

# OPINION/LETTERS

## Winston-Salem Chronicle

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### Winston-East

Very soon the city will be finished with work on the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive and New Walkertown Road. This intersection is likely to become the focal point of economic development in Winston East which is the designation given by the Hammer, Siler George study.

The intersection will be adorned by crosswalks, overheads and banners with a distinct logo developed by the East Winston Economic Development Advisory Board. There will be other amenities, we're sure.

However, the significance of all of this is that it represents the results of a lot of work by a lot of people who have been toiling for years to make something happen in the African-American community.

We are beginning to see, and some of us to understand what economic development is and how it works. The opening of the 42,000 sq. ft. Bi-Lo grocery store represents a new beginning in Winston East. The owners of Bi-Lo are to be saluted for coming into the community with a full-service grocery store with deli, flower shop, pharmacy, fresh vegetables and the whole works. They have treated the African-American consumer market with respect and we know the community will reward them with patronage.

Soon, the entire center will be filled with other retail shops. Many residents will work at these shops, giving the community more spendable income and the city increased tax s

Consequently, more and better homes will be purchased and the quality of life will improve for everyone. That's economic development.

### Hoop-it-up Mania

The recent street basketball event held in downtown Winston-Salem last week needs drastic changes.

The event, billed as Hoop-it-up, was well attended, but the purpose seems lost somewhere.

The majority of the games, 3 on 3, were unsupervised and without referees. Consequently, those games were total chaos and confusion.

Players were supposed to make their own calls for fouls and other infractions of the rules. They may as well have declared it a free-for-all.

Every call was violently protested and most nearly ended in brawls. Instead of trash talking, players were nearly going to blows.

It was sad to see so many young people so close to fighting, and taunting and jeering and threatening each other.

There was never a sense that these kids were getting anything out of this other than anger. There was at least one player crying or who had cried during the course of most of the games.

Now, add to that the despicable manner in which most of the parents conducted themselves. Parents were on the sidelines interfering with the players, urging their own kids to commit mayhem and cursing the coaches who themselves were committing the same offenses. It was utterly disgusting. No one benefited from the nearly 60 or so games played.

If the event was held to give the children something fun to do, we seriously doubt that very much — if any — fun was had.

Unless the sponsors are willing to put an official to supervise every game, this is one event that should come to a screeching halt.

In fact, this is one of the most divisive events we have witnessed in a long time. With the possible exception of a Klan march, Hoop-it-up takes the cake.

Let's end this madness.

### Did You Know ...

That the richest black entertainers in America over the last two years were Oprah Winfrey (\$105 million), Bill Cosby (\$60 million), Michael Jackson (\$38), Whitney Houston (\$33 million) and Eddie Murphy (\$30 million)? Prince was on the Forbes magazine list of the forty richest entertainers, but fell off of it this year.

### Credo of the Black Press

The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from antagonisms when it accords to every person — regardless of race or creed — full human and legal rights. Hating no person, the Black Press strives to help every person, in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

## Police Chief Thanks Citizens for Clothing Donations

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the citizens who donated clothes for the Clothing Give Away sponsored by the Winston-Salem Police Department this past Saturday.

The Clothing Drive was a complete success. The Foot Patrol Squad was honored that so many good citizens allowed us to be the bridge between citizens wanting to help and those needing help. The Clothing Drive was truly a total community effort. We received calls from Clemmons, Lewisville, Walkertown, Kenersville as well as Winston-Salem and the Greensboro area. I would also like to express out gratitude for the media assistance rendered by the Winston-Salem Chronicle and the Winston-Salem Journal.

Over 120 families turned out for the clothes and there was an abundance of clothes for everyone. Everyone was very appreciative for the clothes.

As a native of Winston-Salem and a police officer, I know as a community we have and will face many problems together. However, I am proud to live in an area where whenever there is an opportunity to help people, there is no shortage of people willing to help.

Thank you for helping us help people!

George L. Sweat  
Chief of Police

### Lupus Awareness

To the Editor:

October is National Lupus Awareness Month, and our goal is to increase education and public awareness of this debilitating disease. According to the Lupus Foundation of America, Inc. (LFA), lupus now affects 1.4 to 2 million people in the United States — that's 1 out of every 185 Americans.

The majority of those affected by this debilitating disease are women in their child-bearing years, but men, women and children of any age can also be affected.

Although lupus is not as well known as some other disease, it is more prevalent than AIDS, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, sickle-cell anemia and cystic fibrosis combined, and the number are greater among African-Americans, Chinese and Latinos.

Lupus is a chronic inflammatory autoimmune disease that can affect virtually any organ in the body.

A person with lupus has an overreactive immune system which



A historical interpreter stands on the auction block during a re-enactment of an 18th century slave auction at Colonial Williamsburg in Williamsburg, Va recently. The re-enactment drew criticism from black leaders.

produces too many antibodies. These attack the body's healthy tissue instead of just protecting it against foreign invaders such as infection and viruses. It is not contagious or malignant.

It is believed that many more people have lupus without knowing it.

The symptoms often mimic other disease and may not be diagnosed as lupus.

The most common symptoms

### General Assembly

To the Editor:

While it is true that "all politics are local," there is one General Assembly race that is being watched by people from all over North Carolina who care about schools and children. That is the race to return Senator Marvin Ward of Winston-Salem to the North Carolina Senate.

because young people throughout North Carolina need his experience and leadership now more than ever.

Attorney William G. Hancock

### Gospelfest A Success

To the Editor:

Congratulations and thanks are in order to the Chronicle for sponsoring the second annual Gospelfest at the Dixie Classic Fair this year.

## CHRONICLE MAILBAG Our Readers Speak Out

include achy and/or swollen joints, fever, prolonged fatigue, skin rashes and anemia.

Although lupus affects every individual differently, its effects range from mild to life-threatening, and thousands of Americans die from lupus complications each year.

While medical science has not yet discovered the cause nor developed a method for curing lupus, new research brings unexpected findings and increased hope each year.

Increased public and professional awareness, improved diagnostic techniques and evaluation methods are contributing to the early diagnosis and treatment of lupus.

The key to controlling the disease is education, early detection and prompt, effective treatment.

Ruth T. Banbury, President  
Winston-Triad Lupus Chapter

In the next two years, the General Assembly is going to have to address complicated educational issues ranging from school finance to the establishment of new standards for all students. These are difficult issues, requiring the application of solid educational experience and sound judgement.

Having served with Senator Ward in the Senate and on the board of directors of the public School Forum of North Carolina, I know him to be a great educator and one of our strongest advocates for children. His Senate colleagues value his leadership highly, and have entrusted him with the chairmanship of the Education Appropriations Committee.

Senator Ward's re-election is important not only because he is such an effective representative for his own constituents, which would be reason enough. It is important

The four-night event featured gospel talent that kept the crowds clapping their hands and tapping their feet to the music. Young and old, Black and White joined together to listen and to enjoy.

The event would not have been a reality if it had not been for the Chronicle. In addition to sponsoring Gospelfest, your paper publicized it and spared two staff members for numerous weekly planning and implementation sessions.

Gospelfest has been extremely popular with fairgoers both years. Standing-room-only crowds attested to that. The groups, quartets, and choirs do a lot to make the Dixie Classic Fair fun, entertaining, and uplifting.

Thank you again for all the Chronicle did at the Fair. Your participation was very much appreciated.

Bob Morphis

## Jesse Jackson In '96: Can He Leave the Democratic Plantation?

As the 1996 presidential election season draws near, the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson recently indicated that he might launch a third bid for the White House as either a Democrat or an independent. Indeed, the Rev. Jackson suggested that an independent campaign is the option that would have "the most impact." For the Rev. Jackson, who is a master at capturing media attention, the speculation about whether he will run in '96 is bound to keep him in the news for some time to come. However, the idea of a Jackson for President campaign in '96 deserves serious analysis and discussion.

In my view, a re-run of the '84 and '88 Jackson for President campaigns via the Democratic primary route would attract lukewarm interest. An independent Jackson for President Campaign is another matter. In the eyes of many who rallied to the idea of "Rainbow Coalition," the Rev. Jackson failed to move the concept of the Rainbow to its logical conclusion - the creation of a third force in American politics: a massed Black democratic, independent, progressive third force which could run Rainbow Democrats and Rainbow Independents for public office while also using the Rev. Jackson calls "street heat" (various forms of protest politics), to advance a progressive agenda on behalf of black people, people of color and poor and working people in the U.S.

Instead of moving decisively in

that direction, the Rev. Jackson lost considerable momentum when he demobilized the Rainbow after the 1988 campaign and opted to remain, for better or worse, confined to the Democratic Party plantation. As a result of that fateful decision the Rev. Jackson was continually insulted by candidate Bill Clinton and disrespected by the Democratic Party in 1992. With no real organization and no where to go, the Rev. Jackson simply had to grin and bear it.

Beyond the Rev. Jackson's personal demise, however, the real tragedy has been the consolidation of the moderate-conservative ideological mindset inside the Democratic Party and the nation. With no clear, organized liberal-progressive alternative on the left what we really have in the person of President Clinton is Republicanism, the leader of a center-right coalition of moderate and conservative Democrats and Republicans.

Over a three and a half day period (Thursday, November 17-Sunday, November 20), the SORC will include a variety of sessions designed to achieve the overall objectives of the conference. The conference will begin on the 17th with an Organizers Institute to provide more indepth training for persons interested in learning the theory and practice of community organizing using community economic development, Black United Funds,

the development of local African American Leadership Summits and the creation of community based institutions as practical examples. On that evening there will be a National

Empowerment; Black Workers and Black Liberation; Economic Empowerment; Fighting Environmental Racism and Religion.

In the late evening there will be



### VANTAGE POINT

By RON DANIELS

Town Hall Meeting addressing the topic: Is There a Crisis of Black Leadership? Such notable leaders as Dr. LaFrances Rogers Rose, Dr. Romana Edelin, Dr. Conrad Worrill, Minister Louis Farrakhan and Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis are among those who will participate in this session.

The schedule on the 18th will include a Women's issues Caucus in the morning and Plenary Sessions on International and Domestic issues in the afternoon and evening. Outstanding activists, scholars and community leaders such as Don Rojas, Samori Marksman, Rosemary Mealy, Elombe Brath, Dr. Maulana Karenga, Dr. Gwendolyn Patton, Joan Watson, Dr. James Turner and the Rev. Calvin Butts are among the Keynote Presenters in the plenary sessions. On the 18th there will be 16 different Work Sessions covering a full range of issues areas from the Crisis of Black Youth to Education for Self-Development; Political

a Celebration of Pan-african World Culture featuring a tribute to Gil Scott Heron and Sonia Sanchez. The SORC will conclude on Sunday morning with a Spiritual Celebration centered around a tribute to our Honored Elders: Queen Mother Moore, Dr. John Henrik Clark and Dr. Josef benJochannan. Archbishop George Augustus Stallings will preside, with Dr. Leonard Jeffries, Nzinga Rati-hisha Heru and Michael Reese participating as presenters.

The National State of the Race Conference will be a history making event that you cannot afford to miss. It's Nation Time again. It's time for Africans in America and the world to seize control of our own destiny and future. Along with the African American Leadership Summit, the SORC will be an important component of the process of achieving that goal. It's Nation Time again!

(Ron Daniels is a national syndicated columnist.)