

IN OUR SCHOOLS

Resident to Attend WCU

Colowhee — Daya M. George, granddaughter of Mary C. Lee of 4360 Northampton Drive, has been selected to attend the Legislator's School for Youth Leadership Development at Western Carolina University.



Daya M. George

She attends Carver High School in Winston-Salem and is a rising 12th-grader.

The Legislator's School for Youth Leadership Development offers some 300 rising 8th-through 12th-graders an opportunity to develop skills in leadership, critical thinking and communication.

Located on the campus of Western Carolina University, the three-week residential program utilizes the cultural and recreational resources of WCU and the setting adjacent to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

It is operated in two sessions, June 18 - July 8 (10th-12th grades) and July 10-30 (eighth and ninth grades), by WCU's Office for Rural Education. During their stay, students participate in academic and special interest courses in photography, journalism, computers, art, astronomy and other topics. Community service work and discussions about current issues, led by state and regional leaders, are important aspects of the program. It is funded by the General Assembly. A similar school operates at East Carolina University.

Student Receives Scholarship

Fleet Finance awarded Amret Thompson of North Forsyth High School and Leigh Miller of Mount Tabor High School a \$500 scholarship recognizing their outstanding community service and academic achievement. The Fleet Finance Scholarship Program, the first in an annual program, provided \$500 scholarships to 98 high school seniors in eleven states for their freshman year in college. More than 500 high school seniors applied for the Fleet Finance Scholarship Program. A Scholarship Review Committee independent of Fleet Finance selected the final 98 scholarship winners.

Board of Education Meets

Today from 1-4:30 p.m., the Board of Education will interview finalists for the job of superintendent. At 6:30 and 7:45 p.m., one or two additional public forums with finalists will be held in the auditorium in the Administrative Center, 1605 Miller St.

Superintendent to Be Announced

The Board of Education will meet to select a superintendent tomorrow, at 1 p.m. An announcement of the selection will be made when contract negotiations are complete and may come Friday evening, during the weekend or on Monday.

Students Selected for Production

The Program of Special Interests and Fine Arts includes enrichment activities for selected students who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade at Mt. Tabor and a musical theatre production for 6th through 11th grade at Jefferson. It will run for five weeks, June 20 - July 22.

Computer Camp to Be Held

Nine-day Technology Adventures (Computer Camp) for 2nd through 8th graders will be held at the Career Center. Students will use personal computers to create multimedia presentations, control robots, publish newsletters and write computer programs. Sessions are July 5-15 and July 19-29.

Summer Art Honors at Sawtooth

Summer Art Honors at the Sawtooth Building for middle- and high-school students emphasizes drawing, painting, photography, ceramics, metals, jewelry and fabrics. Students may select a two- or four-week program June 20-July 1 and July 5-15.

Driver Education Offered

Driver Education is offered to students who have scheduling problems during the regular school year, transfer students, dropouts and private school students.

BEP and Local Academic Program

Basic Education Program Summer School will include grades 1-12 and is offered to all who qualify at no cost to the student. Students who fail to meet minimum standard scores on the North Carolina Minimum Skills Diagnostic Test in grades 3, 6, and 8 are required to attend BEP summer school to be promoted to the next grade. Students in grades 1, 2, 4, and 5 will be selected on a priority basis with retention and teacher recommendation as criteria for the slots available. Elementary classes will be held at Hall-Woodward and South Fork.

Recommendations for Summer School

Seventh-graders will be recommended for summer school by teachers using test criteria and failure to meet local standards for promotion. The middle-school program will be held at Ashley, Hanes, Paisley and Petree. The high-school program is for students in grades 9-12 who have failed basic and regular-level mathematics, English, biology and required social studies courses. Each high school will have its own students if enrollment is sufficient.

BEP Program Offered

Local summer programs will also be offered for elementary, middle- and high-school students who do not qualify for the BEP program but who wish to reinforce skills, repeat a failed course, or take a new course. All new high school courses will be offered only at Parkland. A fee is charged. The BEP and local academic summer school programs will run July 5-29.

Teachers to Return to School

Teachers for year-round school will return to July 11; the first day for students is July 18. (Bolton, Easton, Kimberley Park, Konnoak Elementary Schools and part of Philo Middle School). For tradition calendar schools, teachers will be returning on August 17 and the first day for students will be Wednesday, August 24. Open house will be Monday, August 22.

"In Our Schools" is a weekly calendar of events that chronicles going-ons in our local schools. If you would like your event information included send them to: "In Our Schools", The Chronicle, P.O. Box 1636, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102. You may also fax it to 723-9173

Marshall Threatened by Board to Keep Quiet

▲ Board member feels some discussions should be held in public

By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

Walter Marshall, a member of the city/county school board, said the school board abuses its executive-session privileges and sometimes holds discussion that ought to be discussed publicly.

He also said he has been threatened by the board and by schools attorney Douglas Punger for making statements about issues discussed in executive session.

"My problem is I feel that we abuse the executive session. . . . I just think we're too secretive," Marshall said in an interview. "Some members feel like they are dealing with personal business and not public business. I'm very uncomfortable with that."

Marshall, one of two blacks on the nine-member board, said it is necessary for the board to hold executive sessions, but he feels

many of the meetings have been held to keep things from public view.

"I have been threatened by the school board and school attorney," he said. "They think I'll make a comment and it could be illegal and I would be held accountable for it."

Punger could not be reached for comment.

The issue of the board meeting in executive session surfaced recently as the board held closed sessions to discuss the hiring of a superintendent. Marshall thinks more of the discussion could have been held publicly.

Grace Effird, chairwoman of the board, said some meetings related to selecting a superintendent were held in executive session because they were administrative matters and the board didn't want to lose potential candidates.

"In the last search, information

was leaked out that might have discouraged some, that's the reason we didn't want it publicized," she said.

Board member Nancy Wooten said Marshall wasn't silenced but said board members should keep certain information amongst themselves.

"It was an agreement of the board to keep it within the board up to a certain stage," she said. "There are some things that you have to say in executive session. If he felt free to release the information, that bothered me."

Wooten said the board should have an executive session whenever discussing personnel matters.

"If you want candor instead of feel-good, then you want it to be public, but a lot of things are personnel matters," she said.

Marshall said he plans to work within guidelines, but wasn't worried about the threat when the matters are of public interest.



Walter Marshall

"They're very uncomfortable with my opposition . . . to public business being done behind closed doors," he said. "The threat doesn't bother me."

I was elected by the people, not the board."

Committee Avoids Executive-Search Firm

▲ NAACP feels selection process set up to avoid black finalists

By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

Local NAACP President Bill Tatum says the search process used by the city/county school board to select a superintendent was designed to keep blacks from becoming finalists for the position.

He also said he got from "reliable sources" information that "between nine and 11" African-Americans had applied for the position, but most were disqualified because they did not complete the application.

"It was an unfair process in selecting a superintendent and the African-American community should not sit dormant and allow this to happen," he said. "When you look at the finalists, it says (the school board) never had the intention of getting an African-American for superintendent. That's a tough statement, but I call it as I see it."

Tatum wrote a letter to school attorney Douglas Punger, dated June 7, requesting the criteria used by the screening committee to select the finalists and the racial breakdown of all candidates.

Punger had not responded by early Wednesday.

The screening committee, made up of four members of the board, reviewed all applications and conducted all interviews. Grace Effird, chairwoman of the school board, said the board chose to do the search itself to get a better view of candi-



Geneva Brown

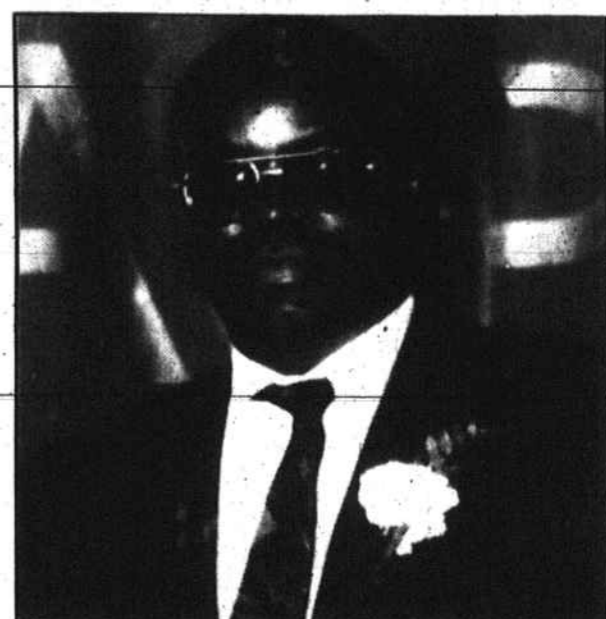
dates instead of hiring an outside executive-search firm.

She said the board did "extensive advertising" in periodicals and journals across the country and that 39 people responded. Of the 39, a screening committee, headed by Geneva Brown, was chosen to review applications and narrow them down to 11 candidates.

"All nine board members read from those 11 and decided on six semifinalists," Effird said. "We split up into teams of mostly three and went to the home base of where they worked and did background checks last week."

Tatum is worried that Brown, the only black member of the screening committee, will be used as a scapegoat to answer the black community's outcry against the procedure.

"Geneva Brown should not be the whipping board because of (the board's) unfair practice," he said. "If



Bill Tatum

they had put Walter Marshall on there, it would have been two-on-two and perhaps a better chance of being fair and equitable."

Brown said the process was fair but no effort was made to pursue a minority.

"There was nothing wrong with the process, there just wasn't an attempt to get a minority," she said. "We had the applicants but we have to vote on them and seven members (of the nine-member board) are white. If you don't seek a certain group, you don't find them."

Brown, who also spent last week talking to candidates, feels among the four finalists for superintendent that there is "a very good one."

"There's no need to make a mess out of things," she said. "I don't think we should jeopardize the chance of getting him." Effird also said the board thought it was best to conduct the search instead of hiring

an outside firm, which is the method most used by medium to large school systems.

"Susan Jernigan, a recruiter with Sockwell & Associates, a Charlotte-based executive-search firm, said it can be advantageous to use a search firm."

"Using a search firm — and most organizations do when looking for the chief executive — you generally increase the size and quality of the candidate pools," Jernigan said. "We have a unique marketing strategy that gets people who wouldn't ordinarily apply for a position."

Board members took flights and personally visited the site of candidates themselves. Effird said she doesn't know how much the school system spent on interviewing the candidates, but the cost includes travel, lodging and meals. Last week, the committee was in Marblehead, Mass., to interview a candidate for the job.

Jernigan said the price range of a search firm varies according to the services, but a basic service of selecting candidates could run less than \$10,000.

"It results in a different pool than just using the (school) board," she said. "We try to match the organization with a person who will be a good match. It frees up a lot of time for the board."

The school board has been interviewing finalists for the position and plans to select a superintendent tomorrow.

State's Black Superintendents Passed Over *from page 1*

who might be interested."

The others black superintendents in the state are: Larry Bell of Sampson County, which has 6,677 students; Willie Gilchrist of Halifax County, which has 6,293 students; Willie Peele of Martin County, which has 5,007 students; James Wilkerson of Warren County, which has 3,016 students; Norma Sermon-Boyd of Jones County, which has 1,521 students; and George Hood of Weldon County with 1,200 students.

None of the semifinalists, whose names were released last week, currently preside over a system with more than 17,500 students. They were: Donald Martin Jr. of Rowan-Salisbury, which has 17,500 students; George Fleetwood of Ran-

dolph County, which has 14,000 students; Jesse Register of Iredell-Statesville, which has 13,400 students; Andrew Overstreet of Orange County, which has 5,500 students; William Leary of Gloucester, Mass., which has 4,100 students; and James Kent of Marblehead, Mass., which has 2,550 students.

The list now stands at four as two candidates — Leary and Kent — were knocked from the list Monday afternoon.

The NAACP questions why the search process was done in secrecy and didn't produce any black finalists. Bill Tatum, president of the local NAACP, said he believes the search was racially biased and didn't produce the best candidates.

"We want to know why the process of selecting a superintendent was kept closed from the public," he said. "We feel the board could be looking at a superintendent that may have been terminated from another system."

Tatum said the candidates chosen might not be sensitive to minorities because they have low percentages in their school systems.

"We do not accept any of the candidates," he said. "Not because they are not qualified, but because no African American was considered and the number of African Americans they have dealt with are not equitable to the ratio in Forsyth County."

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth

County school system, the fifth-largest in the state with 38,000 students, has a 38 percent minority population.

Board member Nancy Wooten said she was impressed by Kent because of his track record with minorities.

"The person I'm most impressed with didn't make the cut," she said. "I had presumed (Kent) was a minority. From his resume, he showed a large amount of sensitivity for blacks. That's why he was high on my book."

Tatum said the NAACP will be at the public forums expressing their disappointment with the candidates chosen. The forums were scheduled for last night and tonight.

Father, Sports Kept Agnew on Right Path *from page 1*

Park resident council, said Agnew was well-mannered as a child.

"He was always a good boy and when he comes back he doesn't shelter himself away from the kids; he spends time with them," she said. "I think other people that go on and make it should try to help pull up

other people. He's an inspiration to these children."

The "Community Day with Ra9" will be held tomorrow at the Clarence E. Gaines Center on the campus of Winston-Salem State University.

The event will start with an

autograph session and a celebrity basketball game with Agnew and several professional football and basketball players.

Agnew, now in his fifth season with the Patriots, said he would like to win the Super Bowl, but his biggest thrill is seeing someone less

fortunate become successful.

"Nothing compares to seeing a kid happy that they can go to school," he said. "I'm just living for that day when one of my scholars becomes successful. That's when I'll be happy."