



### Practicing Medicine

Bowman Gray graduate is on his way to fulfilling a dream.

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### Hot Legs

Tina Turner kicks off new U.S. tour and film debut.

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# Winston-Salem Chronicle

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1993

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

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## Infant Caught in Middle of Custody Battle

▲ Woman tells story of baby loved, then lost; says system failed by returning baby to natural mom

By MARK R. MOSS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Carolyn Gordon gets emotional when she talks about how she lost the baby she had cared for the past seven months.

"How am I supposed to feel? It was like I

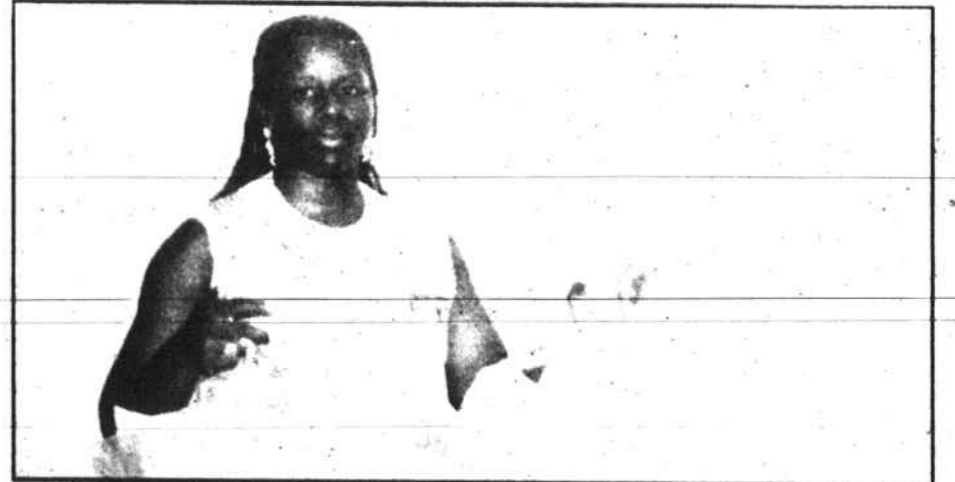
was pregnant for nine months and someone comes along and snatches the baby right out of my arms," she said.

The baby's natural mother, Melva J. Davis, gets emotional, too, when she talks about the sleepless nights she's had since giving away the child last fall.

"It was Mrs. Gordon's fault for getting so attached," said Davis, rocking the nine-month-old baby in her arms.

There are stories about accusations of drug usage, promises unfulfilled and of an infant who has been removed from a home of licensed foster parents and returned to a natural mother who, according to medical records, was on cocaine in August when she gave birth to the child, a mother, according to some accounts, who may

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Carolyn Gordon shows off the clothes she bought for baby "Precious".

## National NEWS

### Coretta King Loses Legal Battle

BOSTON—Coretta Scott King recently lost a six-year legal battle for 83,000 personal papers her husband—Stain civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr.—deposited at Boston University in the mid-1960's. The papers chronicle the early years of the Civil Rights Movement. Lawyers for Mrs. King argued that the papers had only been given to the university for "temporary safekeeping." But Boston University attorneys convinced the jury that King intended the papers as a "charitable pledge." King received his doctorate in divinity from university in 1955. King was assassinated in April 1968. Mrs. King—who wanted the papers housed in Martin Luther King, Jr. Center in Atlanta—indicated the plans to appeal the jury decision.

### New Trouble in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa—A major breakthrough toward political democracy took place in white-ruled South Africa recently. Twenty-three of 26 political groups signed a declaration of intent to schedule multi-racial elections "no later than April 1994." Virtually all observers expect those elections to lead to a mostly black government dominated by Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC). Currently, under the system of apartheid, blacks are not allowed to vote in South Africa even though they make-up better than 70 percent of the population. However, shortly after the agreement for elections was reached, a group of conservative whites declared its intent not to accept black rule by establishing a separate "whites only" nation. That group is known as the Afrikaner People's Front. There may also be political trouble from the Inkatha Freedom Party—a conservative black group based among the Zulu tribe.

### Stevie Wonder to Aid Black Farmers

LITTLE ROCK.—Stevie Wonder, Sinbad and Arrested Development will perform at a recently announced concert designed to aid black farmers. The Black Farm Aid concert is scheduled for June 5 in Little Rock, Ark. While virtually all the nation's farmers are facing major problems, black farmers are reportedly losing their lands at a record pace.

### Conference Seeks Papers and Vendors

Savannah—The second annual North American Pan-African Congress is seeking position papers and vendors for its October conference in Atlanta. Interested persons can write FAMUSA, P.O. Box 3687, Savannah, Georgia, 31414, or call 912-356-2208.



Luchia Ashe of Jacksonville models at "Puttin' on the Ritz" fashion show Sunday in Winston-Salem. Three quarters of the proceeds went to the Best Choice Center Inc.

## Knight Gets Life, Jurors Outraged

▲ No white man ever sentenced to die in N.C. for killing a black man

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Managing Editor

Yesterday would have been a historic day in North Carolina.

But it remains that a white man has never been sentenced to die for the killing of a black man in this state.

Rickey Eugene Knight, the man who mercilessly stabbed Carlos Colon Stoner to death and castrated him a year ago, was sentenced to life in prison yesterday, narrowly escaping becoming the sixth person executed in this state since the death penalty was reinstated in 1977.

Knight smiled broadly at his family after the 12-member jury, which had deliberated for two days,

announced to Superior Court Judge F. Fetzter Mills at 1:45 p.m. that it was hopelessly deadlocked.

Eleven jurors favored the death penalty; one juror stood in opposition. Since the death penalty can be imposed only when it is unanimously recommended by the jury, Knight could be eligible for parole in the year 2013.

The 9-woman, 3-man panel was emotional when it returned to the fifth-floor courtroom, many of them uncontrollably crying.

"What happened in 1992 to Carlos Stoner was a lynching," said juror Toni Dalton. "It embarrassed me to be on this jury. In this day and

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## Special Program Grooms Blacks to Serve on Boards

By DAVID L. DILLARD  
Chronicle Staff Writer

The number of Forsyth County African Americans eligible to serve on boards and committees of non-profit organizations significantly increased this week as 18 professionals graduated Tuesday from a special training program.

Project Blueprint, a program sponsored by the United Way of Forsyth County, was started to ensure

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Project Blueprint graduates are certified to serve on boards and committees.

## Retailer Pulls Ads from Chronicle over Oprah flap

▲ Norman Stockton clothing upset over Winfrey story

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Managing Editor

A local clothing retailer and an intermittent advertiser in the Chronicle has temporarily suspended its advertising in the newspaper because it disagreed with a story that was recently published.

Hill Stockton, of Norman Stockton Inc., at 249 S. Stratford Road, said he would reconsider continuing doing business with the newspaper.

"We just disagree with some of the

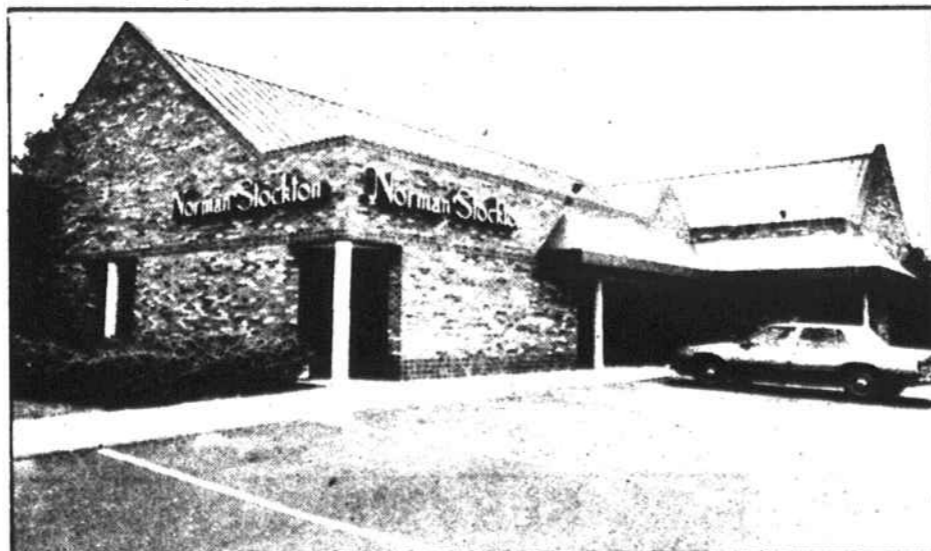
things that have been in the paper, on whether or not it's news," Stockton said in an interview.

Teri Saylor, executive director of the N.C. Press Association, said it's nothing new for an advertiser to stop advertising when they disagree with a story.

"Yours is not an isolated incident," Saylor said. "It's something that newspapers have to deal with quite often. I don't think newspapers hold back or compromise their editorial policy and philosophy because an advertiser doesn't agree with it."

However, she said, most of the times the article is about the particular business.

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Norman Stockton pulled ad because of Chronicle story.

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**THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY**

On May 19, 1965, Patricia R. Harris was named ambassador to Luxembourg. She was the first black woman ambassador.