NCC

SPORTS

Winston Lake turns it on at AAU nationals

PAGE C1

EDITORIALS

Forsyth county officials say they're doing fine in hiring minorities, but -- are they?

PAGE A4

RELIGION

Bethesda Center: Fulfilling Christ's commandment

PAGE B1

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The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly

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Hatcher

Hatcher: Britt threat to minorities statewide

By ANGELA WRIGHT
Chronicle Managing Editor

Saying that his mission was "to stop Joe Freeman Britt" from becoming a Superior Court judge, J. Eddie Hatcher arrived in Winston-Salem last week and began a crusade among the city's minority community.

Hatcher and Timothy B. Jacobs are accused of holding several people hostage for 10 hours at gunpoint at *The Robesonian* newspaper office in Lumberton Feb. 1. They were released from the Craven County Jail last week after a ruling by the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals. The two had been imprisoned without a bond hearing for five months.

Hatcher has maintained that the hostage-taking was an act of desperation brought on by his belief that his life was in danger. Both Hatcher and Jacobs, who are American Indians, have accused Robeson County law officials of corruption and drug trafficking.

"I believed I was going to be killed because I knew too much about what was going on," said Hatcher. He said that he wanted to draw national attention to the alleged corruption in the county.

He and Jacobs now face the possibility of life in prison, but Hatcher says that won't stop him from speaking out.

Hatcher said there had been "15 questionable deaths" since the Feb. 1 hostage incident. He said that 13 of the 15 people who have died had attempted to talk with his lawyers and had evidence against Robeson County law officials.

But, Hatcher says his main concern now is to prevent the Robeson County district attorney, Joe Freeman Britt, from becoming the 16th District Superior Court judge.

"I know the evil he can do," said Hatcher. "Tens...hundreds of thousands of people don't realize that if he wins he's going to be in their courtroom too. He won't serve only in Robeson County, he'll serve all over the state."

Please see page A2

"Everything he has done at the bank, he has done well."
-- John F. McNair III

School board sets meeting

From Chronicle Staff Reports

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education will hold a public hearing on the qualifications for the selection of a new superintendent on Monday, July 18, at 7:00 p.m., according to Sue Carson, the school/community relations officer.

The school board is allowing those citizens in the community who want to make recommendations for the selection process to appear before the board an hour before their regularly scheduled meeting.

Carson said that citizens wishing to speak will be allowed three minutes for their presentation. She said that the board is asking that comments also be submitted in writing, but that a written statement is not required.

The meeting will be held in the school administration building auditorium at 1605 Miller St.

The current superintendent, Dale Eargle, has resigned, effective July 31. The board named as acting superintendent Nelson Jessup, assistant superintendent for auxiliary services.

The appointment of Jessup caused concern among the Afro-American community. Many community leaders expressed their belief that the board had been unfair to Dr. Barbara K. Phillips, an Afro-

Please see page A3

photo by Mike Cunningham

McGruff the Crime Dog shares a happy, carefree moment with one of the youngsters at last weekend's Shriner's picnic for area foster children. More than 60 children attended the picnic held at Washington Park.

Tidwell named head of city, county offices

From Chronicle Staff Reports

On Jan. 1, Isaiah Tidwell will move into the highest position ever held by an Afro-American at Wachovia Bank and Trust Co. He will become executive in charge of the bank's Winston-Salem and Forsyth County offices.

Ruffin

Tidwell

Dalton D. Ruffin, Wachovia's Northwest Region and Winston-Salem office executive, will retire Dec. 31.

Tidwell joined Wachovia's Charlotte office in 1972 and transferred to Winston-Salem in 1975. He has been senior vice president and regional loan administration manager since 1982. In his new position, he will be responsible for Wachovia's 20 offices in Winston-Salem, Clemmons and Kernersville.

"He is a super fellow. He has certainly earned the promotion," said John F. McNair III, president of Wachovia Bank and Trust Co.

Please see page A10

County challenged

Minority recruitment not a priority goal

By VALERIE ROBACK GREGG
Chronicle Staff Writer

Forsyth County is not trying hard enough to recruit, train or promote Afro-Americans for management positions, the county Board of Commissioners was told at a meeting Monday, and a policy of internal hiring without advertising vacant positions may be perpetuating the problem.

"It's time to raise the percentages (of minorities) in all areas, not just in job fields, but in promotions, training programs and management," former candidate for the board S. Ann Simmons told the board. "We, as taxpayers and voters, are very concerned when our tax dollar is not going towards aiding the growth of our people in county jobs."

Commission Chairman Dr. James N. Ziglar Jr. said he did not know much about the county's minority recruitment efforts. "I don't know...I don't know how aggressively we have been pursuing that now," he said in an interview. "It's obvious that some things are going on, we have over 30 percent minorities (as county employees)."

Ziglar conceded, however, that

Please see page A10

NEWS DIGEST

Compiled From AP Wire

Haitian activist stabbed

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti -- Lafontant Joseph, a prominent human rights activist, was found beaten and stabbed to death Monday in a jeep near the Port-au-Prince airport, police said. Paul Latortue, a former senatorial candidate who lives in exile in Puerto Rico, blamed the murder on government leader Lt. Gen. Henri Namphy.

Queens whites attack blacks

NEW YORK -- A black corrections officer was clubbed with a steel pipe on a Queens beach by a man in a jeering group of whites, who told the officer and his friends "you don't belong here," authorities said Monday. Neville Bonitto suffered cuts and bruises. Paul Guglielmo was charged with felony assault, aggravated harassment and criminal possession of a deadly weapon. Officials said more arrests were expected.

Jackson's brother sues NBC

CHICAGO -- Noah Robinson, a half-brother to Jesse Jackson, says he was libeled by NBC and a local television newsman who reported he ordered a killing. Robinson, a Chicago businessman, filed a lawsuit asking for $10 million each from the network.

Neal taps Afro-American woman

McCoy to head field staff

By VALERIE ROBACK GREGG
Chronicle Staff Writer

U. S. Congressman Stephen Neal recently hired an Afro-American female as the number-two person on his re-election campaign staff.

Paula McCoy was named head of field operations last week, putting her in charge of coordinating community groups to support Neal at the precinct and ward level throughout the 5th Congressional District.

McKoy

McCoy played a similar role at the North Carolina Black Leadership Caucus held two weeks ago. As chair of the registration committee and materials, McCoy had a visible role at the caucus, bringing her to the attention of Neal's Campaign Manager Kevin Keefe.

Keefe first spotted McCoy at a minority business conference, held June 24, to help minority-owned businesses get government contracts. "She seemed bright and articulate," Keefe said.

McCoy's venture into the political arena will have to fit into an already crowded and busy schedule, she said.

A mother of two, entrepreneur with a growing business, and community activist, McCoy often finds herself cooking dinner for the kids while clutching her briefcase. "My children are still my first priority," she said.

Despite the stress of juggling so many roles, McCoy says she has reached a very satisfying and fulfilling time in her life and has often surprised herself in recent years. She recently incorporated her own branch of a career development and management consulting firm, Arrival Inc. of the Southeast. McCoy is also vice president of the Minority Business League and coordinator for the local "Buy Freedom" movement which promotes minority-owned businesses.

McCoy has been involved with Democratic Party politics in the past, following the footsteps of her father, Birden D. McCoy, and sister, Alinda Foote Austin. She has been chairman of the Mineral Springs Fire Station precinct and the local

Please see page A10

photo by Mike Cunningham

Frank P. Hicks proudly displays his large harvest of cabbages, weighing more than 10 pounds each. He has been growing cabbages for 10 to 15 years.