



WSSU Chancellor
Alvin Schenck
was in
Washington, D.C.
this week to
accept a
\$377,000 grant
from HUD.

Winston-Salem State will form CDC

By BRIDGET EVARTS
The Chronicle Staff Writer

Winston-Salem State University will soon form a community development corporation with a \$377,000 grant awarded from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) was among 17 historically black colleges and universities awarded up to \$400,000 each from the \$6.5 million HUD grant for community revitalization and economic development.

The university's intentions were announced in a Sept. 24 press conference,

held in Washington, D.C. WSSU Chancellor Alvin Schenck was among the representatives from the 17 colleges and universities in attendance.

WSSU had contracted a formal partnership with the East Winston Community Development Corporation under former chancellor Cleon F. Thompson. But recently the partnership between the two entities has seemed to be in name only.

The rift may have begun when Dr. Constance Johnson, a WSSU professor, resigned from her post as chair person of the East Winston CDC's board of directors.

Johnson left her position in late spring; with her departure, communication between the two organizations broke down.

Relations were further strained when a national organization that administers grants to CDCs distanced itself from the East Winston CDC.

Structured Employment/Economic Development Corporation (Seedco) fosters partnerships between community development corporations and historically black colleges and universities. The organization assists universities in rebuilding their sur-

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WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

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The heckler and the heckled meet as friends



[AP Photo/Will Counts]

Elizabeth Eckford, left, one of the Little Rock Nine who integrated Central High School in 1957, talks with Hazel Bryan in front of the school in Little Rock, Ark., Monday, Sept. 22, 1997. Bryan (whose name was then Hazel Bryan) was a student protester captured in photos heckling Eckford after she was turned away from the school by the Arkansas National Guard Sept. 4, 1957.

Little Rock reunion bridges racial divide

By PEGGY HARRIS
Associated Press Writer

Central High School.

Hazel Bryan was in the crowd that day. Her face grimaced in hate, she shouted at Eckford, who walked on, clutching her books, her emotions hidden behind dark glasses.

That moment — 40 years ago — was

captured by Will Counts, a photographer then for the Arkansas Democrat, now the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. His photo immortalized Eckford as a symbol of the civil rights movement and Bryan's young face as a symbol of

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Aldermen primaries yield unusual results

By BRIDGET EVARTS
The Chronicle Staff Writer

Low turnout is rarely a surprise during primary elections. This year, the surprise came in the form of some of the alderman ward results.

Perhaps one of the toughest upsets in the Sept. 23 primary was Democrat Inez Davis' victory over incumbent Lynne Harpe. Harpe, who has served as Southwest Ward alderman for 16 years, lost to Davis by a margin of about 20 votes.

Davis chalked up her victory to the support of family and friends, and added that she felt many unaffiliated voters and Republicans backed her campaign.

"I think many people in this ward know that I care very much for neighborhoods, and for this city in general," said Davis, a long-time community activist and mathematics teacher at the North Carolina School of the Arts. She thanked Harpe for her years of service.

Harpe was the only incumbent to lose in this year's primary, but some were surprised by former Alderman Frank L. Frye's loss to Democrat B.G. Hauser. Hauser will face Vernon Robinson for the South Ward seat in November.

Robinson took the South Ward Republican race easily, beating Jere Dailey with almost 69 percent of the votes. Robinson was the favored candidate of Alderman J. Hugh Wright, who did not file

for reelection.

Only 18 percent of the South Ward's registered voters are African-American; about 1 percent of those voted in the primary election. However, Robinson noted, the South Ward is still one of Winston's more diverse areas: blue collar workers and young professionals, as well as black, white and Hispanic residents, live together in the South Ward.

"As the South Ward goes, so goes the nation," said Robinson. "The South Ward is a very nice snapshot of America." He said his campaign volunteers reflected the diversity of the ward — some Democrats worked for him, though they couldn't vote in his primary.

Robinson said he looked forward to public debates with his opponent, and is confident that he has tapped the sentiment of the South Ward.

"I think that thinking Democrats will join together."

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Inez Davis



Lynne Harpe



Vernon Robinson



The LER board of directors, Willie B. Conrad Sr., Nancy Carpenter, Minnie Thomas and Naomi Jones, stand in front of Fairchild Hills Apartments. LER has partnered with a Raleigh developer to rehabilitate the properties.

LER rebuilds Northeast step by step

By BRIDGET EVARTS
The Chronicle Staff Writer

Liberty East Redevelopment Inc. (LER) has a mission to take back northeast Winston, one piece at a time. And now, with the city board of aldermen's blessings, LER will help tackle one of the most problematic developments in the area.

Fairchild Hills is a 245-unit property located off 25th Street. Only 140 of the units are currently rented out; most stand empty and boarded-up.

Last week, the board of aldermen

approved a proposal presented by LER and a Triangle-area developer to acquire and redevelop Fairchild Hills. This will be the second time the northeast Winston group and developer Gordon Blackwell have paired up on such a project.

Several years ago, Blackwell's Regency Development Association approached the city about acquiring 121 units of rental property on Cleveland Avenue. The apartments were dilapidated and crime-ridden, and city officials had resigned themselves to handing the property over to the housing authority.

Blackwell offered to rehabilitate the units at about a fourth of what the city had estimated, had it done so on its own.

"I was very happy when they came along," said Monica Lett of the city's Housing and Neighborhood Development Office. "They went far beyond anybody's expectations, in terms of the quality of work done."

Those apartments are now known as Burke Village, named after Northeast Ward Alderman Vivian Burke. Last year, Burke Village received the Housing North

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Bledsoe says Project Homestead signed bond

By BRIDGET EVARTS
The Chronicle Staff Writer

Project Homestead in Greensboro has become involved in another limousine venture, said the nonprofit housing provider's former business associate.

Dale Bledsoe, owner of All Stretched Out Limousines on West Market Street, said that he attempted to get a bond on a 1995 Mercedes limousine currently in his possession, and found that Project Homestead's president had already signed

a bond for the limo's co-owner, Lorrence Lawson. The bond is with Mays Insurance on East Wendover in Greensboro.

The bond, said Bledsoe, was for \$86,000. "If the car gets damaged, Project Homestead has to pay \$86,000," Bledsoe explained. He said that insurance agent Linda Ballance told him Project Homestead's financial statement backed the bond, signed Aug. 29.

Bledsoe said that if the Rev. Michael King, the housing organization's president, signed a bond

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HAWS may have missed Drug Elimination Grant

By BRIDGET EVARTS
The Chronicle Staff Writer

A local Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) official said that several housing authorities may have missed an opportunity to fight drugs and crime in public housing.

Jesse Kome, public affairs officer for the North Carolina HUD office, said that an unusually high number of authorities did not apply for the Drug Elimination

Grant or missed the deadline this year. The Housing Authority of Winston-Salem (HAWS) may have been one of those authorities.

The national HUD office allocated \$259 million last year for the grant. Out of 978 applicants, 650 authorities received funding. The grant can be used to increase police presence, toughen tenant screening and eviction practices, fund security improvements or create youth programs, in order to

reduce drug activity and crime in public housing.

Applications had to be delivered to the state HUD office in Greensboro Aug. 8 before 3 p.m. A source close to the local housing authority said that the application for the grant, which would have provided about \$500,000 funding for HAWS, had not been submitted on time. That office also administers grants to HAWS and

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