

Crime prevention conference spurs dialogue

▲ Drug treatment agencies, police officers and students attended a two-day conference to discuss ways to reduce crime in the black communities

By SAMANTHA MCKENZIE
Chronicle Staff Writer

"I'm still hurting over the death of my friend who lost his life over a silly little argument with drug dealers," said the 15-year-old.

"And today I want to speak about my friend who died from a gun shot wound in the back," he continued. Robert Leach, a sophomore at Carver High School, got the attention of the small audience who attended the last session of the two-day crime prevention conference, titled, "Where Do We Go From Here?"

Leach was a student panelist on Friday, along with Bobby Smith, a senior at West Forsyth Senior High School; Karl Menefee, director of Workforce Development, Inc.; Avon Harding, director of WSSU Campus Security; and the Rev. Welford Wilson of Rocky Mount. The Rev. John Mendez, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, served as moderator for the discussion.

The conference, "Preventing Crime in the Black Community," held Thursday and Friday was sponsored by the North Carolina

Attorney General's Office and Winston-Salem State University.

Dr. Bernard F. Coleman, speaker for the morning session and diplomat-in-residence to the North Carolina Consortium for International/Intercultural Education, said "the lack of discipline" on children is much to blame for the crimes committed by the youth.

"The families have to do something. (The youth) are becoming the victims of a message," Coleman said.

Attending the conference were local drug/alcohol treatment agencies, police officers and students. While the conference, held at WSSU's Anderson Center, only drew a small audience of 100, it was successful in generating dialogue between the panelists and the audience on ways to reduce crime in the black neighborhoods.

Other topic discussions during the two-day conference included: 1) sociological analysis of black crime; 2) black institutions as historical immunizations against crime; 3) building safe neighborhoods; and, 4) developing a more positive self-image for youth.

Menefee tried to stress that

everyone should be a role model for someone else. "We need to stop looking for a role model and become one."

Menefee said that family unity and strength was the "key to it all," and that the "war on drugs is a joke."

"As long as money is being made on drugs, they'll keep bringing it in. And (blacks) are the ones taking the risk for a couple of \$100."

Winston-Salem police officers in the audience asked the two student panelists why young kids sold drugs and why they carry guns.

Smith told one officer that the youth carry guns for the same reason police officers did, "to protect yourself."

Leach said carrying guns has also become a fad to some youngsters.

Harding blamed alot of the violence occurring in the streets on television.

"Everything we watch is violent. It's cool to be tough. In some families the television has replaced a babysitter. Ask yourselves these questions, instead of these victims,"

he said referring to Smith and Leach. "They have been victimized by what we have exposed to them."

Attorney General Lacy Thornburg speaking at Thursday's opening session said: "Possibly the best thing we can do for our young people is to do all we can to keep them in school. Drop-outs have very little chance to make it in today's job market and often feel they have no choice but to earn a living through criminal activity."

"It is crucial that we break the cycle of violence which exists in far too many families," said Thornburg. He went on to say that drug dealers who bring the drugs into the country "are getting rich by poisoning thousands of our nation's young people each day."

"Black citizens are right to question a system that punishes street dealers while little effort is made to go after the bankers and financiers who profit most from the drug trade."

A similar conference was held in Fayetteville in January at the request of black businessmen and was sponsored by the Attorney General's office.

A 'moment of truth' that changed U.S. politics

By MIKE FEINSILBER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — She's not on any ballot, but Anita Hill seems to have become a force in the politics of 1992.

Her treatment — the hands of the Senate Judiciary Committee last October during hearings on Clarence Thomas' nomination to the Supreme Court still resonates. In Pennsylvania, Illinois and Iowa, women are seeking seats in the Senate as a result — two of them hoping to oust members of the Judiciary panel.

Political scientist James Foster believes the hearings one day may be regarded as pivotal, comparable to the Supreme Court's school desegregation decision of the 1950s or the civil rights struggle of the 1960s.

"I saw a group of pampered privileged white men closing ranks against a black woman," says Foster, who teaches classes in gender and politics at Oregon State University. "The hearings took on a symbolic significance for issues of race and gender that cut to the heart of American society."

Ms. Hill is a law professor at the University of Oklahoma.

Harriett Woods, president of the National Women's Political Caucus, calls the hearings "a moment of truth when a connection is made between private lives and public policy."

The hearings already are having an effect:

— In the three months following Ms. Hill's testimony, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission received 1,244 charges of sexual harassment — a 70 percent increase over the same period a year earlier.

— Organizations that raise money for women candidates report a surge in contributions.

"We've raised half a million dollars," says Jane Danowitz of Women's Campaign Fund. "We expected half of that if we were lucky."

The National Women's Political Caucus also says contributions have doubled.

Emily's List, which gives money to Democratic women,

anticipates tripling the \$1.5 million it collected in 1990.

— Three women seeking Senate seats say the treatment accorded Ms. Hill during the hearings was the stimulus for their candidacies.

Lynn Yeakel, who entered the Pennsylvania Senate race as an unknown, is in a neck-and-neck campaign for the Democratic nomination in Tuesday's primary, seeking the right to oppose Republican Sen. Arlen Specter.

During the hearings, Specter questioned Ms. Hill aggressively and accused her of committing "flat-out perjury."

In campaign commercials, Ms. Yeakel, ignored her primary opponent and used a moment of Specter's questioning, then asked voters: "Did this make you as angry as it made me?"

Cook County Recorder of Deeds Carol Moseley Braun says the way Ms. Hill was dealt with by the committee was what made her run. Braun upset Democratic Senate incumbent (and Clarence Thomas supporter) Alan Dixon in Illinois' primary, with the help of crossover votes from Republican women.

Voter Karen Twitchell of Houston, like a number of other out-of-state women, sent Ms. Braun a check for \$500, election records show. Why?

Her check was a response to the hearings, she said: "They were a disaster run by an all-white committee of older men."

In Iowa, a third Hill-inspired candidate, State Sen. Jean Lloyd-Jones is the likely Democratic nominee to oppose Republican Sen. Charles Grassley, one of Thomas' supporters on the Senate committee.

Some women's leaders say the committee's reaction to Ms. Hill's charge of sexual harassment — and, before that, the panel's inclination not to investigate — transcended the issue of Thomas' fitness to serve on the Supreme Court.

What burned into women's consciousness, said Ruth Mandel, director of the Center for the American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, was the image of a woman "bringing to the highest lawmaking body an experience

which not one on the panel seemed to understand or to have any sensitivity about."

Overnight, she said, women seized on a slogan to sum up their attitude toward the Senate: "They just don't get it."

Polling nationally shows that anger over Ms. Hill's treatment "has some real political teeth," especially among highly educated women, said pollster Andrew Kohut.

Said political consultant Hank Sheinkopf, who advised Ms. Braun in Illinois: "It is a cataclysmal incident that provoked increased vot-

ing and participation by women across all ethnic and demographic lines"

Harriett Woods said it has replaced the gender gap with what she calls a "gender-gender gap."

The gender gap marked the inclination of women voters to support Democrats who were perceived as more sympathetic to issues important to women. The "gender-gender gap," she said, is an inclination of women to support women candidates just because of their gender.

Judge Joe John

Elreta M. Alexander-Ralston
Greensboro, NC
Honorable W. Steven Allen, Jr.
Greensboro, NC
Sherrad Banks
Durham, NC
Honorable G. K. Butterfield
Wilson, NC
Laurence D. Colbert
Durham, NC
John A. Dusenbury, Jr.
Asheville, NC
Honorable Shirley L. Fulton
Charlotte, NC
Michael A. Grace
Winston-Salem, NC
Honorable George R. Greene
Raleigh, NC
Honorable Orlando Hudson
Durham, NC
R. Darrell Hancock
Salisbury, NC
Patrice A. Hinnant
Greensboro, NC
Walter T. Johnson, Jr.
Greensboro, NC
Harold L. Kennedy, III
Winston-Salem, NC
Harvey L. Kennedy
Winston-Salem, NC
Arthur L. Lane
Fayetteville, NC
Michael E. Lee
Greensboro, NC
Honorable William N. Martin
Greensboro, NC
Thomasine E. Moore
Jacksonville, NC
Romulus O. Murphy
Greensboro, NC
Ronald G. Penny
Elizabeth City, NC
Terry B. Richardson
Wilmington, NC
Barry S. Stanback
Greensboro, NC
Honorable Quentin T. Sumner
Rocky Mount, NC
Joseph A. Williams
Greensboro, NC

My Fellow North Carolinians:
Your participation in our election process is vital to our state's continued strength. Please vote in the May 5, 1992 primary election.

Regards,

Judge Joe John

Democrat
N.C.
Court
Of
Appeals

Dear Friend:

As lawyers and judges active in the judicial process, the individuals listed on this letterhead are writing to encourage your support of Superior Court Judge Joseph R. John, Sr., of Greensboro, as the Democratic nominee for the North Carolina Court of Appeals seat of retired Judge Eugene Phillips.

Judge Joe John has been active in our court system for over 20 years as a Legal Aid Lawyer, Assistant District Attorney, lawyer in private practice, and for the past 12 years, after appointment by Gov. James B. Hunt and re-election, as a District Court and Superior Court Judge.

During Judge John's career, we have observed that he has demonstrated a sensitivity to the problems faced by private citizens in dealing with the judicial process, has treated all persons who come before him with respect, and has shown, in thousands of court cases, that he possesses the intellect, maturity, and knowledge to judge a matter fairly and impartially, based on his experience and background in the law, without being affected by the nature of the controversy or by the identities of the parties involved.

Judge Joe John has the ability, the experience and the temperament to serve you as a Court of Appeals Judge. We highly recommend his candidacy. Please support Judge Joe John, and vote in the May 5, 1992, primary election.

Thank you for your consideration.


Best Personal Regards,

W. Steven Allen, Jr.
Honorable W. Steven Allen, Jr.

Elreta M. Alexander-Ralston
Elreta M. Alexander-Ralston

Michael A. Grace
Michael A. Grace

Paid for by: Judge Joe John Committee • P.O. Box 2536 • Greensboro, N.C. 27402
William L. Tankersley, III, Treasurer



City of Winston-Salem

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REZONING OF PROPERTY
CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM**

The Board of Aldermen will consider requests to amend the City of Winston-Salem Zoning Ordinance by rezoning property as shown below:

DATE: May 4, 1992 TIME: 7:30 p.m.
PLACE: Board of Aldermen Chamber, City Hall

- Petition of Bent Tree Land Company for property owned by Wilcox Properties, Inc. and William O. & Frankie D. Bell; property located on the southwest side of Beechridge Road approximately 270 feet northeast of Chinaberry Lane in the Bent Tree Farm subdivision; from R-6-S (Planned Residential Development) to R-6. W-1755.
- Petition of Landura Management Associates; property located on the north side of Country Club Road approximately 210 feet southeast of Cambridge Park Court (private); from R-1-S (Offices) to Site Plan Amendment. W-1759.
- Petition of George Steven and Eva Jane Felts for property owned by James A. Parsons; property located on the north side of Old Vineyard Road between Madelyn Drive and Kilpatrick Street; from R-4 to R-2-S (Day Care Center). W-1761.
- Petition of W. Joseph Burns, Trustee in Bankruptcy for Pilot Freight Carriers, Inc.; property located on the southeast side of Polo Road and the northwest side of McCaless Street between North Cherry Street and Dalton Street; from I-2 and R-4 to B-3-S (Offices; Motor Vehicles Storage; and Warehouses, Bulk Storage - Two Phase). W-1762.
- Petition of Hanes Baptist Church; property located on the southwest side of Ricks Drive from Upton Street to Townley Street; from R-4 to B-3. W-1756.

The Board will also consider the following zoning text amendment:

- Proposal of the City-County Planning Board to amend Chapter 25-12 "Zoning" of the Code of the City of Winston-Salem regarding new sign regulations for ground (on-premise), projecting, wall, and roof signs. WT-197.

Prior to the hearing, interested persons may obtain any additional information which is in the possession of the City/County Planning Board in that office at City Hall on weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Interested citizens will be given an opportunity to be heard. All requests for appropriate and necessary auxiliary aids and services must be made, within a reasonable time prior to the hearing, to Angela I. Carmon, the City's ADA Coordinator, at 727-2056 or 1-800-735-8262 for Voice to TDD or 1-800-735-2962 for TDD to Voice.

THIS MEETING WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON CITY TV-33.

Marie Matthews, Secretary
to the Board of Aldermen

**Two Can Play & Ride
Weekdays \$30⁰⁰**
(opening - until noon)

**Four Can Play & Ride
Weekends After 2 p.m.
\$60⁰⁰**

18 holes only
**WINSTON LAKE
GOLF COURSE**
727-2703
Good thru month of May
(excluding Holidays)

