

Discipline recommended for officers

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Hodgkiss, associate attorney for the families, said this week. Earlier this year, the city reached an out-of-court settlement in the shooting death of Windy Gail Thompson by officer Mark Farmer in December 1993.

"We look at these issues that have arisen, most recently Carolyn Sue Boetticher, and that is only a measure of justice," said Minister Robert Muhammad, the Nation of Islam's leader in Charlotte. "Certainly that is beyond nothing being done at all. But it does not appease the masses of people. There seems to be an open season on black people in Charlotte."

"It is imperative that we build our own mechanism to seek justice for our people," Muhammad said. "The Citizen Review Board is one piece, but only a step. We want a completely independent review board."

Farmer and Marlow have been cleared by local and federal investigations. The Cooper decision was announced Friday by the U.S. Justice Department, which said it found no evidence to dispute Marlow's assertion that he thought Cooper was reaching for a gun when the officer shot and killed him after a traffic stop in east Charlotte.

In the Boetticher case, an internal police review board, after a

hearing last week, recommended that Jordan be fired. That recommendation has been referred to the city's Civil Service Board, as required by statute. A bullet from Jordan's service weapon was identified as the one which struck Boetticher in the back of her neck, killing her.

The board recommended that Belz be suspended for 30 days without pay for his part in the incident.

Most of the bullets fired at Lundy's car entered the side and back of the vehicle as it passed the officers, who said they thought it was trying to run them down.

Lundy, a former West

Columbia, S.C. businessman, was uninjured. He has been charged with possession of a stolen auto and possession of cocaine in addition to assault on a police officer.

Police Chief Dennis Nowicki concurred in both recommendations and both officers are currently serving suspensions.

Review board has 4 blacks

Two appointed by city manager Syfert

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High, a retired court reporter; Faison S. Kuester Sr., a retired manager with American Cyanamid and Kuester Properties Inc. and Brian David Gott, a former Business Journal reporter who is a fund raiser for the American Cancer Society.

Syfert appointed Fox and Harrison, plus John Robert Phillips, a former volunteer paramedic who is vice president of Operations for Quality Equipment & Supply Co.

"We were looking for good people, people who were good listeners and good at gathering the facts," McCrory said. "My goal was to make it a group of individuals who are dedicated to finding out the facts and giving a perspective outside the law agencies."

"A lot of qualified people were not selected," McCrory said. "We looked for people not in the spotlight...not political. I didn't want this board to be a jumping (off)

ground for future politicians."

City council included two blacks when it made five appointments.

The council appointed African Americans Maxine Crowder-Wilson, director of the YWCA's Alexander Street child development center and Calvin Jackson, a CPCC forensics instructor. Whites George Daly, a lawyer; Bobby Miller, a retired Hoechst Celanese division vice president and Suzanne Varner, a homemaker and member of Calvary Church were also appointed.

City council will appoint a chairman for the panel, which will review police actions in cases of deadly or excessive force, improper search and seizure, improper arrest and unbecoming conduct.

Citizens will bring complaints to the board if they are not satisfied with decisions made by the police Internal Affairs process.

The board will only have powers to recommend actions to the city manager, who will convey them to the police chief. It will also make reports from time to time on general issues involving police and the community.

The citizens review board was established the city council in June after a community outcry over the police shooting of three unarmed blacks, including two women, in three years.



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Run, Jesse run in 2000?

By Hillary Chura
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO - Two-time presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson Sr. said Saturday he is considering a run for president in 2000. And his congressman son predicts Jackson will be in the race.

Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., D-Ill., told the Chicago Sun-Times: "I think he'll run all the way" for the Democratic nomination.

The civil rights leader said he did not know of his son's prediction. "He has his opinion, which is shared by many, but I have not made a decision to run right now," he said.

"I know running involves the proper timing, proper organization and proper planning - many factors are involved," he said. A decision was at least three weeks away, Jackson said.

Jackson ran unsuccessfully for the Democratic nomination in 1984 and 1988. He considered a run in 1996 but decided against it.

Rep. Jackson's comments are

the strongest indication yet that his father will try again. The younger Jackson says he hoped his father would make a decision soon, and he is eager to get his father moving.

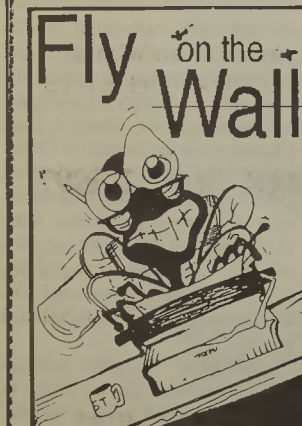
"We should know in short order or it will be too late. ... If he's going to get in the game, let's do it right," he told the Sun-Times.

Other potential hopefuls for the Democratic nomination include Vice President Al Gore and House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo.

Jackson's comments came at a news conference during the National Rainbow/PUSH Coalition annual conference, at which he spoke in favor of affirmative action, expanding free trade, as well as improving education opportunities for minorities.

Delegate Anne Braden of Louisville, Ky., said she hoped Jackson would run for president.

"This country needs an alternative," she said. "The current politicians have written people off. There is no concern about the gap between poor and rich."



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journalist, Charlotte native Bea Thompson.

Alas, Fly has shed quite a few tears the last couple of weeks. Our favorite hangout, Big Plays, owned by everyone's favorite Carolina Panther, Big Ray Seals was a victim of flood-

ing. Actually it was the victim of falling timbers, cement and sheet rock when a wall collapsed during the Great Creek Flood of 1997. Anyway, Fly's spies hears Ray didn't have flood insurance and is wondering what to do next. Well Fly has the answer. Since Ray has been so good to us - all those free tickets, baby - we're going to be good to you. Here's a free list of places to move Big Plays: The old Roxy, formerly The Fountain, formerly Le Fountain Bleu. Great neon, dance floor a little small, but Big Ray can afford to fix that. Good.

The Capri Theater on Independence. Sure, it's already sold, but hey, for Big Ray, anything's possible.

Or we could just build a club of our own, oops excuse me, his own. We like the University Area. Great location, lots of colored folks.

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