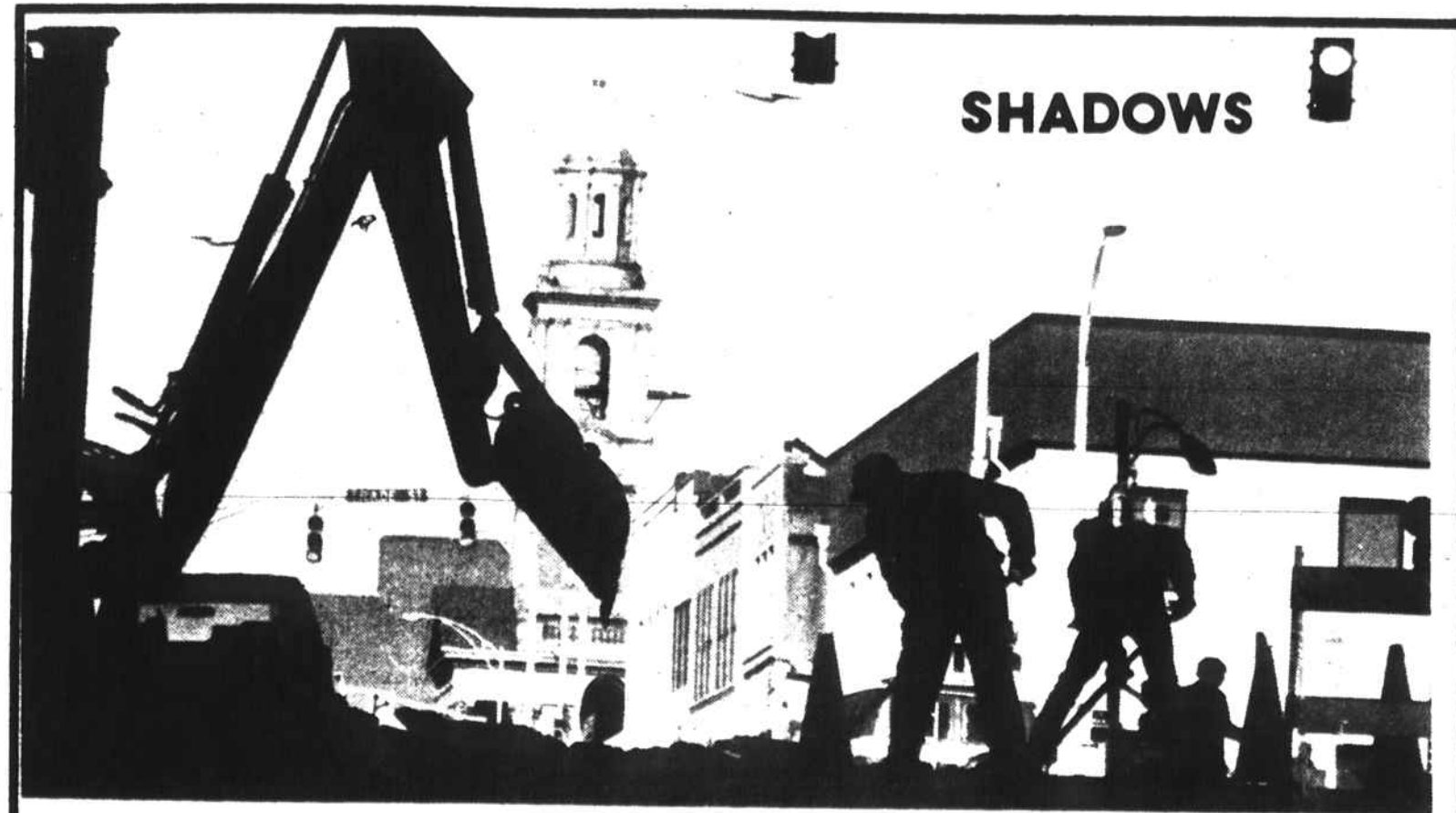
In the letter, dated March 16, the NAACP asked the police department to promote and recruit more blacks, to deal with

police brutality by weeding out "violence-prone" and "racially insensitive" officers, establish policies to deal with off-duty employment of policemen, update training procedures and decentralize the patrol division to include more community foot patrols.

Marshall said that he and the chief agreed that all of the concerns could not be dealt with in one meeting.

"The chief basically agreed that our concerns were legitimate

Please see page A3



Construction workers put the finishing touches on a downtown street repair project on Liberty Street before daylight fades away (photo by James Parker).

## Minority contractors' group: A revival

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

■ Related editorial on A4.

Black contractors are doing more than just talking about their problems, say members of the Voice of Minority Contractors.

James Grace Jr., president of the group, said that his organization hopes to unify black contractors in the area and to take a higher profile as it becomes

stronger.

Grace recently presented the group's concerns at a public hearing held by a city-appointed task force that is reviewing Winston-Salem's Minority and Women Business Enterprise program.

### Housekeeping to do

Meanwhile, he said in a recent interview, there's some housekeeping to do within his organization.

"One of our biggest problems is information," Grace said.

The lack of a secretary and an office hinders the group's ability to disseminate information to members, he said.

The organization could also be more effective if more black contractors realized that there is strength in numbers, Grace said.

"Blacks have never seen the advantages of trade organizations

Please see page A12

## THIS WEEK

CLASSIFIED	B13
COMICS	B6
EDITORIALS	A4
ENTERTAINMENT	B6
FORUM	A5
LEISURE	B7
OBITUARIES	B10
PEOPLE	A6
RELIGION	B9
SPORTS	B1

## A new post office site?

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

The main post office downtown is looking for a new home, and an old school property near East Winston may fit the bill.

The U.S. Postal Service has expressed interest in purchasing the old North Intermediate School property, located at the intersection of 14th Street and Patterson Avenue, from the city/county

schools.

The school board heard information Monday night concerning the proposed acquisition. The Postal Service is offering \$485,000 for the property. The board will discuss the offer at its next board meeting on Tuesday, April 21.

Under the conditions of the proposed purchase agreement, the school board would agree to

Please see page A14