

RELIGION



School Days
High Point Baptist Association
Sunday School celebrates 25th year

SPECIAL



Upholding The Dream
Special section focuses on local,
statewide events for King Day

56 Pages This Week

Thursday, January 11, 1990

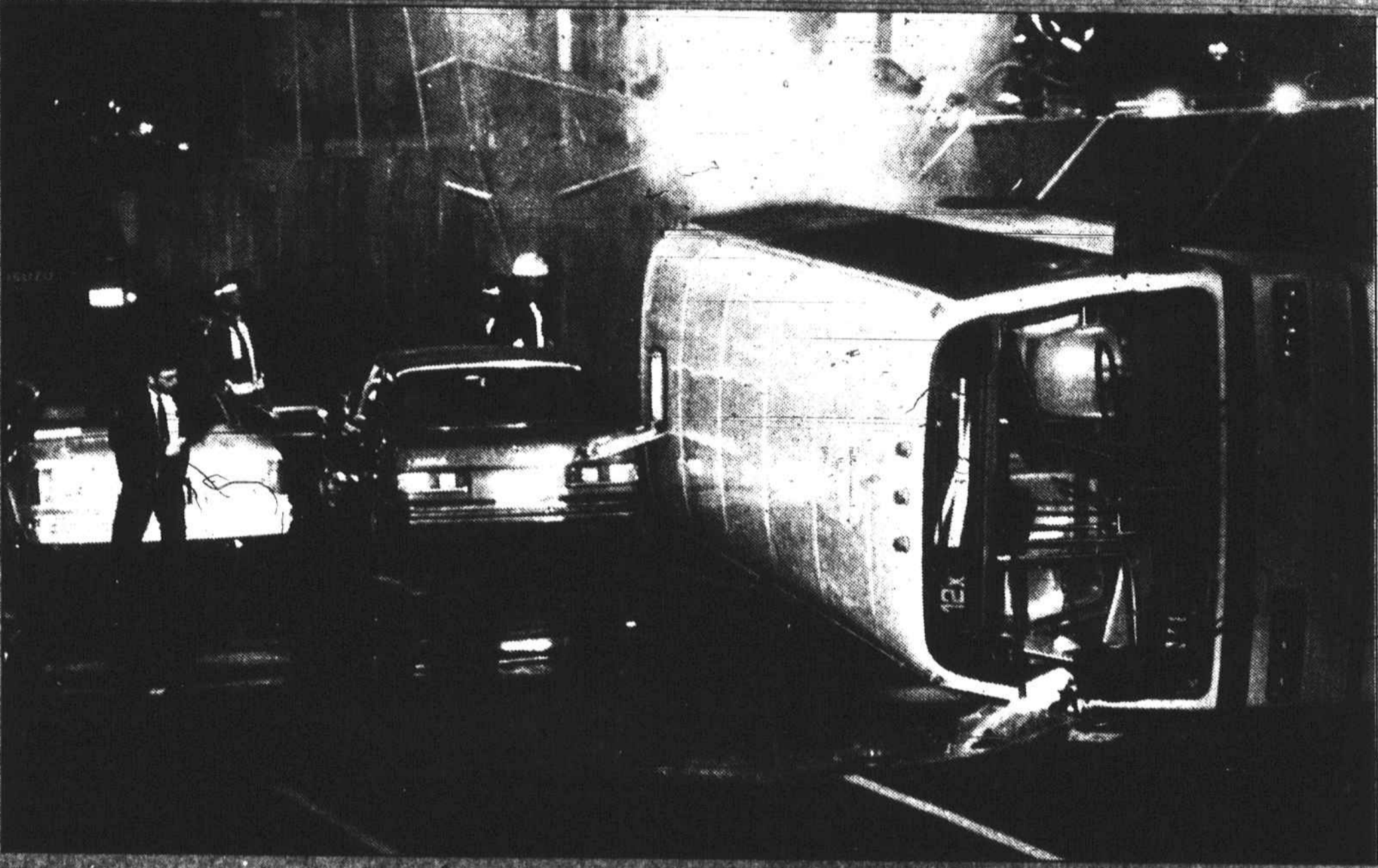
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Whoa, Bus!



A city bus rolled backwards down Main Street, flipped over a wall, fell 15 feet and landed on its side in a parking lot damaging a car. The driver and the rest of the bus caught fire. Firemen responded but the parking brake did not hold. Luckily the passengers were not hurt. Photo by Mike Cunningham

Panel denies loan

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Patrick T. Hairston found himself in yet another aldermen committee meeting Monday afternoon, but this time he wasn't representing the North Ward. Instead, the former alderman was asking the Board of Aldermen's finance committee to overrule a previous judgment and loan him \$75,000 for his janitorial cleaning business.

Pat Hairston Contract Cleaning Company, Inc. submitted a \$100,000 loan request to the city's Economic Development Revolving Loan com-

mittee. The seven-member group administers the revolving loan fund, established in 1985 to assist proposed or expanded businesses whose owners can't qualify for conventional financing programs. The program specifically helps businesses in the city's "pocket of poverty" or at the F. Roger Page Business Assistance Center.

After reviewing the request of Mr. Hairston and co-owner Melvin L. White, the committee recommended denying the loan. The gentlemen subsequently reduced their

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Bids open on Skyland

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Skyland School has been idly sitting for nearly six years. It has been vandalized, engulfed in flames and overtaken with asbestos.

Most recently, the school - which sits on about 19 acres off East End Boulevard - has been one of the most sought after pieces of property in the city.

First, it was developer David Shannon who planned to renovate the facility so that Family Services Inc., could locate its Head Start and enrichment programs there. After vandals stripped the building, making the renovation project a very expensive one, Mr. Shannon withdrew his plan.

Early last month, officials with the Delta Fine Arts Center asked the the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education to convey them the property for \$1. Their bid was the only one on the table until late last week when

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More candidates announce intentions for local, state elections

Incumbents Gray, Neal, Sparrow prepare for reelection campaigns

From Chronicle Staff Reports

Education, specifically North Carolina students' dismal national finish on Scholastic Aptitude Tests, will be the top priority of Rep. Lyons Gray in his re-election bid for a seat in the North Carolina General Assembly.

Rep. Gray was elected to his post late last fall by members of the 39th District's Republican Executive Committee. He succeeded former state Rep. Ann Q. Duncan who resigned.

In the December special session of the North Carolina legislature, Rep. Gray served on the Appropriations Committee and its two subcommittees on human resources.

"My top concern as state representative is improving the education of young people in Forsyth County," said the local businessman. "After all, the future of our area is dependent on the ability of our young people to compete on the world market in the next century. I believe the legislature must tackle the education problem quickly with innovative approaches whose ultimate goal is upgrading educational skills.

Rep. Gray said he will also place legislative emphasis on the environment, jobs and criminal justice.

Forsyth County's legislative delegation

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Burke



Jones

Logan Burke will not seek second term; Naomi Jones wants vacated state seat

From Chronicle Staff Reports

Yet another Afro-American woman may be tossing her hat into the Forsyth County Commissioners' race. Norma Smith, resource consultant for Winston-Salem State University's academic computer system, said she is thinking about running for county commissioner.

"Some people have approached me, encouraging me to run, but all I can really say right now is that I'm thinking about it," Ms. Smith said. "The factors that will influence my decision are mostly personal things,

and I probably won't make a decision before the end of the month."

Ms. Smith was active in the Martha Wood for Mayor campaign and is a member of the mayor's appointed East Winston Development Task Force.

Naomi W. Jones lost her bid for a seat on the city-county school board nearly two years ago, but now she is setting her sights on the state House.

Mrs. Jones said Monday that she will run for the 67th District seat to be vacated by Rep. Logan Burke. She said she made her deci-

sion after Rep. Burke declined to run for a second term. Mrs. Jones, 58, has been a strong supporter and friend to the representative's wife, Alderman Vivian H. Burke.

"I felt this would be a bigger challenge for me and felt that I would like to see some of the different things that happen on the state level of government," said the former educator. "I'm particularly interested in education, utilities and teen pregnancy and seeing what can be done at the state level to help

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Volunteer programs suffer from fear of drug violence

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Afro-American children, especially little girls, who have been accepted by Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Forsyth County have been waiting

to be matched with an adult for at least six months because volunteers don't want to visit the drug zones the youngsters live in, said executive director Bert Grisard.

children's homes, Mr. Grisard explained, big brothers and sisters can call and let the children know the time of their arrival.

That would at least allow the big brother or sister to blow their horn

"We do have volunteers who legitimately don't want to go to certain places. But the reality is we do have kids who live in those places, in those situations and in those areas, and that's where we have to go and provide services."

- Bert Grisard

Brothers/Big Sisters case worker. "I have about 10 little girls who've probably been waiting on my list for six months, and they all live in the gardens."

Volunteers are wary of the signs posted on the outskirts of Happy Hill Gardens, Piedmont Park, Kimberly Park Terrace and Cleveland Avenue Homes warning visitors and others that they are entering drug zones - areas known for their heavy drug trafficking and those in which police patrol is constant. The volunteers want to know why the signs are there and what they mean, Ms. Corbett said.

"And even when there is a



Photo by Mike Cunningham

Von Corbett, a caseworker, and Bert Grisard, executive director of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Forsyth County, discuss how drugs and crime affect their program.

"Typically, we have kids waiting for matches, but we can't match them because of a particular neighborhood situation or something related to that," Mr. Grisard said. "I guess we've had the problems more so with the girls, but it's been with little boys too who live in certain areas and who don't have a telephone."

When there are telephones in

and wait for the child in the car. Because of the increased drug and related crime activity in the city's four public housing areas, Fairchild Apartments and on and around 23rd and Jackson streets, volunteers are literally afraid to go into the neighborhoods, said Mr. Grisard. "Especially in the (Happy Hill) gardens," said Von Corbett, a Big

phone in the children's homes, some of them live in areas without street lighting, and they don't live right off the street," Mr. Grisard said, adding that the volunteer might have to walk across a court yard area to get to the child's home.

Grisard said, that because the children live in an area that is infested with crime and drugs that they are a part of that.

"That's just a stereotype that's associated with the kids in those neighborhoods," Mr. Grisard said.

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Local events to mark MLK observance

From Chronicle Staff Reports

A march, breakfast and noon celebration are among the events scheduled to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday on Jan. 15. The slain civil rights leader was born Jan. 25, 1929, and his birthday is celebrated as a national holiday on the third Monday in January.

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, post offices, ABC stores and city, state and federal offices will be closed Monday. Banks and county offices will be open and the city bus schedule will operate a normal schedule.

The following is a list of activities in honor of Dr. King's birth, life and death:

• Thursday, Jan. 11: A march from Alumni House on the Winston-Salem State University

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