

**Chronicle Profile**

**Napper: From get-by student to role model**

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"In the community I come from, nobody expects you to be a doctor," says 18-year-old Jonathan Napper. "If anything, you're expected to become an athlete."

So Jonathan, the youngest of the Rev. and Mrs. Warren Napper's eleven children, lived up to that expectation until he was recruited by the Upward Bound program at Winston-Salem State University. Before that, the 1984 West Forsyth graduate says, academics were secondary and basketball was always first.

Even though it's hard to imagine now, Jonathan says he wasn't the ideal student until he enrolled in Upward Bound three years ago.

In his neighborhood on 27th St. -- one he says labels you an athlete before you have a chance to decide between sports or academics -- Jonathan says the label "athlete" led him to work below his academic potential.

"I was a get-by student," says Jonathan, who this year served as the Upward Bound Student Government Association's president. "I always knew that later on in life I would have to study if I ever wanted to be anything. So I said, 'I'll wait until that time comes along.'"

"As long as I made it from one grade to the next, it was okay," he says in a regretful tone.

But on July 20, Jonathan Napper was named Upward Bound's most outstanding student. In recognition of that accomplishment, he received a four-foot tall trophy which hasn't been given away since 1978, when Felicia Piggott won it and went on to graduate

from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

According to Upward Bound Director Addie Hymes, Napper "is the Upward Bound student. He's taken advantage of everything. He came out of Kennedy High a C student." Napper attended junior high at Kennedy.

He graduated from West Forsyth High with an A-minus average in June.

With high hopes of obtaining an academic scholarship after completing his freshman year at WSSU, Jonathan says he will enter the school's medical technology program and then go to medical school upon graduating.

Jonathan showed great potential as a basketball player when he gave up the sport at the age of 15. He says he plays basketball only occasionally now, and then just to relieve the academic pressure. It was Hymes, he says, who gave him a choice between the two.

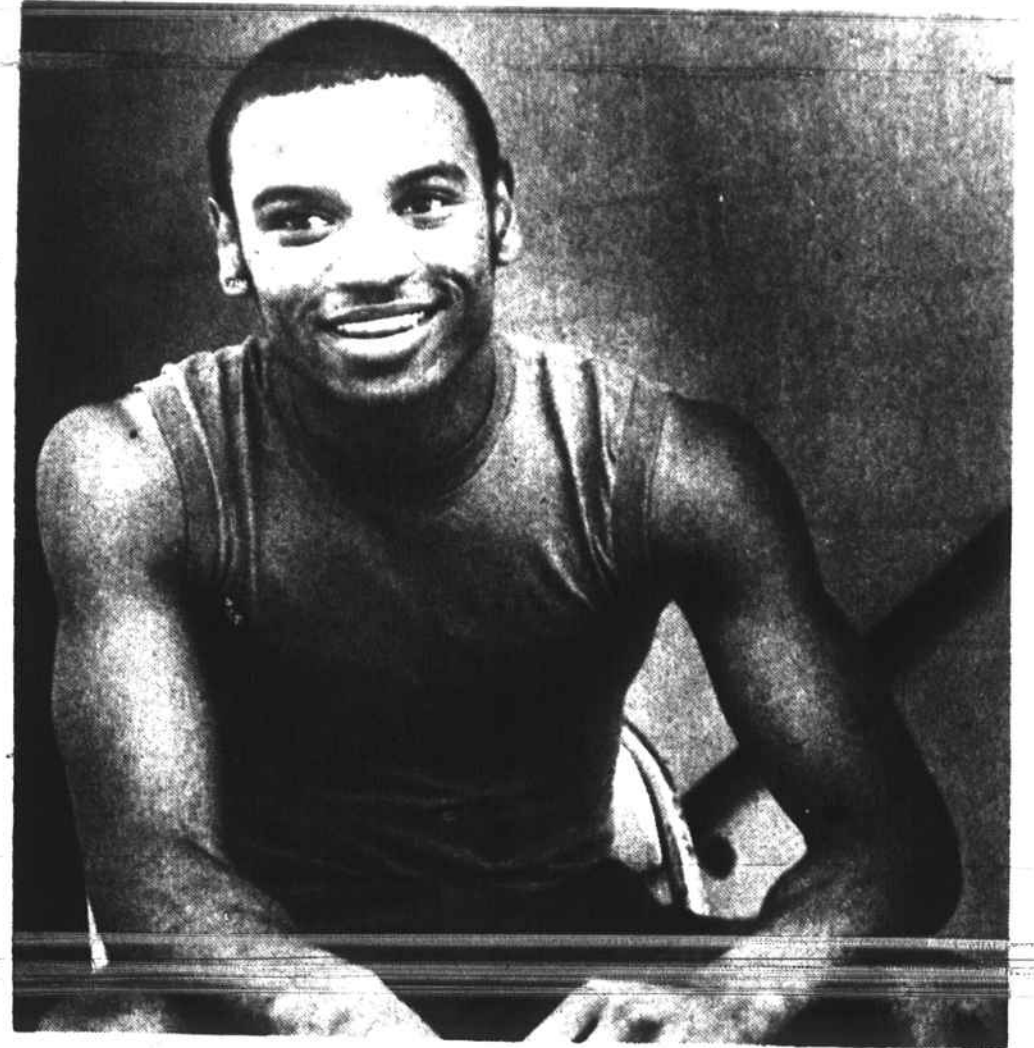
"In my neighborhood," Jonathan says, "so much emphasis is placed on basketball that you really don't care about academics."

"I believe I would have been one of the better players at West Forsyth," he says, "but I called Mrs. Hymes one day after I had just enrolled in the program and asked her if I could stay for basketball practice and she said, 'No.'"

Jonathan never returned to basketball practice. And although he says he knew Hymes was right, "Everybody thought I was stupid for dropping basketball."

Instead, he took on an academic curriculum of physics, chemistry, computer science, Algebra I and II, Geometry and English composition.

Upward Bound served as the perfect stimulus for Jonathan to fulfill his lifelong dream of becoming a doctor, he says. His



Jonathan Napper: Upward Bound made him put academics first (photo by James Parker).

academic ambition prevented his friends on the basketball court from labeling him as indifferent to things.

After most of the awards and certificates had been handed out at the Upward Bound awards program two weeks ago in WSSU's

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**Alphas convene in Cleveland**

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., the nation's oldest and largest predominantly black Greek-letter organization, will hold its 78th anniversary convention on Aug. 3-8 at the Stouffer's Inn-on-the-Square in Cleveland.

Ozell Sutton, the 26th general president of the fraternity, will preside over the meeting. During the meeting, results of nationwide balloting will determine the organization's next president, whose term will begin Jan. 1, 1985.

Sutton is southeast regional director of the Community Relations Service of the U.S. Department of Justice in Atlanta. He also serves as chairperson of the Council of Presidents, composed of the heads of the eight black inter-collegiate fraternities and sororities.

The convention is expected to draw some 4,000 delegates, members and guests. The theme of the convention is "Toward Economic and Political Empowerment: The Struggle Continues." Many of the convention workshops and symposiums will attempt to stimulate black voter participation in what Sutton calls "the critical elections of 1984."



Ozell Sutton

Other key convention officials include William R. Bennett, convention chairman and director of financial aid at Cleveland State University; James B. Blanton III, APA's national executive director; Kermit J. Hall, APA's director of general conventions; Andrew Venable, president of the Cleveland alumni chapter and director of the East Cleveland Library, and Steve Boyd, a senior at Dyke Collier, who serves as president of the college chapter.

**Military News**

**Culler Jr. ends Navy course**

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class **Ronnie H. Culler Jr.**, son of Ronnie and Kathi Culler of 458 Oak Grove Road, has completed a cryptologic technician maintenance course.

The 12-week course was conducted at the Naval Technical Training Center at Corry Station in Pensacola, Fla. The course was designed to provide technicians with a working knowledge of basic electronic maintenance for equipment used in coding and deciphering messages.

Marine Pfc. **Marion Aldridge Jr.**, son of Dorothy Aldridge of 2801 Urban St. and Marion Aldridge Sr. of 1238 N. Dunleith Ave., has completed the infantry combat training course at the Marine Corps Base in Camp Lejeune.

During the six-week course, he received classroom instruction and participated in field exercises involving infantry tactics, the construction and camouflage of fighting positions and the use of mines.

Marine Pvt. **Kenneth V. Davidson**, son of Hazel Davidson of 2624 Woodvale Drive, has completed recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in Parris Island, S.C.

During the 11-week training course, Davidson learned the basics of battlefield survival. He was introduced to the typical daily routine that he will experience

during his enlistment. Davidson also studied the personal and professional standards traditionally exhibited by Marines.

He also participated in an active physical conditioning program and gained proficiency in a variety of military skills, including first aid, rifle marksmanship and close-order drill.

Marine Pfc. **Daniel W. Andrews**, son of Mary L. Andrews of 1844 E. Fourth St., has reported for duty with the 1st Marine Division in Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Navy Seaman **Gary O. Mitchell**, son of Alfred and Mattie L. Mitchell of 2424 Caledonia Drive, is one of more than 50,000 sailors and Marines from five nations taking part in a major maritime exercise called "Rimpac 84."

He is a crew member aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Mahlon S. Tisdale, based in Long Beach, Calif.

Marine Lance Cpl. **Anthony D. Young**, son of Ann J. and Thomas H. Moore Sr. of 3917 Lenora Drive, has been promoted to his present rank while serving at the Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center in Twenty-nine Palms, Calif.