

# Striking Greyhound workers cause woe in W-S

By RUDY ANDERSON  
Chronicle Managing Editor

Employees at Winston-Salem's Greyhound Bus terminal are beginning to feel the economic pinch as the strike against the country's only nationwide bus company moves into its first full week.

More than 9,000 employees, represented by the Amalgamated Council of Greyhound Local Unions, over 6,000 of whom are drivers and maintenance workers, set up picket lines when contract negotiations broke off last Friday.

Tom March, area general manager for Greyhound, admits that ridership is down. But he also points out that this is not a peak time of year for heavy bus traffic anyway. Just the same, March says some of the independent bus drivers he hired to work out of the Winston-Salem area have quit. He also says of the 40 drivers hired to work out of the Fayetteville terminal only 75% are still working.

Alese Wilmoth, an independent sales contractor leasing space at the Winston-Salem terminal, said, "we are running limited service," adding in

almost the same breath, "Carolina Trailways is still operating. We can still get people and packages to their destinations." Ms. Wilmoth said since the strike started it seems as though people just stopped shipping their packages. As a result, Ms. Wilmoth said she has had to lay off two of the 12 employees she had and cut back on the work schedules of others.

Cary Hall, a platform dock worker, is one of those feeling the hourly squeeze. "They are cutting back our hours because there is nothing to do," he said.

Based on reports from Greyhound headquarters in Dallas, Texas, there may be "little" to do for quite a while. A Greyhound spokesman said in a telephone interview Tuesday that no new talks are scheduled. The spokesman said the three year, \$63 million dollar, contract is all the company can afford. Company officials have adopted a hard line stand on hiring drivers that is likely to increase tensions between those drivers on strike and those that cross the picket line.

P. Anthony Lannie, Greyhound's executive vice president in charge of

labor negotiations, confirmed the company has hired 700 permanent replacement drivers and is training 915 more.

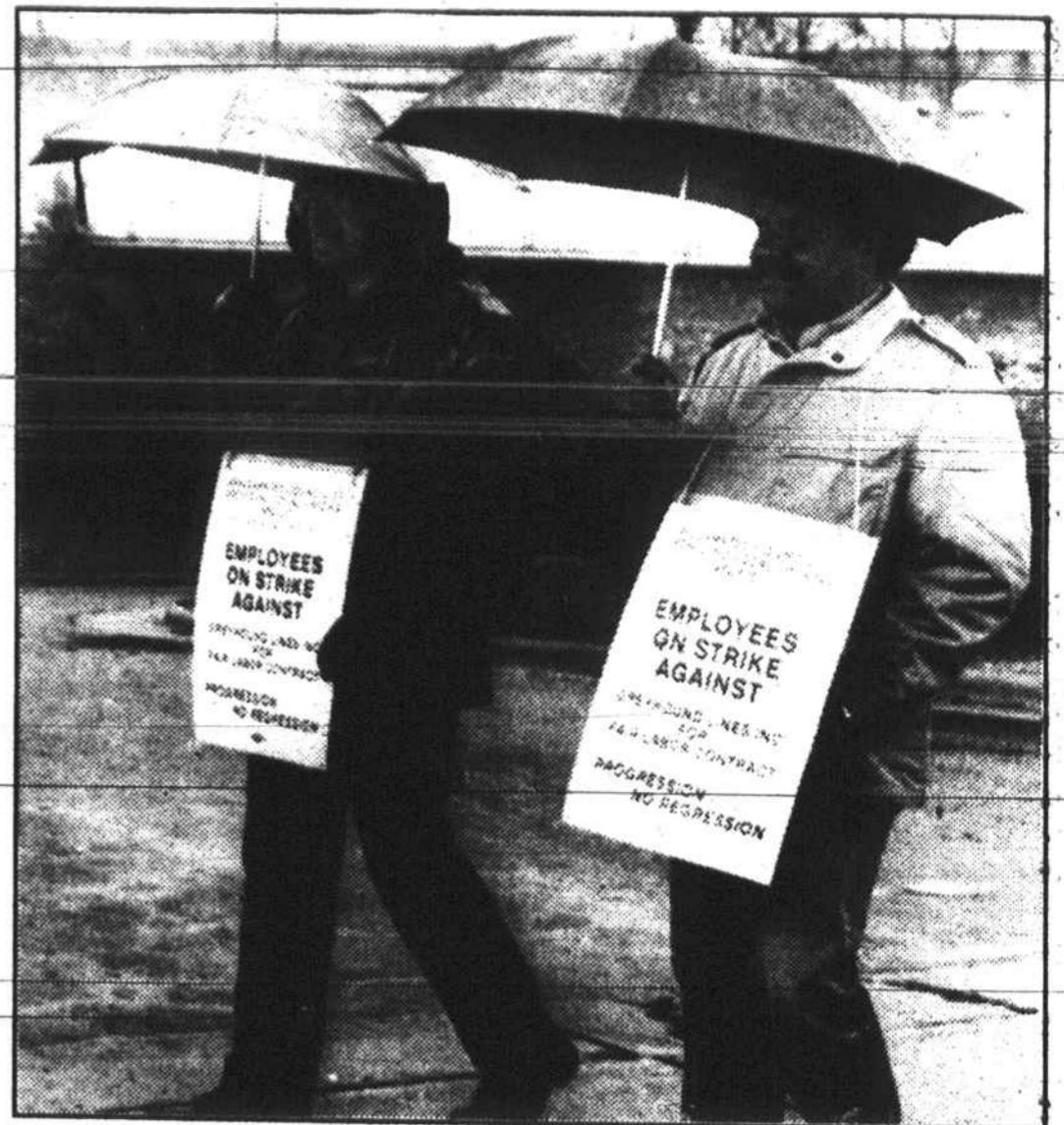
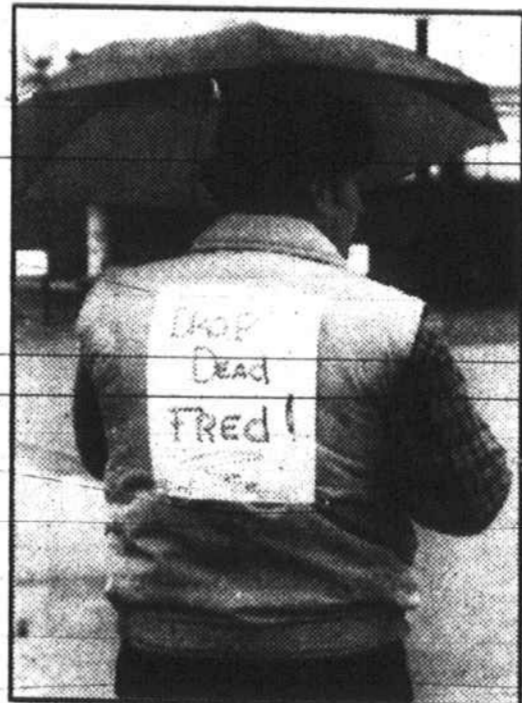
A Monday Wall Street Journal report said Greyhound won't permit strikers to use their seniority to regain positions now being filled by permanent replacements and union members who cross the picket line. In that report Lannie said, "This is not something that we want to do. This is a defensive measure to allow us (Greyhound) to operate our business in the face of an irrational strike."

"They've hired scabs to do our jobs," yelled Harlan Hawks, a striking driver from Pilot Mountain, adding, "they better know, Hitler took Poland too but he had to give it back," a reference to Greyhound CEO, Fred Currey, who strikers accuse of trying to bust their union.

Among the many problems that striking union members say they have with the proposed contract is that the company would lease work to independent contractors. Union members say that would cause the loss of more than 2,000 jobs. So for now both sides in the labor dispute wait to see

who will be first to come back to the bargaining table to resume talks.

After the last strike in 1983, Greyhound ridership dropped 33% according to company officials. They attributed that too low morale in the wake of that walkout. Greyhound officials say since that strike, the company had been making a comeback and was building its ridership. Local union members say this strike will severely damage that comeback effort.



Staff Photo  
Above, striking employees walk the picket lines in the rain. At left, one of the strikers bears a personal message for Fred Currey, president and CEO of Greyhound, whom the strikers feel is trying to bust up their union.

# Skyland goes to WRC Holding Co.; developer plans innovative program

By TONYA V. SMITH  
Chronicle Staff Writer

A day care center staffed by senior citizens and an educational institute will be housed in a renovated Skyland School, said the developer who last week bid \$50,000 on the abandoned property that was once to be conveyed by the city-county school board to the Delta Fine Arts Center for \$1.

William R. Carter Jr. of W.R.C. Holding Company Inc. reigned as high bidder last Friday in a field of seven others vying for Skyland. Monday night the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education accepted his bid and Mr. Carter's company will take over ownership of the land, which sits on about 19 acres off East End Boulevard, when the sale closes - approximately 60 days from March 2.

Mr. Carter will utilize the annex portion of Skyland for the day care center, he said. The project will be patterned after the Union City Day Care Center in Union City, N.J. The developer said he has been negotiating with Dana Berry, the director of the New Jersey center, for four months. The center was highlighted during a recent episode of "Inside

Edition," a television magazine show. The development test scores of children attending the Union City center increased by 20 points because of the interaction between the children and senior citizens, and the linking of "the talents and guts of those in the twilight of life to the needs of those in the dawn of life," said Alpha Hicks, who is working with Mr. Carter on the project.

He and his colleagues have considered the findings of recent studies of East Winston, Mr. Carter told school board members, and their plans for Skyland will address concerns raised in those documents.

"I take this project close to heart," Mr. Carter said. "I get goose bumps every time I go by it. I do want to be the person to develop this property and it will be developed in a manner to spark further economic development in that area."

Putting an end to all rumors that he planned to demolish parts of the school, Mr. Carter said his sole aim is to preserve the East Winston community landmark. It will take about three to four months to renovate the annex and prepare it for the day care center, Mr. Carter said. He declined to estimate how much the renovations would cost. However, developer

David Shannon scrapped his plan to renovate the facility for Family Services' Headstart program in 1989, saying it was too expensive an undertaking. Vandals have stripped Skyland of its electrical wiring, and the building has been engulfed in flames and overtaken with asbestos.

The proposed educational institute will be developed shortly after the day care center is in operation, said Ms. Hicks, who manages data communications acquisitions for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

"The mission of the educational institute will be to provide a facility which houses all major support systems which are essential to the total development of the 'at-risk' individual, family unit and community; and to teach all essential skills for living," Ms. Hick explained. "All areas which engender self-esteem, promote the desire to achieve and succeed, and instill the desire for self determination, will receive major emphasis."

"The needs of the individual/community will be met either through programs developed in-house, agencies residing in-house, or via referral to other agencies."

Education and training, economic development and employment will be the institute's primary areas of

focus, Ms. Hicks added. She outlined the project's objectives as follows:

- \*to provide a facility which houses community-based, non-profit organizations under one umbrella in order that skills for living can be taught most effectively and efficiently,
- \*to create an atmosphere conducive to creativity and innovation

that will effectively meet the complex and evolutionary challenges of providing quality and relevant education to the "at-risk" population, and,

- \*to effectively utilize existing professional and corporate human resources to provide quality, practitioner-oriented training and development.

The institute's aims will be to educate members of the East Winston community with relevant skills for employment, Ms. Hicks said. That would include teaching vocational skills, personal computer classes, supplementing students' math and sci-

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# WSSU coffers boosted by RJR gift

By ROBIN BARKSDALE  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Citing a historical partnership between his company and Winston-Salem State University, RJR Tobacco Co. chair and CEO James W. Johnston Tuesday made a \$4 million contribution to the school's centennial campaign fund.

In announcing the largest contribution ever presented to the university, Mr. Johnston recalled the partnership formed nearly 100 years ago by RJR founder, Richard Joshua Reynolds, and university founder, Simon Green Atkins. In 1891, the tobacco entrepreneur contributed \$500 to Mr. Atkins to help fund his Slater Industrial Academy. Mr. John-

ston said while that \$500 donation may not seem significant by today's standards, that same amount today would translate into a \$71,000 contribution. He said that his company's decision to give the school \$4 million is a move to demonstrate its commitment to the partnership formed 100 years ago.

"Both Dr. Simon Green Atkins and Richard Joshua Reynolds had agrarian roots. And both left their family farms to pursue a dream. For Dick Reynolds, it was a tobacco company; for Dr. Atkins, improving education," Mr. Johnston said, addressing the crowd of more than 200 people assembled at WSSU's Anderson Center. "Both men were blessed with vision and the drive to see their

dreams become realities...The relationship between RJR and this university started with Dr. Atkins and Dick Reynolds but it did not end there."

The multi-million dollar gift from Reynolds will go toward the university's Centennial Campaign, which has set a goal of \$55 million. The campaign committee outlined several urgent needs. Portions of the Reynolds' contribution will be used to address those needs. In its case study the committee said that funds are urgently needed because "qualified area students are choosing other schools because of a lack of scholarships and programs...faculty salaries are not competitive, students are

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# Controversy still surrounds census

By TONYA V. SMITH  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Probably more controversy has overshadowed the taking of the April 1, 1990, census than any of its predecessors.

Mayors of some of the country's largest cities, including New York Mayor David Dinkins, are threatening to sue the federal government if their municipalities are again the victims of under counts. The city leaders are concerned with the under counts because they result in lower fund allocations.

The Twin City's chapter of the NAACP was asked to help with the census but because one of its members was reportedly fired for incompetence, and the numerous other reports it has heard about Afro-Americans being turned down for jobs, the organization has opted not to cooperate with census officials until it can definitely establish that discrimina-

tion is not taking place.

"There's a lot of misinformation circulating in the black community," said the Rev. William S. Falls last week during an NAACP Executive Board meeting. "People in low income areas are being told if they work a census job their checks and food stamps will be cut off. They're being told that if they cooperate with census takers, that the amount of their AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) and welfare checks will decrease, their rent will go up and the government will take their food stamps."

Diana Williams Cotton, the third vice president of the local NAACP and director of the organization's fifth region, was a recruit operations supervisor in charge of a seven-county district for the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of the Census.

"They fired Diana Williams Cotton," Mazic Woodruff, an executive board member, inserted during the

meeting. "They said she was incompetent."

"We're not going to cooperate with them (census officials), if they're not hiring blacks," President Marshall said. "We can't work with them if they are discriminating against people who want to work."

Mr. Cotton declined to comment.

Census officials maintain that they are doing everything they can to hire Afro-Americans. "I can't discuss any specifics about personnel matters but you should know that all management positions are hired through the regional census office and not here," said Lynda Seymour, district office manager stationed in Winston-Salem. "I don't know anything about people being told incorrect information about AFDC or food stamps. We know there has been some confusion about what the ruling of those federal offices were. My understanding is

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