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SPECIAL



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52 Pages This Week

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## Black doctor fights Forsyth

By ROBIN BARKSDALE  
Chronicle Staff Writer

A District Court case involving an Afro-American physician could cause serious damage to the doctor's practice and challenge the North Carolina state law guaranteeing doctor-patient confidentiality.

Dr. Jonathan Dunbar Weston, the plaintiff in the case, in October 1988 filed a complaint against Carolina Medicorp Inc., operators of Forsyth Memorial Hospital, alleging that his staff privileges at the facility had been unjustly suspended. According to Dr. Weston's complaint, hospital officials maintain that Dr. Weston violated hospital policy when he did not inform hospital nurses that one of his patients had tested HIV positive for the AIDS virus. When the patient later came in to deliver a baby, one of the staff nurses delivered the baby but did not have both gloves on. She later discovered the results of the woman's AIDS test and complained to hospital officials about the fact that Dr. Weston had not informed nurses of the outcome of the patient's test.

The officials then threatened to suspend Dr. Weston on the grounds that he was causing disruption at the hospital.

In February 1988, Paul Wiles, president of Carolina Medicorp Inc., initiated disciplinary action against Dr. Weston charging that "his management of patient #164071 was disruptive to the operation of the hospital."

Dr. Weston was requested to

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## Darryl Hunt conviction overturned by court

### Defense committee calls on Sparrow to drop charges, reopen investigation

By TONYA V. SMITH  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Celebrating "a victory" and gearing up for the fight ahead, about 50 members of the Darryl (Eugene) Hunt Defense Fund Committee met Monday night in Lloyd Presbyterian Church calling for District Attorney Warren Sparrow to "act like a man and have some backbone" and dismiss the murder charge against the 24-year-old.

Mr. Hunt was convicted in June 1985 of the murder of Deborah B. Sykes, a copyeditor with the now defunct Winston-Salem *Sentinel*. However, the N.C. Supreme Court overturned that conviction last week saying that prosecutors improperly used hearsay evidence, particularly that of his then 14-year-old girlfriend who was a prostitute, in Mr. Hunt's trial.

Mr. Sparrow now has to decide whether to dismiss the charge against Mr. Hunt or to retry the case.

Mr. Hunt is presently serving a 40-year sentence in the Southern Correctional Center in Troy, N.C., for stabbing Arthur Wilson in 1983. That murder conviction was overturned in 1988 by the state Court of Appeals, however, the Supreme Court is slated to review that decision.

Among those in attendance at the meeting were Attorney Larry Little, who plans to represent Mr. Hunt if there is another trial, and the Rev. Carl-

ton A.G. Eversley, Kahlid Fatah Griggs and the Rev. John Mendez -- members of the defense fund steering committee.

"Darryl was a gift to all of us because through Darryl we were able to expose evil in the police department, in the judicial system," said Rev. Mendez, chair of the defense committee. "We were fighting not just for Darryl, but we recognize if Darryl had been allowed to be convicted at that time . . . then any individual black or white could have."

"God has spoken from Raleigh," Rev. Mendez continued, adding that if bond is set for Mr. Hunt, the National Council of Churches will assist the group in raising the money. An offering Monday night netted \$160 for Mr. Hunt's defense.

The Darryl Hunt Defense Fund Committee was established by Mr. Little. However, he said he can no longer be active with the committee because he is now an attorney who may be involved with Mr. Hunt's future trial.

"We will see this through to the end," Rev. Mendez said. "Warren Sparrow, who begged us for votes in the last election, he said he would have been more fair than (Donald) Tisdale (the prosecuting attorney in Mr. Hunt's case). Now the ball is in Sparrow's hand. It's not Darryl who is

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Darryl Eugene Hunt

File Photo

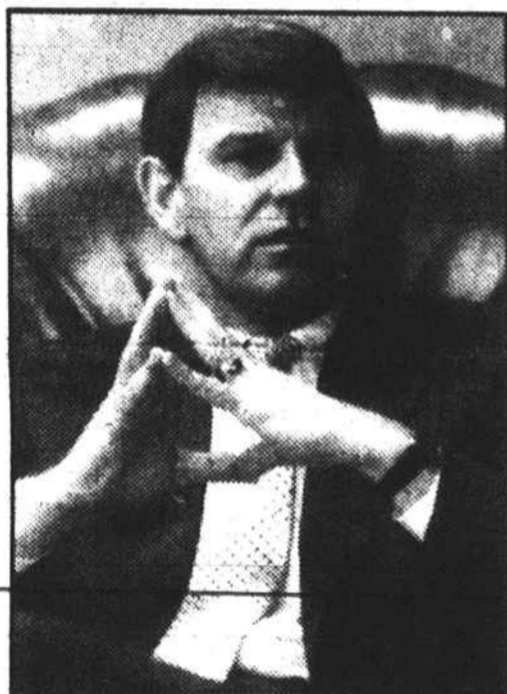


Photo by Sonja Covington  
Dr. Larry D. Coble has plans for better relations in the schools.

## Coble places racial harmony high on agenda

By TONYA V. SMITH  
Chronicle Staff Writer

In less than 10 days at the helm of the city-county school system, Dr. Larry D. Coble has devised a plan that he predicts will repair the widening rift between the Afro-American community and the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools' administrators.

"What I have done is I have asked some key influential in the community to make some recommendations to me and I am assembling a small group of representatives from the black community to advise me of community percep-

tions as it relates to what's happening with black children and black affairs," Dr. Coble said.

Letters were sent to five potential members of his advisory board May 2, but Dr. Coble said he wants to confirm their acceptance before he releases the names of the five individuals.

Dr. Coble, who was the superintendent of Durham County Schools, said he sees three separate issues affecting the Afro-American community and school administrators:

- the communication problem between central office and the community,
- the Afro-American communi-

ty's perception of what occurred in the superintendent selection process,

•a general race relations problem.

"A second step I have taken is that, prior to coming here, I had a particular interest centering around the concerns that were raised during the public (superintendent candidate) interviews about quote, the widening gap between the achievement of black students and white students," Dr. Coble said. "Through what I call a disaggregation of test data, which suggests to us how students achieve individually on tests, we began looking at how students

achieve based on race and we're taking that information and trying to evaluate it.

"First inspection suggests that there is a widening gap between black students and white students, particularly black males and that is in keeping with national trends."

There is still much review of the test data to be done, Dr. Coble said, adding that the schools' test coordinator said such raw data could be deceiving on paper.

The major problem with the city-county system is that it has had no real agenda, Dr. Coble said. He

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## National Urban League president praises local community efforts

By ROBIN BARKSDALE  
Chronicle Staff Writer

National Urban League President John E. Jacob was in town Wednesday morning to lend his support to a community event sponsored by the local affiliate.

The Winston-Salem Urban League presented findings pulled from a series of community focus group sessions which have been held since April. The group sessions were held to solicit information from various segments of the community with regard to their concerns about problems in Winston-Salem, possible solutions and what the local league could do to assist residents with those problems. The local Community Forum project targeted five specific focus groups and held sessions in areas easily accessible to those individual groups.



*"Year after year, organizations develop programs and services without talking to the people who are recipients of those services. Through projects such as this, the Urban League is making a major contribution to its community."*

-- John E. Jacob

Photo by Sam Greenwood

At a press conference before the luncheon, Mr. Jacob commended the local office for its efforts to take the services of the Urban League to the people it serves.

"I am so happy to be here for what I consider to be one of the most important events to take place in Winston-Salem, not only for the Urban League but for the entire community," Mr. Jacob said. "I believe it is of tremendous value for organizations like the Urban League to develop programs that allow the community to be involved in problem-solving. We want to allow constituents to share in the creation of programs and services. The truth of the matter is that most of them know what the problems are and what they would accept as a resolution."

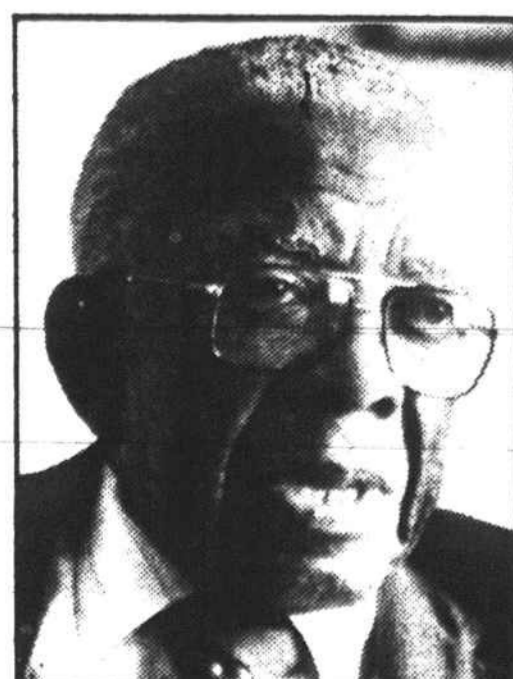
Mr. Jacob said that service-providers are more apt to develop effective programs if they have some idea of what it is that people truly want and

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## Legacy for posterity: The history of black politicians in Winston-Salem

By TONYA V. SMITH  
Chronicle Staff Writer

This is the first in a three part series looking at Afro-Americans and the establishment, present development and future progression on their claims to political power.



Williams

When Afro-Americans began their metamorphosis from slaves to free men and women, it was because men with political power mandated it. When so-called free people could not vote, eat in certain restaurants or sit in the front of the bus, it was those who dared to pull the reins of political power who turned wishes into laws.

Politics is the science and art of political government, according to Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary. A political person is one who is artful, skillful, politic, it further states. A politic plan is one that is expedient, prudently and artfully contrived. Such plans led to the conception and subsequent birthing of the black political power movement in Winston and across the United States.

As a little boy growing up in Winston, the Rev. Kenneth R. Williams' political path began taking shape in his mind as he heard stories about Justin G. Lattie, a funeral director and embalmer who

was an alderman in the city of Winston during the 1890s.

But before Lattie became an alderman, other Afro-Americans were elected to the same office or they served as commissioners. Men such as Col. Israel L. Clement, a tobacco roller, who was elected in 1881; his son Refus E. Clement served two terms between 1891 and 1896. Other early Afro-American politicians in Winston were J.F. Hughes, a post office custodian; J.B. Gwyn a grocer; Henry Pendleton, a tobacco worker and Aaron A. Moore.

Many Afro-Americans aren't aware of their early political heritage because of laws enacted soon after these men took office, according to "Forsyth: The History of a County on the March" by Adelaide Fries, Stuart Thurman Wright and J. Edwin Hendricks.

"Immediately after the turn of the century, however, North Carolina followed other southern states in the enactment of disfranchising,

segregating and disabling legislation," according to the book. "In Winston as elsewhere the black community disappeared as a political force until the 1940s."

It was during the 1940s that Dr. Williams, now chancellor emeritus of Winston-Salem State University and pastor emeritus of United Metropolitan Baptist Church, became the first Afro-American elected to the Winston-Salem Board of Aldermen -- the town of Salem and the city of Winston merged in 1913.

According to historians, the election of Mayor Marshall Kurfees and the organization of Local 22 of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union (CIO) at Reynolds Tobacco Company, led to Dr. Williams' winning the Democratic Primary that would make him an alderman.

"Kurfees did not create a Negro political movement," said Larry Edward Tisdale in "Winston-Salem in History, Volume 6, Government."



Photo Courtesy of the Rev. W.R. Crawford  
A reflection of past Afro-American political power holders, Dr. M.L. King Jr., the president of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the NAACP and the Rev. William R. Crawford had a meeting of minds in 1960.

"Rather he took advantage of existing developments in the Negro community."

During that time Afro-Ameri-

cans were not allowed to vote, but Reynolds Tobacco Company employed them in huge numbers.

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