

Crime rate

Continued from page A1

Johnnie Mae Ingram, president of the Resident's Council in Kimberly Park, Sara Webster, president of the Happy Hills Council, and Doris Coble, vice president of the Cleveland Avenue homes Council, all agreed with Black that the program has made a difference in reducing the drug trade and violent crime that once plagued their neighborhoods.

"We're just doing great over there (in Kimberly Park) with the help of the police department," said Webster proudly. And if it weren't for them, I myself, wouldn't be over there. But now they're doing a great

job and we are enjoying sitting on our porche."

Both Wood and Chief Sweat were modest in receiving the praise, maintaining that it was the residents working together along with the police department that really made the difference.

Chief Sweat also said that the real answer to the problem with crime is in prevention rather than enforcement.

"I think we've got to start putting the dollars where prevention's at, and save some young lives before they get to us (the police)," he said.

Winston-Salem is the only city in the Triad where the number of crimes decreased in 1991.

Between January and June, the number of crimes dropped from 8,228 to 8,122. Greensboro and High Point's crime rates both increased during the same time period.

The Community Action Group was first organized by Mayor Wood in May of 1990 to empower the residents of Winston-Salem's public housing communities to respond to the violence and conditions in their communities with the help and support of all of the city's resources.

Carver

Continued from page A1

Several punches were thrown, and other white students joined in the fight, including the nephew of Gorrell Pierce, a former grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan and a member of the American Nazi Party.

In trying to stop the fight, Ben Robinson, the brother of Carver's assistant principal, was hit in back of the head with a piece of brick, requiring eight stitches. Clemmer said Robinson was knocked down but did not lose consciousness. One of the students involved had a partial tooth broken.

"I know there's good in these kids," said Clemmer, "because most of them came back Friday at 4:30 to turn themselves in, both black and

white, and to explain their involvement. I think when they heard Mr. Robinson got hurt, they really felt bad."

Seventeen of the boys met with Clemmer all day Monday in the media center, discussing the incident and helping to decide on their punishment. "They got down to it," said Clemmer. "They said this is what made me mad, when you said that, and they really cleared the air. They were gentlemen all day long. They felt that if any one of them were to be charged, all of them should." Most of the students were suspended for four days. The student who threw the brick has not been identified yet, but Clemmer

says he should be made to face legal charges.

Clemmer said there has not been a focus on race relations at Carver before. "We knew maybe two or three percent of the students had those problems, and we tried to deal with it on a one-on-one basis. This caught me by surprise. Maybe we have a bigger problem than I thought."

Carver's school improvement committee was to meet yesterday to discuss new approaches to racial and cultural issues in the school.

"We're not ashamed to admit we have a problem, but we will do something about it," declared Clemmer.

Southern accents

Continued from page A5

One day when I was 16, a white salesman for the Nashville Life Insurance Co. came to see my mother. I answered the doorbell. He demanded, "Hey boy, ah wanna see Elgeitha." Noticing his Southern accent and his calling my mother by her first name, I instantly flew into a rage and screamed, "You disrespected my mother...damn you...you white son-of-a-bitch," trying to get at him through the screen door.

I tried to open the door that I had opened for years, but I was out

of control and couldn't get it open. The startled man ran to his car across the street and quickly drove away.

My mother, who had never heard me use profanity, ran downstairs and gave me a hug. I was still shaking and my heart was pounding. Uncle Billy, who probably heard the confrontation, came and patted me on the shoulder.

Some years earlier, my mother took us boys to nearby Quindaro Kas., to see the statue of John

Brown, the white abolitionist who fought and died to end slavery. She told us she loved him but hated Robert E. Lee and the Confederate flag.

I have read slave narratives and I become angry with each reading. Lyndon Johnson and Jimmy Carter, both liberal white southerners, helped somewhat; but maybe you will understand why every time I hear a white man with a Southern accent, my first impulse is to "get" him.

Washington

Continued from page A5

shore up the foundations of the economy so that there will be enough jobs in the future.

It's been estimated that for every available job, there are six to ten people who are unemployed, discouraged workers, or on welfare.

There just aren't enough jobs to go around, and because of that we have millions of people who are permanently poor and millions more who have lost their jobs and can't work their way back into the middle class.

Congress should start now to push through programs that create jobs.

There's plenty it can do, from targeted community service jobs for urban youth to conservation jobs in rural areas to rebuilding the infrastructure.

Our roads and streets and bridges are falling apart, so the quickest way to move people from the unemployment lines to the production lines is to get an infrastructure repair program under way — a main feature of the Urban League's Marshall Plan for America.

Beefed up training programs and share-the-work programs ought to be considered by the private sector, too.

Keeping employment high isn't

just Washington's job, but the government can help private employers and unions to implement plans that save jobs.

The Administration should get into the act as well. It can't just assume that the market will right itself because it won't.

The closest it's come to a domestic policy is the futile fight for capital gains tax breaks for the affluent.

With a presidential election campaign starting up and a recession-induced mood of angry populism raging in the land, the White House needs to show leadership and help get people back to work.

NCAS Endowment Fund gives grants

Six North Carolina organizations and individuals have been selected to receive grants from the North Carolina Amateur Sports Endowment Fund.

The NCAS Endowment Fund was established to promote amateur athletics in North Carolina. It distributes grants twice a year. The endowment is funded from profits associated with U.S. Olympic Festival '87 and is managed by the Greater Triangle Community Foundation.

In the past two years, the NCAS Endowment Fund has given over \$75,000 to amateur sports organizations in North Carolina.

The organizations receiving grants in December 1991 are Winston-Salem Parks and Recreation Department (Winston-Salem), therapeutic recreation program for disadvantaged youths (\$2,000); Boys and Girls Club (Raleigh), Olympic Sports Program, (\$2,000); Molly Terry (Davidson), triathlete training, (\$1,750); Fernando Cardenas Jr. (Apex), training for the Olympics in equestrian, (\$2,000); Edge Kids Foundation (Raleigh), tennis program for disadvantaged youths, (\$2,000); and Wake County Special Olympics (Wake County), training for mentally/physically impaired athletes for gymnastics and equestrian competition.

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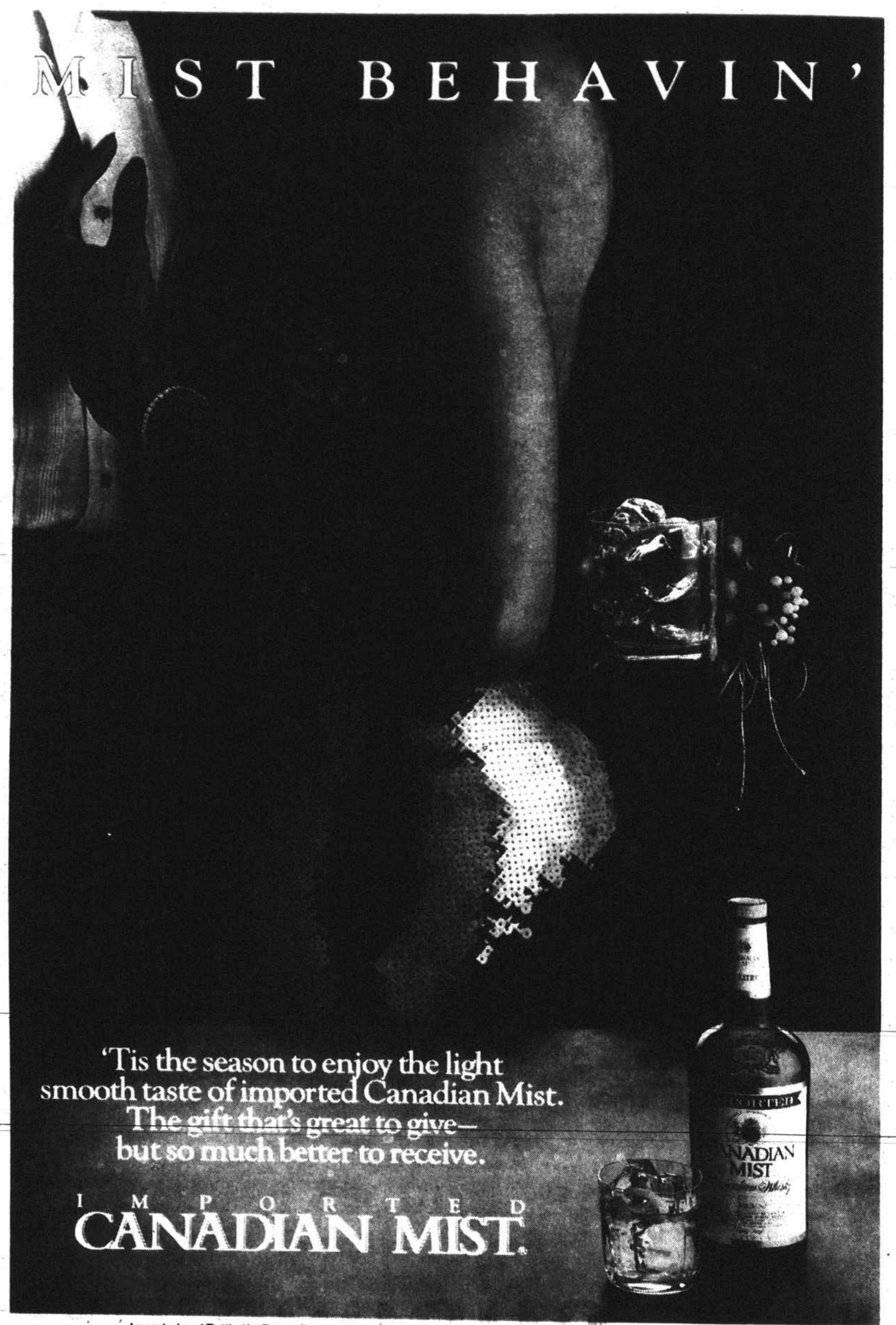
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