



Pump it up

John McKnight emerges as top-notch bodybuilder.

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At the top

CME church names second female presiding elder.

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"I've done nothing wrong. I'm very confident this will be shown and proven."

— Larry Womble



Larry Womble: Calm before the storm

By SHERIDAN HILL
Chronicle Staff Writer

Alderman Larry Womble lives in a small brick home in the heart of his precinct, the Southeast Ward. A small dogwood stands alone in the closely cropped yard; a few sparse boxwoods dot the front of the house.

Two sofas crowd the narrow living room. They are long enough to accommodate Womble's 6'4" frame. The crushed velvet upholstery is worn, as if he has spent many late hours working here, on the phone with constituents, making late-night calls to officials; or talking with parents of students at Kennedy Middle School, where he is assistant principal.

The brick hearth is crowded with souvenirs from

four African trips: a stringed instrument made of an animal's horn fitted on the neck of a hollowed gourd, a fur-trimmed wooden case for a dangerously sharp spear, several masks, bronze-plated figurines, and two etchings of Masai warriors.

Womble stands and reaches for one of the Masai prints. He does not try to camouflage his height: his back is always erect, his jaw level. It is an appropriate posture from which to face the sudden crisis in his life.

A four-year FBI investigation ended this spring when Womble and three other local black leaders were charged in a 28-count indictment alleging racketeering, conspiracy, extortion, and money-laundering.

"The Masai live out in the bushes," he says, admiring the noble face, its high cheekbones and

squared jaw. "They are hired as body guards for people that live in the city. They sharpen their teeth with files."

"This is the first time anything like this has happened to me. It has truly humbled me to see the way people have come out in support."

Below the drawing, small print reads, "The Masai are known and respected for their legendary courage. Before the advent of the white man, they dominated East Africa. Now they are predominantly a

pastoral tribe, roaming the land."

In the months to come, Womble will need the courage of a Masai warrior: On October 21, he will be tried on charges of extorting money to influence his vote on the board of aldermen. He faces 120 years in prison and a \$1.5 million fine.

An FBI informant says that in 1988 Womble asked for \$10,000 "to be of service whenever he needed." One source close to the case maintains that Womble did not solicit funds; rather, that he was approached and was offered money, which he planned to use to offset expenses for a dinner for N.C. Black Elected Municipal Officials and to start a scholarship fund for black athletes.

Womble, along with former alderman Patrick T.

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N.A.T.I.O.N.A.L NEWS

Clark blasts school system

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Noted bat-wielding and bullhorn-toting principal Joe Clark took swings at the nation's public education system and affirmative action during a speech before southern lawmakers.

Clark, a black Republican from N.J. who was the focus of the movie "Lean on Me," told more than 1,000 delegates to the Southern Legislative Conference that parents should be given money by federal and state governments to send their children to the school of their choice.

Gates says he'll leave in April

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Nearly five months after the videotaped beating of a motorist, Police Chief Daryl F. Gates finally agreed to step down, but in his own time: next April.

"People of this city at long last can have this trauma behind them," said Mayor Tom Bradley. "We suffered. Our image has suffered on a nationwide basis and around the world." The tough-talking Gates fought tears and his voice faltered as he told his officers in a videotaped message Monday of his plans.

Liberian refugees dying of disease

WATERLOO, Sierra Leone (AP) — Liberian refugees risked everything to escape civil war at home and a rebel invasion of this neighboring country. They are safe now, but some are dying of disease.

Measles, diarrhea and malnutrition are the main killers and most victims are children, said James Collier, chairman of the Liberian Refugees Committee. Collier pointed to a cemetery next to the camp, which shelters 5,500 people, and two dozen had died since May.

Cotton Club murder trial closes

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An ex-girlfriend of a prominent Hollywood producer and three former bodyguards were convicted of murder today in the 1983 "Cotton Club" slaying of a New York theatrical producer.

However, Karen "Laynie" Greenberger and co-defendant Robert Lowe were convicted of second-degree murder, thus escaping a possible death sentence.



On top of the world

Nyree Cook and Brian Reynold Davis were recently chosen as Mr. and Miss Black Teenage World, Sunday, July 21 at the M.C. Benton Convention Center during the Black Teenage World Scholarship Pageant. Cook is a native of Virginia and Davis is a native of North Carolina. As winners of the Black Teenage World Scholarship Pageant, each will receive a four-year scholarship to the historically black college or university of their choice.

COMMON VISION Hope for East Winston?

By SHERIDAN HILL
Chronicle Staff Writer

Two weeks ago the Forsyth Community Development Council released a strategic development plan for the county. The report, entitled "Common Vision," marks the first time that a plan for East Winston development has been formally included in the county plan.

Projects named for East Winston economic development include:

- monitor progress of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard extension
- monitor progress of 14th St. widening
- recruit three tenants for New Walkertown Shopping Center
- recruit three tenants for Eastway Plaza Specialty Shopping Center
- study the street network in East Winston

Allen Joines, Director of Development for the city, pointed out that a number of the programs in the plan are already underway.

"Putting them together gives them the support of the entire community, which is essential," said Joines this week.

Nancy Young, Director of Corporate Affairs for Sara Lee Corporation and treasurer for the East Winston Community Development Corporation (CDC), also called for widespread support of the plan.

"People who don't live in East Winston don't realize how important development in that area is to the entire community. Look at what happens when a city gets desertion in the downtown area," said Young. "Each part of the city makes up the whole."

Other suggested plans for East Winston include a library branch and a Forsyth Technical Community College satellite campus, re-developing or demolishing Skyland School, and construction of 15 homes in Lake Park subdivision.

Also in the plan are suggestions that address minority business development, minority employment opportunity, venture capital, and educational needs including developing Winston-Salem State University as a major regional institution with masters-level programs.

The Forsyth Community Develop-

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Improving upon success

Parks joins local UNCF

By YVETTE N. FREEMAN
Chronicle Staff Writer

The local office of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) has a new assistant area development director.

James Parks, a native of Kannapolis, NC, assumed his new position in April of this year. He was formerly with Miller Brewing Company as a marketing/promotions manager.

Parks has a number of ideas in mind to help improve the fundraising campaign of the UNCF. "There are a lot of things that I would like to see done. But at the same time, I must say that Winston-Salem has had, for a number of years, a very good campaign with some very dedicated volunteers. There are some special events which we would like

to add to the program this year in Winston-Salem, and hopefully that will improve it. But we're trying to improve upon something that's already very successful," he stated. He added that there are about four to five "sizable promotions on the drawing board right now," all of which may or may not result in major local campaigns. But he said, "We think they are things which will definitely give us considerable more visibility and increase our fundraising ability in the local area."

Parks said that he would also like to see a few changes in the fundraising campaigns. "In our fundraising efforts, I don't think we have taken full advantage of the things that our graduates have done," said Parks. "There are UNCF graduates all

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Photo by Mike Cunningham
James Parks is the new assistant area development director of the local UNCF office.