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# Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly

Vol. XIII, No. 37

U.S.P.S. No. 067910

Winston-Salem, N.C.

Thursday, May 7, 1987

50 cents

34 Pages This Week

## Winston-Salem ministers respond to Jim Bakker controversy

By MARDELL GRIFFIN  
Chronicle Staff Writer

A sampling of local ministers reveals that they believe former PTL head Jim Bakker should be forgiven for any of his alleged misdeeds and that the controversy has had little effect on their own congregations.

However, calling him everything from a fallen man to a cult leader, they differ in other opinions about Bakker and his ministry.

"The man just stumbled and fell. And, the truth is, we all have," said Dr. Quincy A. Caldwell,

pastor of Greater United Progressive Baptist Church. "It shouldn't have happened, but this is what redemption is all about."

Bakker recently admitted to having a sexual tryst with former PTL follower and church secretary Jessica Hahn. He also admitted paying more than \$250,000 in hush money to Miss Hahn and various negotiators of the payoff to insure her silence about the incident.

Caldwell is not opposed to Bakker's regaining, at some point, leadership of the PTL ministry. "If there is no redemption, there is no

salvation," he said. "He doesn't have anything to do but tell the Lord he's sorry -- and mean it."

The Rev. John Mendez, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, also thinks Bakker should be forgiven.

"Of course, anybody should be," he said, "but so should Julian Bond." Bond, a civil rights activist and former Georgia state senator, was recently accused in Atlanta of cocaine use by his estranged wife.

Mendez blamed Bakker's predicament on current social trends in American culture which use sex as a

marketing tool in advertising and, consequently, encourage behavior such as Bakker's confessed adultery.

"The real immoral act is that he (Bakker) has ripped off poor folks who were given to believe they were donating to a good cause," Mendez said.

All the while, he added, Bakker, his wife, Tammy Faye, and upper-echelon PTL management became millionaires.

Mendez assumes that local congregations are affected by the upheaval in the televangelism industry. Please see page A14.

## Residents meet with officials

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Winston-Salem residents got the chance Tuesday night to come face to face with some of the city's top officials, and it was a resounding success, said Southeast Ward Alderman Larry W. Womble, who organized the community meeting.

"It was a fantastic meeting," he said Wednesday. "We had a big turnout."

He estimated that between 80 and 90 people attended the meeting.

The meeting, held at Mount Carmel Baptist Church in the Easton neighborhood, brought together City Manager Bill Stuart and six of the city's department heads to meet the community and hear the people's concerns.

Attending the meeting along with Stuart were Police Chief George L. Sweat; Pat Swann, assistant city manager for public works; D. Richie Brooks, direc-

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### Daydreamin'

Ricky Tucker, 5, has a gripe with the weatherman as he waits out a wet day at Galliee Children's Center. The rainy weather was holding up his playing time outdoors (photo by James Parker).

## COVER STORY

### Last drop-in nets a record turnout

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

The last drop-in session for public comment on the East Winston Area Plan brought out about 41 people, a record attendance.

The session, which was held at the East Winston Branch Library last Thursday, was co-sponsored by the *Chronicle* and the city/county Planning Department.

People attending the session included elected and public officials, residents, businessmen and ministers.

Ann Massey, a senior planner with the department, said that she was pleased with the attendance.

Attendance at the five previous drop-in sessions had ranged from three to 25 people.

"Based on the folks that came out and the comments made, I was pleased," she said.

She added that she had hoped for even more people to attend.

Mrs. Massey said that she credits the attendance at the session to the *Chronicle* and to Tim Jackson Jr., chairman of the East Winston Area Plan Review Committee.

The *Chronicle* had sent out hundreds of letters in the community as well as writing articles and editorials about the sessions.

Jackson, speaking in a radio interview, had also encouraged people to attend.

Comments at the drop-in session were aimed at some of the same concerns expressed at previous sessions, including the shortage of quality housing in East Winston, the lack of commercial development and

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## Officials: Female offenders need help

By MILTON C. JORDAN  
Special To The Chronicle

RALEIGH -- North Carolina's growing female prison population needs a broad array of additional services, according to Su Cunningham, President of the American Correctional Association, who spoke to more than 500 delegates to an international conference on the female offender recently.

The conference attracted delegates from Australia and

Canada as well as the United States.

"The challenge we face," Ms. Cunningham told the delegates during the conference's opening session, "is how to attract more resources so we can better prepare the female offender to go home, be productive and take her place in society."

However, none of the information available at the conference explained specifically how corrections officials proposed to stem the growth of female offenders or

specifically how the proposed additional services could decrease recidivism.

Generally, the focus of the workshops and the general sessions emphasized the idea that many women who commit crimes were victims themselves before they became criminals, and that the victimization continues while the women are imprisoned.

"Women are increasingly bearing the brunt of being poor in America," said Ruth Rushen, Please see page A13

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## Hearing continued

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Herman L. Aldridge, who was suspended from his job as the city's Human Relations director in April, is saying little about what went on in a grievance hearing last Wednesday.

Aldridge did say that he and his attorney, Beverly R. Mitchell, requested that the hearing be continued. The next hearing date is Wednesday, May 13, he said.

Aldridge, 49, was suspended

without pay April 3. He told the *Chronicle* last month that he feels he received an unfair evaluation from the Human Relations Commission, which called for his resignation.

He said that at the hearing, Alexander R. Beaty, assistant city manager for administration, presented the city administration and the Human Relations Commission's side. Aldridge declined to say what specific concerns

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## Vandals strike at Ashley School

Beaty: Community help needed to deter crime

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Ashley Middle School, in an attempt to beautify the school grounds, put up a wooden fence a few weeks ago. A week later, it was torn down.

Assistant Principal John T. Beaty said that this is only one example of the increase in vandalism that the school has recently been experiencing.

"We have taken lots of steps in recent weeks to beautify the school," he said. "We planted more grass, planted flowers and put up a fence. Our efforts are being undermined and undone by vandals. That's discouraging."

Ashley, located at 1647 E. 21st St. in a black community, had also put up two wooden signs in front of the school to direct visitors to the front office. Beaty said these signs, too, were torn down.

Beaty said the school has been the target of frequent acts of vandalism since it became a middle school in the city/county school reorganization

about three years ago.

Cpt. E.L. Yokley, with the Field Services Division of the Winston-Salem Police Department, said vandalism at schools in the city seems to be seasonal.

"It happens quite a bit at the beginning and toward the end of school, and occasionally in the summer," Yokley said.

He also said many of the culprits in school vandalism incidents have been juveniles. Yokley said that generally, when a school is located near a neighborhood, there is not a lot of vandalism.

Beaty blames many of his school's problems on its location. There is a wooded area near the school, and the school is located so that few neighbors have a clear view of the school grounds.

"The school is situated where it is a prime location for vandalism and burglary attempts," he said.

The recent increase in vandalism at the school in-

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Ashley Middle School students work to replace the fence that was torn down by vandals (photo by James Parker).