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Golden Anniversary

St. Benedict Catholic Church celebrates 50 years of service.

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WSSU faces major challenge for Homecoming contest.

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50 cents

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Spook-tacular!



Sierra Williamson (left) and Tenisha Raquel Mitchell just love their Halloween jack-o'-lanterns. (See story on A6.)

photo by L.B. Speas Jr

Spencer Classic bumped at new coliseum for rodeo

by RUDY ANDERSON
Chronicle Managing Editor

The Frank Spencer Classic basketball tournament has been bumped from the Joel Coliseum in favor of the Longhorn Rodeo and moved to the coliseum annex (the old coliseum). That move has angered some of the coaches and their players who have been looking forward to playing there.

Coliseum and city officials say the change was made because of a scheduling conflict between the rodeo and Wake Forest University. Because of an agreement between the city and the university, the February date the rodeo wanted could not be granted. It was during the same time period that Wake Forest was scheduled to play a basketball game against North Carolina State, according to coliseum and convention center director, Mike Solomon. Wake Forest has first booking preference for event dates during basketball season which runs from November through March.

Solomon said the rodeo took the Dec. 28 through 30 dates. The Frank Spencer Classic dates have been set for Dec. 27 through 29. So the Classic was moved to the annex.

"It's unfortunate but we had to make some trade-offs," said assistant city manager Tom Fredericks. "We

had to look at the economic reality. We anticipated that the potential seating demand for the rodeo to be greater than that of the basketball tournament. But we tried to come up with an arrangement that would allow the event to be as successful as it usually is." Fredericks

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Commission examines coliseum management

by RUDY ANDERSON
Chronicle Managing Editor

The ability of the Convention Center and Coliseum management to attract major events to the coliseum is being questioned and members of the Convention Center and Coliseum Commission want some answers.

Robert J. Egleston, chair of the commission, told the Chronicle Wednesday after an executive session Tuesday that the commission will begin examining coliseum personnel to determine if they

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Local tragedies prompt NAACP police review

by RUDY ANDERSON
Chronicle Managing Editor

The shooting death of a former Winston-Salem State student, and an alleged physical assault on a female have prompted the Winston-Salem chapter of the NAACP to establish a review committee to determine if law enforcement officers are violating the rights of African-Americans.

The local chapter approved the eight-member committee Oct. 24. That group, chaired by retired Alcohol Law Enforcement officer, Harry James, will meet monthly to investigate the complaints of alleged police brutality filed with the local branch.

James said the Tommy Joe Witcher shooting death April 20 on Patterson Avenue, and the alleged police assault on Thelma Westbrook in Happy Hill Gardens, August 17, are the initial cases upon which the review committee will focus.

"There's a possibility that the Witcher case may be in violation of civil rights statutes. Even though the local district attorney exonerated the police and sheriff's departments, the F.B.I. may find other-

wise," James said.

James said if the committee finds that a citizens' complaint is legitimate then the matter will be brought before the officer's immediate supervisor with a request for an internal investigation. If the matter is not resolved at that level then the committee will ask for help from the State Bureau of Investigation, or the Federal Bureau of Investigation, depending upon the circumstances.

James said a complainant's statements to the committee will be recorded. And he said if there are any witnesses to the incident they should be brought before the committee. If any charges are ultimately filed, he said members of the committee would accompany the person wishing to file charges against the officer to the warrant office and follow the case through the court system. He said the committee would also keep files on the complaints.

Several key members of the city and county administrations have been notified about the review committee, including assistant city manager Al Beatty, police chief George Sweat through assistant chief Oliver Redd, Major E.O. Alston of the Sheriff's Department



"They know we are out here watching them"

- Harry James -

and Forsyth County Clerk of Court Frances Storey.

Alderman Vivian Burke, chair of the board's public safety committee, said she welcomed the NAACP's review committee.

"They have a right. If they should find something," Burke said, "I would hope that we have people in this community who will look at what they are saying and keep an open mind. And that the people in charge will take appropriate action if necessary."

James said he was not sure at

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Ministry running out of funds for area's needy

by RUDY ANDERSON
Chronicle Managing Editor

The agency set up to help people falling through the so-called safety net is itself on the brink of falling and is taking severe measures to stay in business.

Crisis Control Ministry faced with a steadily increasing caseload and a decreasing operating budget has been forced to cut back on the services it has been able to provide to area's poor and needy.

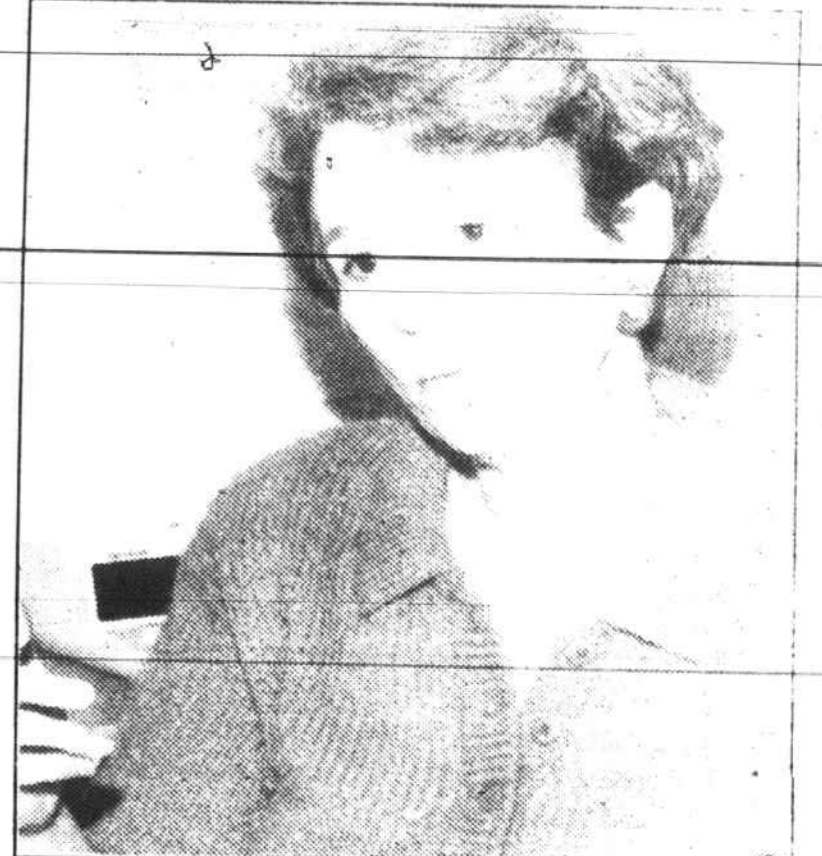
"We knew this was coming. We just didn't know how bad it was going to be," said Rev. Ginny Britt, Crisis Control's executive director. "This is the worse it's been for the ministry since 1973 when we opened. And there's no quick fix."

The ministry has faced a continuous 11 per cent increase in cases handled over the last three years. The cost for caring for the thousands of people in need has climbed from more than \$775,000 in 1987 to nearly \$1.2 million this year. So far, more than 17,000 cases have been processed and the year has not yet ended. Next year's projected budget needs will exceed \$1.3 million.

Most of those in need are the elderly, the working poor, and the unemployed. Many of those in the last two categories are comprised of families living one day at a time.

"It is a great irony that the ministry birthed in 1973 to assist those individuals who did not fit any other organization's 'guidelines' has, as of October 29, 1990, adopted guidelines," Britt said.

By her own admission those guidelines are



Virginia Britt says the austerity measures are necessary to keep Crisis Control's doors open.

extremely harsh. For example, fuel and floor heaters will now only be provided for the elderly (60 or over), the sick and disabled, or families with children six years of age or younger. Anyone else outside those categories may not get the help. There will be a \$75 cap placed on rent assistance requests. Food will no longer be provided to childless people who appear healthy, are not working and under age 50, and have access to food programs like the Salvation Army or the Samaritan Soup Kitchen.

The ministry's pharmacy will no longer purchase and dispense any medication that is not life sustaining. The pharmacist in charge will make any decisions on which prescriptions to fill and will call the physician

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Republicans send misleading message

Chronicle Staff Report

Voters in the Winston-Salem area have received post cards from the North Carolina Republican Party giving them misleading information about their eligibility to vote if they have moved recently.

The card states, "When you enter the voting enclosure, you will be asked to state your name, residence, and period of residence in that precinct. You must have lived in that precinct for at least the previous 30 days, or you will not be allowed to vote."

Kathie Chastam-Cooper, supervisor of the Forsyth

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Southern National defends CRA loan record

By TRACY L. PROSSER
Chronicle Staff Writer

Southern National Bank has defended its loan record to low and moderate income areas as required by the Community Reinvestment Act.

James F. Byrne, Southern National's Senior Executive Vice President and the chief administrative officer in charge of CRA activities in North Carolina and South Carolina said Southern National has never received an unsatisfactory rating from the Comptroller of the Currency with respect to CRA compliance. He said the bank is getting ready to meet with the South Carolina and North Carolina branches of the NAACP. After the people responsible for the letter of protest to the Comptroller of the Currency see the bank's record, he is sure they will drop the protest.

Since the late 1970s, banks and other financial institutions have been rated on their performance in serving the needs of the communities they serve.

The Community Reinvestment Act of 1977, a

"We've got a strong track record and we're ready to defend it"

- Jim Stewart -

part of the Community Development Act, requires federal financial supervisory agencies to use their authority to encourage financial institutions to meet the credit and deposit needs of the entire community

served by the bank including low and moderate income neighborhoods.

Whenever a financial institution makes an application to the federal agency, for example, to open a new branch office or merge with another bank, the agency takes the rating into consideration when deciding whether to approve the application. For national banks, the regulating agency is the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States.

Clifton Poole, deputy comptroller, said the banks are assessed according to twelve criteria. The banks are rated on their efforts to ascertain the credit needs of the communities they serve, efforts to communicate with the community about their services, the geographic distribution of credit applications, their

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