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**Goin' for it!**  
Mom and coach help McManus get to national championships.

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**Tender loving care**  
Day care center director gives kids more than the basics.

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# Winston-Salem Chronicle

75 cents

"The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly"

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## The top's gonna blow in this town

▲ Race relations at an all-time low: Do white leaders see the picture?

By SHERIDAN HILL  
Chronicle Managing Editor

[First in a series of interviews and commentary]

What responsibility falls on the shoulders of Winston-Salem's white leaders to address race relations? Do they, by virtue of their power, bear the uncomfortable burden of leading the charge for change?

Summer 92 marks a time when Winston-Salem stands divided. The overwhelming majority of the black community agrees that their frustrations have escalated to new heights. Many members of the white community are fond of offering this not-so-

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## Report on McKellar case

In his report, City Manager Bill Stuart found good and bad in the police department's handling of the arrest of Sheila Epps McKellar, who died in police custody July 20.

### PROPER

- ▲ An active criminal investigation was initiated by internal affairs
- ▲ Immediate actions were taken by police to identify Ms. McKellar and inform her family
- ▲ As soon as Ms. McKellar's identity was established, her name was added to the arrest warrant records in the Clerk of Courts' office
- ▲ Within two days of the death, the District Attorney's office was informed
- ▲ The police department responded promptly when the Chronicle made a request for information regarding the incident

### IMPROPER

- ▲ The police department should have acted more promptly in releasing information to the public
- ▲ Failure to promptly inform the City Manager's office
- ▲ Failure to properly communicate the seriousness of the matter to Assistant City Manager Al Beatty because of vague memoranda

## City manager says police dept. erred

By TRAVIS MITCHELL  
Chronicle Staff Writer

In the continuing saga of the Sheila Epps McKellar case, Winston-Salem's City Manager and Chief of Police have accepted full responsibility for failing to communicate properly with the public, and internal affairs has completed its criminal investigation of the officers involved. However, things are not calm in the 'Twin City' as officials have indicated that the F.B.I. has arrived to determine if McKellar's civil and human rights were violated when she died last month in police custody.

"It's my responsibility, and I don't shirk it, and I don't pass it down to anybody," Chief George Sweat told aldermen earlier this week. Sweat continues to maintain that he will work closely with the city manager's office to improve communication with the public. Sweat told the Chronicle last week that he has "learned his lesson."

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**ON THE AVANT-GARDE**  
By TANG NIVRI

## Who's afraid of Virginia Newell?

As far as she knew, she was just like any other 11-year-old child until her mother dropped her off one evening to attend a dinner party at the home of one of her best friends. It would be just like all of the other parties, except on this particular evening, one of the mothers, apparently new in town, staunchly refused to allow little "Joanna" to join the party if a certain little girl were allowed to stay.

Suddenly this little brown-eyed girl, who throughout all of her childhood has always been a favorite, was now being whisked away by the mother of her very best friend, downstairs into the basement, out of sight. There, in a big rocking chair, the woman, crying aloud, hugged the little girl tightly, rocking back and forth, apologizing as the two of them waited for her mother to pick her up.

That evening, the little girl's mother finally told her the truth, "You are Black and your friends are white." Before then the little girl had never known the difference.

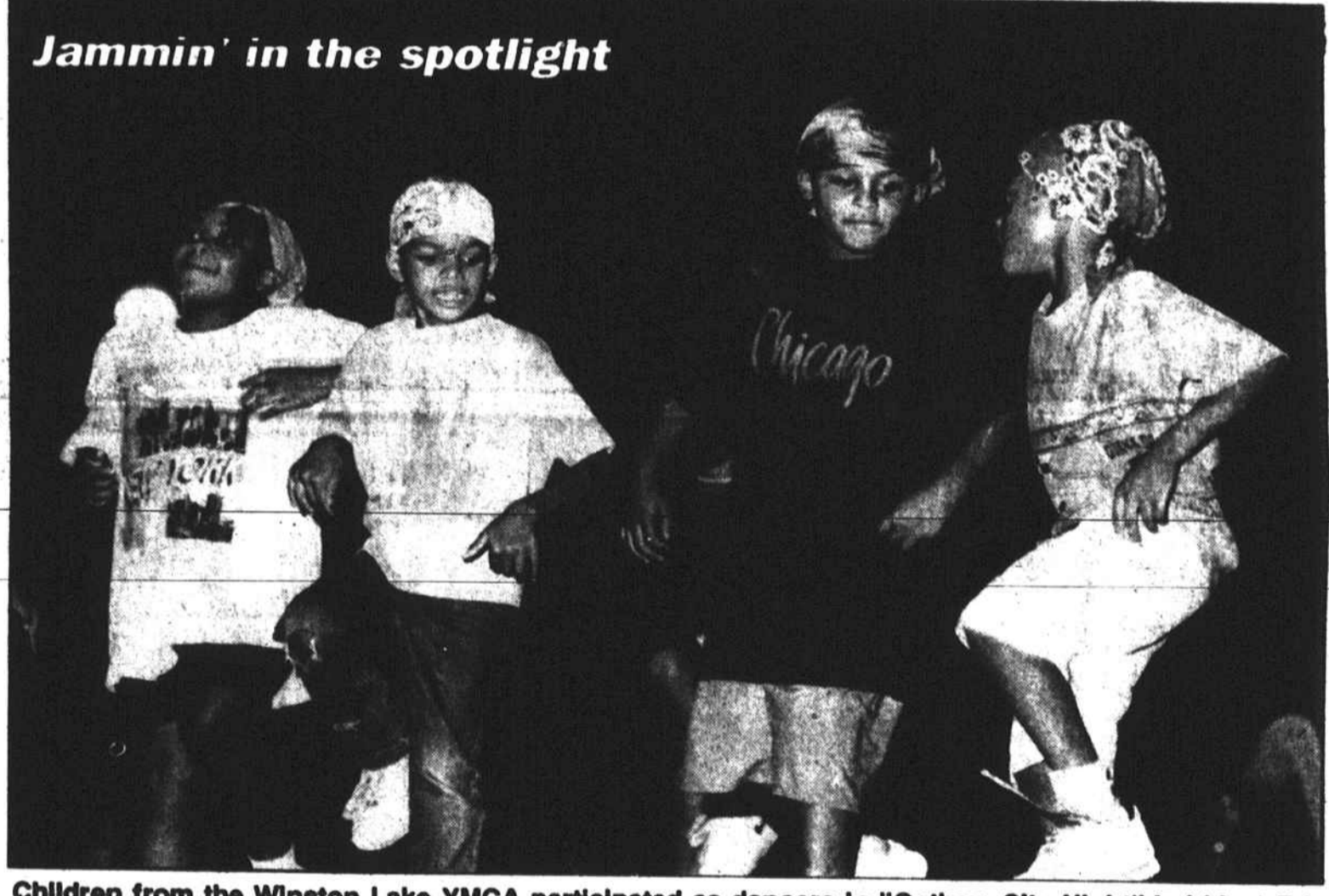
Who's afraid of Virginia Newell? Apparently a whole lot of us are! One need only to listen to the wailing and gnashing of teeth as expressed on the local talk shows, or read the mean-spirited letters to the editor, or listen to the whispers going on behind closed doors. Everywhere you turn, somebody has got something to say about Ms. Virginia (V.K.).

"There she goes again," they say, "running her mouth off before she has all the facts, making an already tense situation worse. Why doesn't she just be quiet? She is such an instigator, agitator," they like to say. "Things would be so much better off if SHE would just resign and let the police do their job," one man said... you know the story.

The truth of the matter is that most of us are afraid of V.K. because too many of us are just like the woman who, when confronted with evil, chose instead to run downstairs to the basement and hide. When confronted with bigotry and racism, too many of us choose to disappear into darkness, into silence, into acquiescence. When faced with our chance, opportunity to speak out against injustice, we invariably sit back in our own psychological rocking chair like scared little children, crying like babies, hoping that the monster will just go away on its own. Then, when it looks like it's safe, when the nightmare is over, we get up from our rocking chair to go back upstairs, to resume our place in line, to rejoin life's party, to rejoice in life's fun.

The difference between so many of us and V.K. is that she would have told Joanna's mother

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Children from the Winston Lake YMCA participated as dancers in "Gotham City Night" held last Friday at Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium on WSSU campus. The kids were trained for 5 1/2 weeks by Angela Peterson, organizer of the event. It was a fundraiser for RAM Enterprises, a campus organization that provides students with information and funds to start their own business.

## SCORE: Community - 1 School board - 0

▲ School board approves compromise on redistricting

By TRAVIS MITCHELL  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Last Thursday's school board meeting was filled with tension in anticipation of another possible showdown between the board members and community leaders. Undercover sheriff's deputies were even in attendance for this one, but a compromise on issues motioned by one school official helped the two sides reach a truce — for now.

All the hoopla surrounding the event centered on the July 2 board meeting in which the Rev. Carlton Eversley and the Citizens United for Justice disrupted the proceedings in protest of the lack of black representation. This time all sides seemed satisfied, as Dr. Gerald Hewitt made a motion to have newly-elected

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Mack Sumler Hairston

## Sentencing on Friday

By SHERIDAN HILL  
Chronicle Managing Editor

Former alderman Patrick J. Hairston, community leader the Rev. Lee Faye Mack, and business consultant Rodney Sumler have spent the summer awaiting sentencing on charges of political corruption, scheduled for Friday at 9:30 in federal court. It is then that Judge William L. Osteen will effectively end an ordeal that began in 1987 when local business owner William G. Smith went to the FBI. He told them that

the three, along with Alderman Larry Womble, had tried to extort money from him in exchange for votes. For the next three years, the FBI and IRS conducted an exhaustive investigation. An eight-week trial ended May 15, 1992, when a jury of six blacks, five whites and one Asian found Womble innocent and the other three guilty.

Sumler, 51, a political consultant and publisher of the local tabloid the A/C Phoenix, was convicted on a total of 24

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## Resident manager program debuts

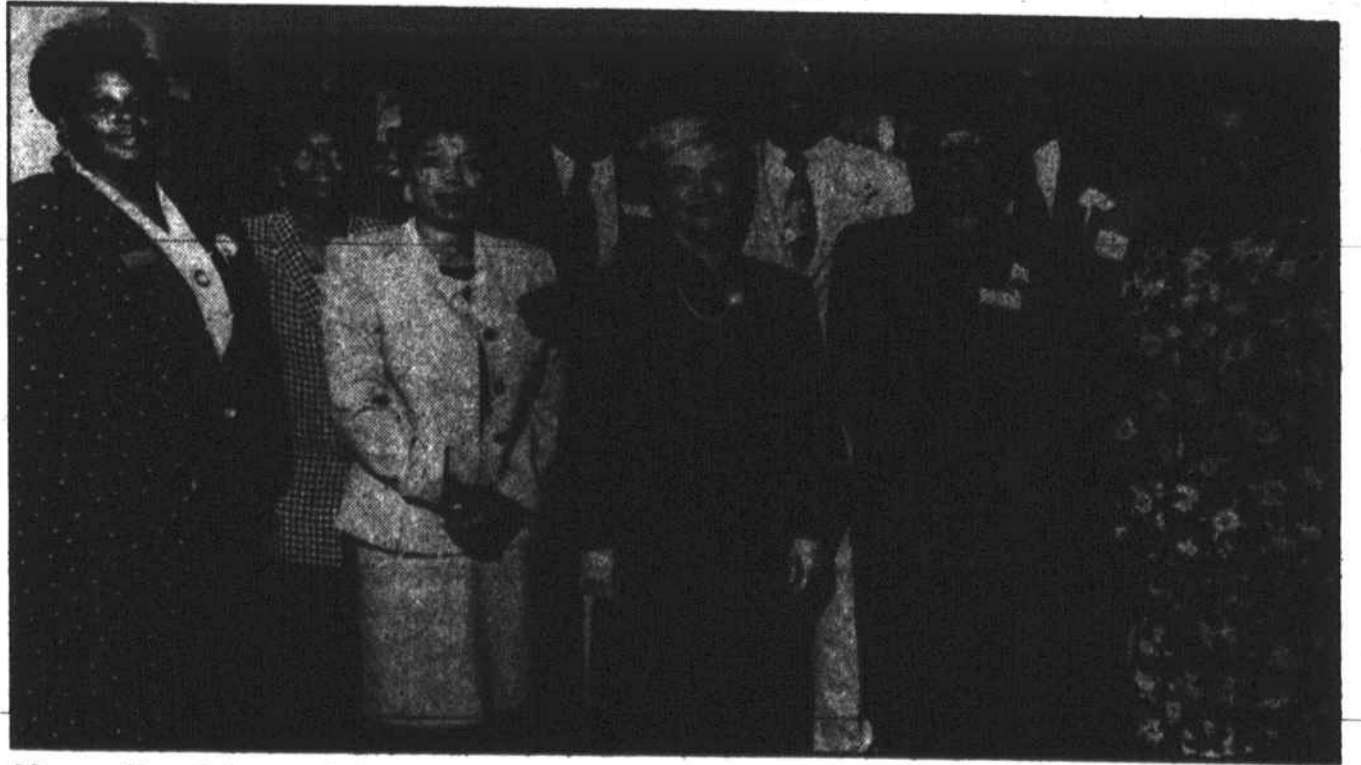
By TRAVIS MITCHELL  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Local officials gathered on Tuesday for a ribbon-cutting ceremony in celebration of the new Resident Management Corporation Corporate Offices here. The corporation is dubbed KPCH after the four housing developments: Kimberly Park, Piedmont Park, Cleveland Avenue, and Happy Hill.

The KPCH Headquarters will house the Resident Management Corporation from each of the four housing communities in Winston-Salem. MYIC/Banker's Assistance Founder and CEO Bessie Singletary said that the program will unite the community with "one mind, one direction and a positive force in the community."

The Resident Management Corporation is the brainchild of Hous-

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Mayor Wood (center) joined local, state, and federal dignitaries of the new resident manager program for four local housing developments