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Black History Month Calendar See Page A5

SPORTS WEEK

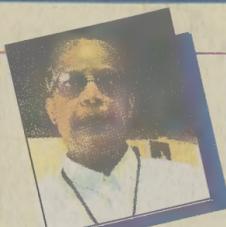
Athletes pick colleges
...
Demons back in basketball groove



See A2



See B1



See A4



See C1

COMMUNITY

'Let God be God'
...
Belton-Brown, Kennedy earn top honors

WINSTON-SALEM GREENSBORO HIGH POINT

Vol. XXVI No. 26

THE CHRONICLE

The Choice for African American News

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2000

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RUBIN

NAACP calls for outside arbitrator

Allison, black leaders request that city manager step away from case of officers demoted after LJVM incident

WALKER
CLE
utive director of the
olina NAACP has
voice to a growing
people who want the
er to dismiss himself
rievance hearings of
an American police

sibly violating the officers' rights.

"The NAACP requests you, the Board of Aldermen, order the city manager to restore these three officers to their previous ranks and make them whole (in terms of) salary and back pay, or, at the very least, you must provide that these hearings be heard by an outside arbitrator," Allison said.

Citing Stuart's relationship with Police Chief Linda Davis, who demoted the officers, many local black leaders have already requested that Stuart let someone unaffiliated with his office hear the officers' grievances.

Stuart hired Davis early last year, even though she was serving as interim police chief at the time, so that Stuart could make an objective decision on the can-

didates who had applied for the job.

Davis was supposedly not interested in the job and never applied for the position or went through the interview process.

"I don't think you could go against the recommendation of the person you brought out of retirement," Alderman Nelson

See Cops on A10

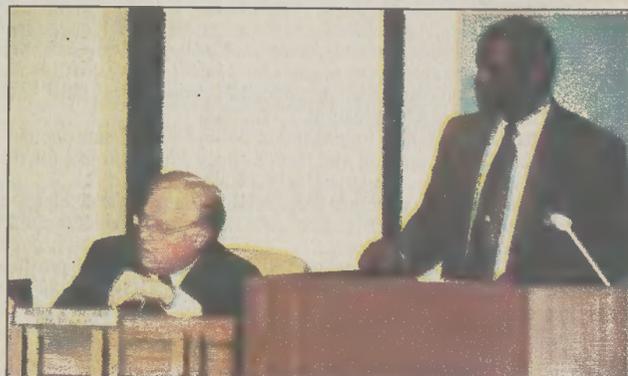


Photo by Bruce Chapman

City Manager Bill Stuart answers questions about grievance hearings from aldermen as George Allison, state executive director of the NAACP, listens.

g before the Board of
Monday night,
lison said City Man-
quart has botched the
process through
inaction and by pos-

Census taker



Photo by Kevin Walker

Kevin Walker, partnership specialist for the Census, stands in front of Census 2000 headquarters off Stratford Road in Winston-Salem.

Census taps Bonham to head count

WALKER
RONICLE
your future; don't
it blank.

ose words roll off Jim-
onham's tongue with
ncy and ease these
s he talks with individ-
and groups about the
tance of being count-

onham is one of two
rship specialists for the
ensus office, a title that
the Winston-Salem
on the run a lot lately.
the title implies, the
partnership specialist
s going out into the

community and forming partnerships with churches, community groups and businesses to ensure an accurate census count.

For example, Bonham said, several leaders in the faith community have partnered with census officials and agreed to pass along information about the effort to their congregations.

Bonham says his deep roots in the city have been helpful during the process.

"That's one of the requirements - you must know the community. They choose the individuals who know the community best,"

Bonham said.

For nearly all of his life, Bonham has been a familiar face here. He pastors Pitts Memorial Baptist Church and is secretary of the local Ministers Conference. Bonham is also known as an activist and an entrepreneur; one of his business ventures includes a popular hair salon.

A typical day for Bonham normally lasts more than 10 hours and may include visiting sites in one of the four other counties - Ashe, Yadkin, Wilkes and Davie - covered by the local census office. Phone calls, e-mailing,

faxing and developing and presenting census workshops also take much of his time.

But Bonham doesn't mind the hours. In fact, he said, the work is fulfilling for him.

Bonham jumped at the opportunity to be a part of the census team. He realized the importance of the government's population count; he wants others to realize it as well.

"I understand the importance of the census. Numbers translate into federal funding and the number of representatives in a particular area,"

See Bonham on A9

Oldham faces challenge in 67th

WALKER
ICLE
or experience?

choice that the two candi-
ng the Democratic nomi-
the 67th state House
ll be asking voters to
2.

erm incumbent Pete
73, has faced Carlton
33, before. In 1990 Old-
the seat for the first time,
at Pressley and two other

ley for the last decade. A recent
H o w a r d
graduate at
the time,
Pressley felt
he had a
good chance
of winning.
O t h e r s,
t h o u g h,
were not as
confident.
"I had
just finished
my first year
of law school...I
decided to quit
law school and



Oldham

run," Pressley said. "Some people
had a prob-
lem with
that. They
wanted me
to finish my
education,
get a good
job and
become
more (eco-
nomicallly)
stable."
T h e
Carlton Pressley who filed to run
in the 2000 election last Friday is



Pressley

an ordained minister with a mas-
ter's degree and a law degree.

For the past year and a half, Pressley has served as the senior legislative adviser to Senate Deputy President Pro Tempore Frank Ballance, a position that he says makes him Ballance's "eyes and ears."

Pressley divides his time between Raleigh and his hometown; here in Winston-Salem, he owns several rental properties and is an associate minister at New Jerusalem Baptist Church. His

See Oldham on A9

Mount Tabor students mix Rebel flag and fashion

BY CHERIS HODGES
THE CHRONICLE

One school official says students have the constitutional right to wear articles of clothing that are emblazoned with the Confederate flag.

The wearing of the flag became an issue earlier this week when black parents and students at Mount Tabor High School complained about students sporting Confederate bandannas, hats and T-shirts.

Calling the clothing an issue of free speech, Douglas Pungler, attorney for the school system, said students are within their rights to wear it.

"I can understand why African Americans may feel offended, but that does not give them the right to censor other people's speech," he said. "We recognize that various symbols offend various people."

Pungler said telling students what to wear could become grounds for a lawsuit. The flag has been in the news lately because several

"I can understand why African Americans may feel offended, but that does not give them the right to censor other people's speech," - Douglas Pungler, school attorney

See Confederate on A10

Belton-Brown, Kennedy honored by Chronicle

BY JERI YOUNG
THE CHRONICLE

Advocates of education led a stellar group of honorees for this year's Chronicle's awards ceremony.

Mosé Belton-Brown and Dr. Charlie Kennedy were recently named The Chronicle's Man and Woman of the Year for 1999.

The awards will be presented during the paper's annual awards banquet March 18 at the Benton Convention Center. The awardees will be honored in a commemorative edition that will appear in The Chronicle Feb. 24.

Belton-Brown, a native of Winston-Salem, is being honored for her work on behalf of students at Winston-Salem State University. Over the past three years, the All State Insurance agent has raised more than \$96,000 for the school's scholarship fund.

Belton-Brown, a 1972 graduate of Winston-Salem State University, said the honor comes as a surprise.

"I always felt like I was a part of The Chronicle," Belton-Brown said. "This is the ultimate honor to be awarded something from an organization you value so much."

Belton-Brown, who holds a master's degree in education from N.C. Agricultural and Technical State University, is active in a number of organizations, including the Kimberly Park Alumni Chapter of WSSU and Delta Sigma Theta. She also serves as vice president of the Kernersville chapter of National Women of Achievement and president of the Forsyth County chapter of the American Business Women's Association.

She also serves as a mentor at Cook Elementary School.

Last fall, she was crowned WSSU's "Miss Alumni" for her fund-raising efforts for the university.

"I enjoy working with children," she said. "They need to see positive role models."



Belton-Brown



Kennedy

See Awards on A10