

# Winston-Salem Chronicle

"The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly"

Established in 1974

Ernest H. Pitt • Ndubisi Egemonye

Editor/Publisher

Co-Founder

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## Editorials

### CIAA Fever

When news of Winston-Salem's successful CIAA bid reached the city this week, city and community leaders were nearly jumping up and down with excitement. But not everyone shared in the jubilation. No doubt, some folks are wondering just what kind of people (20,000 of them) are going to invade the city in the winter of '94.

The CIAA is akin to a reunion for the many alumni of 14 prestigious historically black colleges in the southeast. Ask anyone who has been to an ACC event and a CIAA event: they will confirm that CIAA fans are on the sophisticated side of the scale.

**The CIAA represents Winston-Salem's first opportunity to feel the power of the black dollar.**

Downtown area businesses must be eagerly planning how to lodge, feed, transport, entertain and otherwise care for the needs of thousands of visitors, many of whom have never spent the night in Winston-Salem.

Ironically, it will be white-owned businesses that reap 90% of the revenues from this historical black sporting event. It will be important to respect the importance of this first impression, and not gouge the unknowing customer. The CIAA will be to Winston-Salem what the furniture market is to High Point. We look forward to seeing the community at large continue to work together to make the tournament a success for all of our visitors.

### Value of a life

The recent rape and kidnapping of a white woman, appearing day after day in the news, brings to mind troubling questions. The most recent publicity over this case had to do with how quickly the local police and the SBI responded: how seriously they took the case from the beginning, how determined they were to find the woman, how long and hard and tirelessly they worked.

**Is a crime against a prominent white woman worse than any other crime?**

There is a heavy implication that the life of this woman is more valuable than that of another: is it more valuable than a poor white woman? more important than the life of an old woman? how about a poor, old black woman? Does God feel the loss any less?

We must constantly ask ourselves these questions. Each day we are influenced by messages that we should measure ourselves and each other by our achievements, by the things we possess, by the power we wield, the people we know.

When a crime takes place, it is not more tragic because the victim is a white woman and the alleged assailant is a black man.

The tragedy of a crime is not reduced if the victim is a black woman and the alleged assailant is a white man. No justice, no peace.

### Vote November 2nd

### About letters . . .

The Winston-Salem Chronicle welcomes letters from its readers, as well as columns.

Letters should be as concise as possible and should be typed or printed legibly. They also should include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer.

Columns should follow the same guidelines and will be published if we feel they are of interest to our general readership.

We reserve the right to edit letters and columns for brevity and grammar.

Submit your letters and columns to:

Chronicle Mailbag

P.O. Box 1636

Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102

## Ms. Mack: when will we honor her?

To the Editor:

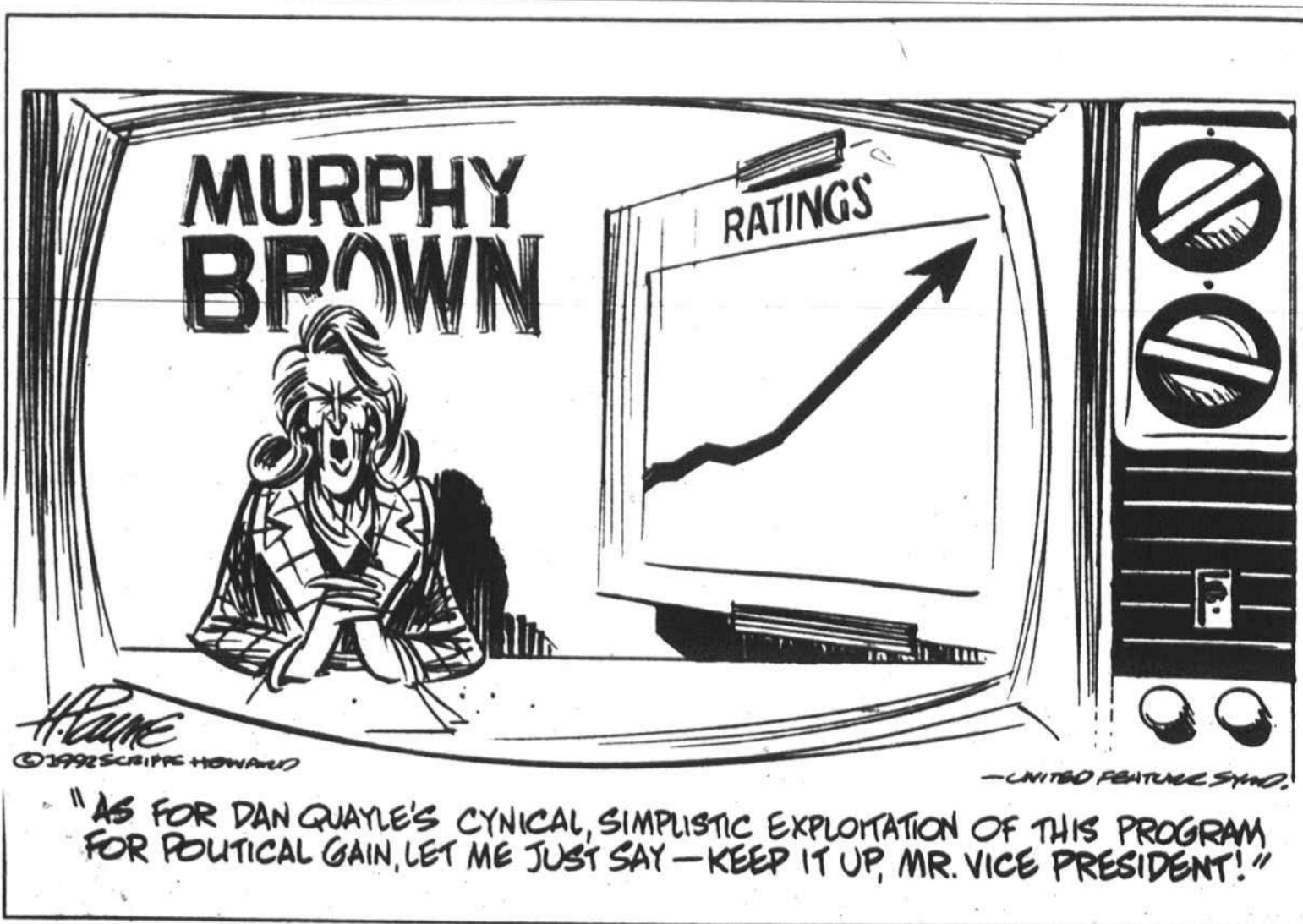
(I originally wrote this as a white man for the white citizens of Winston-Salem to appear in the Journal.)

Mrs. Lee Faye Mack went to jail this week/month. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken!" Jesus understood his life with the image of a mother hen who would care for her brood. Ms. Mack has been a mother in Winston-Salem. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...

Perhaps some of us in the white community do not know much about this woman. I want to share the little I know. A single, black mother with a house full of young children. Defeated, overwhelmed? Not this woman. With little formal education herself, she had the good sense to raise her children to value it. With help from Upward Bound at WSSU and college scholarships, they went to college. Those children today are all productive citizens in this city and include two teachers and a lawyer. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem... when will we sing the praises of this woman?

Ms. Mack has also been the mother of an extended family of children. Through her Back to Life organization and her work with the Urban League's program, Family Focus, she has inspired many single, black mothers to take hold of their lives. She has been able and willing to lead others through what she had been through. Some of them gained the courage to take non-traditional jobs for women, like construction. She has worked with individuals, male and female, with the whole assortment of problems that characterize the disadvantaged of America's inner cities. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem... when will we honor this woman?

I first met her twenty years ago when she was mothering a group of young blacks who were carrying out a preschool breakfast program and raising money for the first free ambulance service for blacks in our city. This was a group of Black Panthers, a group whites were taught to fear in those days. Larry Little and Nelson Malloy, who today serve this city well, were in that group. She has been through the years a grass-roots neighborhood organizer on behalf of social justice. I have known her for most recently as a



## CHRONICLE MAILBAG

### Our Readers Speak Out

member of the black ministers' conference here in our city, and I have seen her stand up, among her peers, for equality for women ministers. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem....

Her words to her family and to her community, after her trial, were to be strong and not lose hope. I have no doubt that Ms. Mack will follow her own advice; we shall hear from her again, if we have "ears to hear."

Sid Kelly

### Thanks to Chronicle

To the Editor:

I just wanted to inform you that I greatly appreciated the Winston-Salem Chronicle featuring my sports and entertainment law practice a couple of weeks ago. Mike Grace and I have worked very hard to develop a complete package to accommodate the needs of young professional athletes and entertainers.

Also, I have been intending to congratulate you on having such a

professional staff. My contact with your office personnel has always been extremely pleasant.

Moreover, I really enjoyed my interview with Carol Ragins. Her professional manner and warm personality made me feel comfortable enough to discuss the objectives of our program without the fear of being misunderstood or misrepresented. She is clearly an asset to the Winston-Salem Chronicle and is a first-class journalist.

If I can be of assistance to you or the newspaper, please do not hesitate to call.

Mason P. Ashe

### Esch says, call me

To the Editor:

I am a candidate for the State Senate from Forsyth County. If elected, I will replace either Sen. Ted Kaplan or Senator Marvin Ward, our longtime senators. My legislative and spending priorities are for "crime control and public safety" (including salvaging our court and correctional systems so

that "equal justice under the law" is not just a platitude).

Sen. Ward is well known for having "education" as his priority and area of expertise. I do not know Sen. Kaplan's priorities for legislation and tax dollars. In my opinion, he should tell us what he is committed to other than his party.

Discussion of issues is occurring in homes, churches, grocery stores, unemployment offices, hospital waiting rooms, schools, courts, and WSJS Radio...our own local "electronic Town Hall" ...at the "grassroots" where all of us live our lives.

Unfortunately, there have been no public "Candidates' Meetings" where voters can voice their concerns with local candidates and have a two-way discussion of solutions.

If you would like to know why I am standing for election and what I propose to do as a senator, please give me a call or write...I am the only "Esch" in the telephone book.

Ann Esch

## Two saved-youths will save us

In mid-April, I wrote a column asking for support for Karesha Lowe, a 14-year-old math genius in Philadelphia. She and her 13-year-old brother, Chris, are alone because of the death of their father and the incarceration of their mother.

Yet Grades Excel" was the story's sub-head just above the sentence that tore me apart psychologically: "Karesha Lowe is a rose growing through rubble, one that will unfold or be trampled underfoot."

On May 13, almost a month

the College of Wooster, Ohio.

Responding to my plea for money to maintain these two young people with the norm things of life — clothes, books, food, living quarters — until they get to college, the following angels of mercy sent money:

Dr. Jean Gilbert (NY and W. Va.); Tena Hines (New Orleans); William Mays (Indianapolis); Iolanda and Robert Scott (Clawson); and the Pepsi-Cola Black Employees Association (Fred Canady, President) joined me in donating \$1,000 each. Paula Wright Coleman of Ft. Washington, MD also made a donation.

As of this date, \$6,025 has been deposited in the only Black-owned bank in Pennsylvania, United Bank. If you want to make a donation, you can make checks out to: ITF Chris Lowe and Karesha Lowe. Send it to me at 1501 Broadway, Suite 412, New York, NY 10036 or call 212-575-0876.

The funds are administered by two of Karesha's teachers at Vaux Middle School, Lynn Johnson and Florence Johnson. Karesha and Chris just settled in school for the fall and after the necessary expenditures, there is \$4,045 left in the

bank account.

"A sincere thanks for all of the donations. Without the money, the children would have been up a tree, so to speak," the Johnson wrote.

But aside from the \$50,000 and the \$6,025 in donations, an invaluable present was made by the Muncy State Prison officials who allowed Karesha's mother, Cheryl Casper, to attend the press conference.

Those who donated would have had tangible proof of their giving had they seen the tears of joy and pride burst loose from these members of a broken family.

Thanking all of us for doing for her children what she was unable to do, Casper said: "They will learn and grow as long as people believe in them and they have faith in God."

Karesha wrote afterwards to those who helped: "Not only have you changed my life for the better, but you also changed the lives of my mother, my sister and my brother. I thank all of you from the bottom of my heart."

Those of us who gave, however, got more out of it than her family. When you give, you get a feeling you can't get doing anything else.



### TONY BROWN

Syndicated Columnist

er. I appealed for donations to establish a fund for their education and maintenance.

The basis of my appeal was an article by Kimberly K. McLaurin in The Philadelphia Inquirer. In "A Child Shines Amid The Shambles," McLaurin wrote, "Karesha Lowe is 14, and fatherless and poor, with a mother serving life, a half-sister as a reluctant guardian, crowded house, an angry brother and an intellect so hungry she thinks algebra is fun."

"Mother Jailed, Money Short,

later to the day, I held a press conference at the University City Science Center (which donated its facility after a black religious group demanded payment for its space) at which Dr. Isaac B. Horton III awarded a full \$50,000 scholarship to the College of Wooster for Karesha.

The scholarship was awarded on behalf of the Delaware Valley chapter of the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemical Engineers (NOBCCHE) in conjunction with

