



New Release

Eddie Murphy's new album reveals more of his personal style.

PAGE B10



Motivating Word

Lester Brown tells Dudley Products employees to reach for higher goals.

PAGE A4

Winston-Salem Chronicle

"Power concedes nothing without a struggle." — Frederick Douglass

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THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1993

Oprah "Disgraces" Blacks In Winston

▲ *Talk show host offers apology*

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Managing Editor

Oprah Winfrey says she doesn't know what all the fuss is about. But some angry black residents in East Winston do.

They said Winfrey's visit to the city last week to "eat muffins" with a family in the city's most exclusive enclave was insulting to the black community — especially since it is middle-class viewers who are largely responsible for her show's high ratings.

Winfrey offered an apology to the city's black com-

munity and any other people who might have been offended when she visited a white family on Arbor Road in Buena Vista and included the community on her national talk show last week.

"I can understand why people could be upset," Winfrey said in a telephone interview from her office at Harpo Productions in Chicago. "There was no intention on my part to insult anybody in Winston-Salem or to paint a particular picture that that was what it is like for everyone who lives in Winston-Salem."

"I wasn't picking the street based on the color of the people's skin," she said. "I was picking it because I happened to jog there and I thought it was very tranquil and picturesque. Period."

No more thought went into it than that."

But the black community, which makes up more than a third of the city's overall population, has been dis-

cussing the event since Winfrey aired the segment last Thursday.

"This is another of these one-sided attempts to promote Winston-Salem as something it is not," said the Rev. William S. Falls, pastor of First United Baptist Church in High Point and a member of the Citizens United for Justice, an activist group.

"If we walked through (Buena Vista) late in the evening while people are jogging, we could be arrested for suspicion alone."

Winfrey had been in Winston-Salem recently when she threw a birthday party for Maya Angelou and had noticed the house when she jogged down Arbor Road.

"I thought it was such a lovely house," Winfrey said. "I liked the Dogwood trees, the front porch, I just liked everything about it. I said I would like to sit on that porch and eat muffins."

When Winfrey returned to the city on April 25 to film a segment at Angelou's house for an upcoming show, she decided to visit the house — muffins in hand — and include the neighborhood in a show on some of the best places in the country to live.

"It was just one of those streets that I happened to have jogged down and liked very much," Winfrey said. "Matter of fact, when I told Maya that I was going there,



Oprah Winfrey

Please see page A11

McKellar Case Closed: D.A.

▲ *Keith says police tried to help victim*

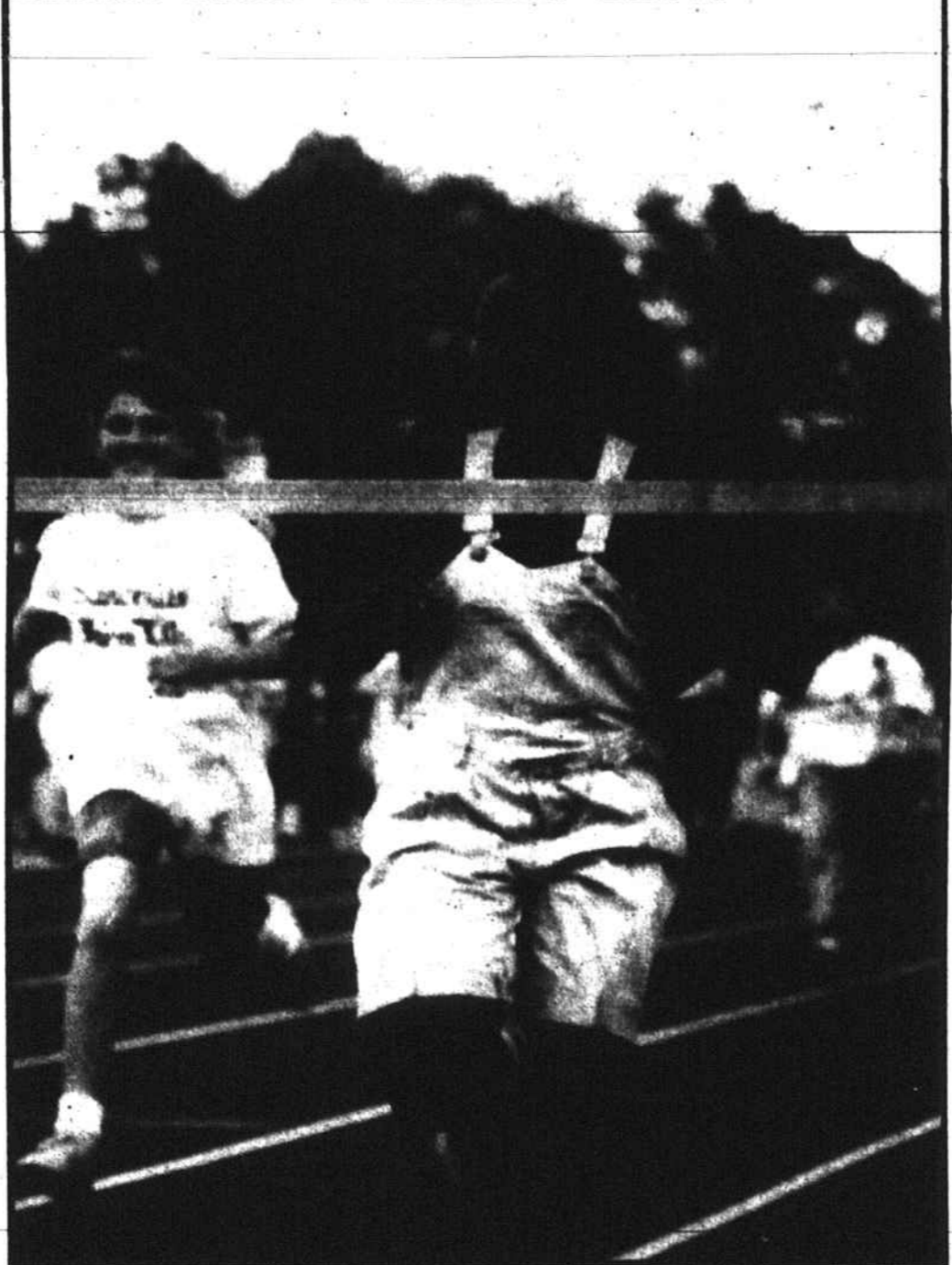
By MARK R. MOSS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Forsyth County District Attorney Thomas J. Keith announced yesterday that he will not seek indictments against the five Winston-Salem Police Department officers who were involved in the death of Sheila Ann McKellar.

"There is no basis for any criminal charges," Keith said yesterday in an interview. "The officers did every-

Please see page A14

And the Winner Is...



Deandrea Hollman of Durham wins the 50-yard dash at the North Carolina Deaf and Hard of Hearing Track and Field Day Tuesday at Wake Forest University. Nearly 400 hearing-impaired students from 15 counties participated in running events, softball throws, a tug-of-war, sack race and three-legged race.

Police Might Have Heard Fatal Shots

▲ *Neighbor finds bloody body on bed hours later*

By MARK R. MOSS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Winston-Salem police officers were investigating a disturbance call in the 1400 block of Cherry Street shortly after midnight Friday, about the same time a 29-year-old woman was shot to death inside her home, police and neighbors said.

Consuela Hope McCullin, of 1407 Cherry St., was found dead around 3 p.m. Saturday, but the shots that killed her were apparently fired around 12:30 a.m. that morning — about the time police officers were investigating a disturbance. She was found by a neighbor when McCullin's children told him their mother "won't get up."

McCullin, a native of Darlington, S.C., died of gunshot wounds to the chest and stomach, said Dr. Patrick Lantz, a Baptist Hospital pathologist. He said it was hard to determine how long McCullin had been dead.

The police officers also reported to their supervisors that they had heard gun shots.

"I'm not confirming that they heard the gunshots that killed the lady, but they heard gunshots," police Lt. L.T. Reavis said.

This week, the house was cordoned off by a yellow police ribbon. Seven bullet holes dotted the bottom panes of a large window on the

north side of McCullin's one-story, clapboard house. Just inside the window and flush against its frame sat a double bed. The next house is about 10 yards away. On the south side of the McCullin house is a field of overgrown grass that stretches to the corner of Cherry and 14th streets.

Reavis said shell casings were found outside the house but wouldn't say how many.

The neighbor who discovered McCullin and who asked that he not be identified said he heard gunshots about 12:30 a.m. Saturday, not long after he returned home from work. He said he didn't call the police because "five minutes later police were out front," and he thought someone else had called them.

Mary Jeter, of 1411 Cherry St., said the police were outside her front door around the time she heard the gunshots. She and Jesse Hairston, of the same address, said they also saw officers walking around with flashlights.

The neighbor said that on Saturday afternoon he was doing yardwork in his backyard when he noticed the bullet holes in the window of McCullin's house. He said he also thought it strange that McCullin's two boys — ages 2 and 4 — weren't outside playing.

He knocked on the front door

Please see page A11

National NEWS

Female Condom

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration moved closer to approving the first female condom for sale in the United States, saying the device offered limited protection against sexually transmitted diseases. The female condom is manufactured by Wisconsin Pharrmical, based in Jackson, Wis., and is currently being sold in Britain and five other European countries.

Suspicious Fire

NEW YORK (AP) — Four adults and two children were discovered inside a housing complex in East Harlem this week by firefighters responding to a suspicious fire, authorities said. Firefighters removed all six people from the building alive, but they died while emergency personnel were trying to stabilize them in the street. Fire Department spokesman Frank McCabe said.

"It appears . . . the fire was set to cover up" a crime, and that the victims were injured in some other way first, said Officer Rosa Atamyildiz, a police spokeswoman. The victims were not immediately identified. Police said they included two women, two men, a 6-year-old and 19-month-old. The sex of the children was not immediately known.

WHERE TO FIND IT

BUSINESS	B7
CLASSIFIEDS	B16
COMMUNITY NEWS	A4
EDITORIALS	A12
ENTERTAINMENT	B10
OBITUARIES	B15
RELIGION	B12
SPORTS	B1

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

On May 7, 1867, black demonstrators staged ride-in to protest segregation on New Orleans streetcars. Similar demonstrations occurred in Mobile, Ala., and other cities.

Watt Busy Learning Ropes on Capitol Hill

▲ *Congressman to address 300-plus WSSU graduates*

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Managing Editor

Melvin L. Watt, North Carolina's first-year Congressman and one of two blacks elected for the first time last year, is pleased with his four-month tenure in Congress, but admits that he is still learning.

"Obviously I haven't accomplished everything I wanted to accomplish," he said. "But my objective going in was to try to understand the process and how it worked. I wanted to understand the pressure points and become aware of what I

was capable of doing and what I was not capable of doing. I'm still in the process of learning."

Watt, 47, took time out from his busy schedule in Washington to spend time with some his constituents from the 12th congressional district. On Saturday at 9:45 a.m., he will deliver the address to nearly 400 graduates from Winston-Salem State University at the 101st annual commencement exercises at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

Watt was elected to the state House of Representatives from North Carolina's

12th District with 72% of the vote.

"It's an on-going process," he said about his experience in Washington. "I feel good about where I am on that spectrum after four months. I feel satisfied."

He also said he thinks President Clinton is doing a good job.

"He is where people thought he would be. He has done a good job," Watt said.

The reason some people might think that Clinton is not doing a good job, Watt said, is because the President has so many items on his agenda.

"He continues to put a lot of things on the table," Watt said. "Instead of three, four or five things, he puts 15 things on the table. The perception might be different if he put fewer things on the table, because it appears he might be scattered. But that's his style, and that's not a criti-

cism of him. I actually like that style. "I think it's unrealistic for the presi-



Melvin Watt

Please see page A11