

# Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Choice for African-American News and Information

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1995

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

VOL. XXI, No. 37



Alderman Vivian Burke said the city needs to make the closed US 52 ramp off of Liberty Street more presentable. Merchants say the closed ramp hurts business.

## Liberty Street Merchants Want 52 Ramp Opened

By VERONICA CLEMONS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

D. Pitts, part owner of the Branco Food Mart at the corner of 25th and Liberty Streets, would like to leave the store open 24 hours a day. But because his potential customers do not have easy access on and off US 52 he cannot.

"I can't depend on street traffic to

support my store," he said. "The only thing I'm getting from the highway right now is dust."

The ramp leading back to US 52 Southbound has been closed for at least two years now. The city recommended to the state that the ramp be closed because of the number of accidents that had occurred there.

Assistant City Manager Pat Swann said the ramp does not provide good

acceleration for vehicles to easily move back onto US 52. Also, a short distance further up Liberty Street there is another ramp to access US 52 South. Pitts disagrees with accident reasoning.

"Don't tell me nothing about accidents," he said. "They used that as an excuse because the ramp is in the black

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## School Choice

### Debate on School Vouchers Heating Up

▲ 200 children show up for hearing on bill

▲ Some local officials view efforts as problematical

By ROXANNE PERLES  
Special to the Chronicle

More than 200 vocal African Americans were among more than 300 who packed the General Assembly auditorium for a public hearing on school choice in Raleigh May 4th.

The hearing, before 23 of 31 members of the House Education committee entered on two bills which would give varying levels of tuition assistance to children attending non-public schools. The overwhelming majority of the 21 speakers expressed their support for HB 781, the Children First Educational Opportunity Act.

Several of the triangle area African American independent schools were represented at the public hearing. Parents, teachers and students from Mt. Zion Christian Schools in Durham and Graham and Capital City Christian and Work of God Christian Schools in Raleigh participated in the hearing. Margaret Rose Murray, headmistress of Vital Link, a 31 year old independent school with campuses in Raleigh and Durham; Linda Bonner, the headmistress of Bonner Academy in Raleigh

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Dr. Marshaena McCoy

By VERONICA CLEMONS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

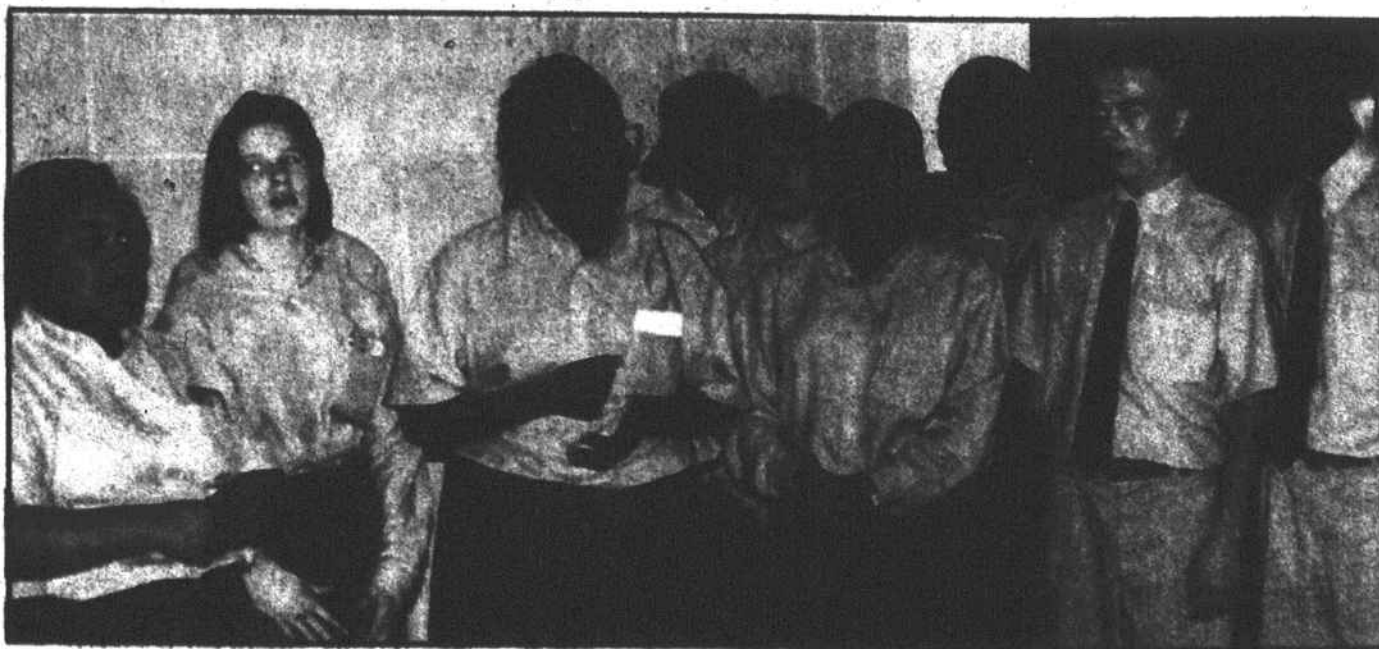
School Board member Walter Marshall doesn't think a school voucher program would work by just allowing private schools to get government money.

"I can't see giving public money to a private source without some strings attached," he said.

House Bill 781, which is still in committee, recommends giving students vouchers to attend the school of their parents choosing whether it be public or private.

School Superintendent Donald Martin doesn't

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Durham's Mt. Zion Christian School Choir sang at the General Assembly Hearing.



LaShanda Monique Jacobs visits her brother Derrick Hairston during his hospital stay.

## Boy Hit By Car Trying to Save Sis

By VERONICA CLEMONS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

A 4-year-old boy was hit by a car Saturday morning trying to save his 3-year old sister who had wandered in front of oncoming traffic.

Derrick Hairston, his sister La Shanda Monique Jacobs were walking up 25th Street with their baby-sitter Saturday morning to catch the bus to Super Saturday. The program is done by Agape Faith Church in Clemmons, said La Shanda Hairston who is the children's mother. She was at home, a short distance down the street, when the accident occurred.

"My oldest son came running back down the road to tell me what happened," she said.

Hairston found her son crying surrounded by hysteria. She was scared but relieved the child was not unconscious.

"I was freaked out for a little while," she said. "I was just glad he was doing something."

Derrick suffered a fractured skull from the accident. He was taken to Baptist Hospital. Hairston said it took Derrick a while to even remember what had happened to him.

Winston-Salem Police told

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## Judge Jails Rep. Linney for Leaving Courtroom

A freshman mistake by state Rep. Larry Linney, R-Buncombe, left him on the sidelines as the General Assembly began one of its busiest weeks Monday night.

Linney, an African American attorney from Asheville, spent the night in jail after being arrested in Raleigh for ignoring a federal judge's order to remain in court.

He missed several key votes as a result of missing Monday's session, including proposals to let citizens of the state to bypass the legislature and directly place issues directly on statewide ballots and a measure

that would require a two-thirds majority on any tax increase.

Both measures failed to pass.

Linney left court after telling U.S. district Court Judge Lacy Thornburg that he needed to leave for Raleigh to attend a General Assembly session.

Thornburg disagreed.

He told Linney that he needed to stay in Asheville to finish the court's business. After Linney left, Thornburg issued an arrest warrant.

When Linney, who is serving his first

term in the House, arrive in Raleigh, he was arrested at the Raleigh-Durham International Airport. He was taken to the Wake County jail by federal marshals around 6:15 p.m., where he stayed overnight on a federal hold.

Linney was taken back to Asheville Tuesday morning for a contempt-of-court hearing with Thornburg.

Linney was absent from Tuesday's session and missed a few more votes.

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**This Week in Black History**  
May 12, 1898. Louisiana adopted new constitution with "grandfather clause" designed to eliminate black voters.

Thomas P. Trullinger, president and CEO of Contract Office Furnishings, Inc. was named East Area Council's Business of the Year

