



**Vote
May
5th**

Our choices
Chronicle endorses candidates
in selected state and local races.
PAGE A4



Success story
Winston-Salem native is now
host of network program in N.Y.
PAGE B1

Winston-Salem Chronicle

75 cents

"The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly"

VOL. XVIII, NO. 36

L.A. cops acquitted in King beating

▲ After seven days of deliberations, the jury, which included no blacks, found white officers innocent

SIMI VALLEY, Calif. (AP) — Four white Los Angeles police officers were acquitted Wednesday of assault charges in the videotaped beating of black motorist Rodney King, a case that shocked the nation and toppled the city's police chief.

declared on that count.

The verdicts, in the seventh day of deliberations, came after a year of political uproar sparked by the graphic videotape of a black man being beaten by white officers, denounced in many quarters as brutality.

The officers faced four to 7 1/2 years in prison if convicted on all charges.

The trial lasted nearly three months in a case that strained race relations in Los Angeles and forced the resignation announcement of Police Chief Daryl Gates.

The jury deadlocked on a charge against Officer Laurence Powell of using excessive force.

Powell, 29 and the others — Sgt. Stacey Koon, 41, and officers Timothy Wind, 32, Theodore Briseno, 39

— were acquitted of all others. They were charged with assault with a deadly weapon and excessive force by an officer under color of authority. Koon and Powell also were charged with filing a false police report, and Koon with being an accessory after the fact.

Please see page A3

Sumler admits to using monies

▲ Consultant on trial says he solicited money for charities but can't say where the money went

By SHERIDAN HILL
Chronicle Assistant Editor

In the on-going political corruption trial of three black leaders, political consultant Rodney Sumler took the witness stand Tuesday in his own defense — but his testimony did not seem to further the case for his innocence, since he seemed unclear and confused about incidents surrounding the



Pictured (l-r): The Rev. Lee Faye Mack, her attorney Gregg Davis, consultant Rodney Sumler, and his wife Ann Sumler pay close attention to the Minister Louis Farrakhan, national spokesman for the Nation of Islam, who spoke at the M.C. Benton Convention Center in defense of the "Winston-Salem Four."

Please see page A2

Farrakhan warns of conspiracy

▲ Nation of Islam leader charges U.S. government of conspiring against black leaders

By SAMANTHA MCKENZIE
Chronicle Staff Writer

The message the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan brought to Winston-Salem was loud and clear: The American government has plotted to destroy black leadership on a nationwide scale.

"Here is a government that lies to the American people. A government who spends millions of dollars on war and lies to promote war for the benefit of the wealthy and to the detriment of the poor," Farrakhan said to a crowd of more than 3,000 people who packed the lower level auditorium at

Please see page A3

Candidates make final push before May 5

▲ 12th Congressional District candidates bump heads on issues one week before primary

By SAMANTHA MCKENZIE
Chronicle Staff Writer

With less than a week away from the May 5 primary, five candidates for the 12th Congressional District got their last chance to debate health care, unemployment and welfare reform; but it was the question on Bush's stand on withholding loan guarantees that sent the candidates to opposite ends of the issues.

The forum was held at the R. J. Reynolds Center on Winston Salem State University's campus and was sponsored by the Model United Nations and

the Positive Student Awareness Association — two campus-based groups geared to educating students on international and national issues.

Questions directed to the candidates were generated by students, the audience and invited panelist, D. Smith, president and CEO of the Urban League.

Candidates bumped heads when the question of withholding loan guarantees from Israel arose. Greensboro Councilman Earl F. Jones called President Bush a racist and said the U.S. should continue giving Israel the guarantees.

"(Bush) is the most racist president

we've had. We must be leery when George Bush says he wants to withhold loan guarantees from them. There is a reason for that," Jones stated.

Melvin L. Watt and State Rep. H. M. "Mickey" Michaux also agreed that the U.S. should not withhold the guarantees, stating that Israel has been consistent in repaying its debts.

"I don't support withholding loan guarantees from the State of Israel. They have been our best creditors," said Michaux.

But Larry D. Little and George C. Jones, the only Republican represented, said that they sided with Bush on the issue. Little said the U.S. must offer fair and balanced treatment to Israel and the Arab countries. He also criticized Amer-

ica's foreign policy, calling it "misguided."

"It has to be balanced. We can't have a policy that's tipped and lop-sided to one of them. The Palestinians have a legitimate right to a homeland," said Little.

On the issue of high unemployment for African-American youth, Little suggested that the state give incentives for businesses to relocate. Little said during the Reagan era, many companies took their business out of the country. Watt agreed with Little that employers should be given an incentive to relocate into the inner cities.

Candidates commended the audi-

Please see page A8



ON THE AVANT-GARDE
By TANG NIVRI

Jackson leaves the Democratic party!

If I were Jesse Jackson, I'd join the Republican party right now, before it's too late. Yes sir, if I were the good reverend, I'd pack my bags and get the hell out of Democratic Dodge before sundown.

I'd do just as Ronald Reagan, George Wallace, Strom Thurmond, Bill Bennett, and a whole host of other turncoats, who, when asked why they left the Democratic party, simply responded, "we didn't leave the party, the party left us."

Oh how true, how true, how true.

There aren't the best of times for our friend, the good Reverend Jackson. During this, the season of the junior-center prom, Jackson has found himself without a date — forced to go it alone — ding, as it were, dragging anybody he can to dance with him.

And if that were not shame enough, only one debutante has had the nerve to accept his invitation to dance.

Folks didn't come right out and say it to his face but a whole lot of 'em quietly snickered, as the would-be couple did its best imitation of Marlon Brando's *Last Tango in Paris*, for an audience looking for a Viennese waltz. It was an ugly site.

It is time for Jackson to call it quits. It is time for the brother to leave the Democratic party and declare victory. Time for the good reverend to work the other side of the aisle. Time to return to the party of Lincoln and of Frederick Douglass — to the party of his birth.

Saving New Souls!

Please see page A8

MHA focuses on 'Building Community'

▲ Focus of Mental Health Month series will be on male/female relationships and self-esteem

By YVETTE N. FREEMAN
Community News Editor

The Mental Health Association in Forsyth County, Inc. plans to sponsor a Mental Health Month Series during the month of May.

The series will focus on maleness, femaleness and relationships. The theme is "Building Community."

According to Brenda Pezzana, associate director of the Mental Health Association, "We will focus more on mental wellness and not so much on mental illness." She said that will include exploring healthy relationships, self-esteem,

doing things that make you feel good about yourself, and things that can give you piece of mind.

Throughout the month, a variety of speakers will address different topics relating to mental health in sessions geared towards men only and also sessions for women only. All sessions will be held at the Sawtooth Center for Visual Art, 226 N. Marshall St., from 7:30-9 p.m.

On May 5, two sessions will be held simultaneously at the Sawtooth Center. The session for men only, is entitled, "The Man of the 90s," and will be led by Dr. Richard Cook, a psycholo-

gist from the New Directions Treatment Center. Dr. Deboora Winfrey, assistant professor of psychology at Winston-Salem State University, will lead the women's session entitled, "The Woman of the 90s."

Two sessions will also be held on May 12. Dr. Stephen Boyd, associate professor of religion at Wake Forest University, will discuss "Men Relating to Each Other," in the men's session. Dr. Deborah Best, professor of psychology at Wake Forest University, will discuss "The Fantasy of the Superwoman."

Then on May 19, "Putting it Together: Women and Men Understanding and Relating to Each Other" will be presented for both men and women. Kim Hutchinson, RN, MSN, and assistant professor of nursing at Winston-Salem

State University will lead the discussion which will be in the form of a panel discussion or talk show. Presenters from the first two weeks will respond to questions.

To close out the series, the final session will focus on "The Significance of Building Community in a Complex/High Tech World." Becky and Dr. Ted Dougherty will lead the discussion. Dr. Dougherty is the director of the Pastoral Counseling Center of NC Baptist Hospital. Mrs. Dougherty is a former TV journalist.

All sessions will be free and open to the public, however reservations are required. For more information and/or reservations, call the Mental Health Association in Forsyth County at 723-9678.