

Brown Aspires To Become Nationally Known Musician

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer

"Drums are the oldest instruments in the world. Rhythm fascinates me - I can communicate with drums. It fascinates me that I can make sounds by striking an instrument." These are the sentiments of drummer Clyde Dudley Brown, a Johnson C. Smith student who's aspiring to become a nationally known prizewinning musician.

"Music is my love and I plan to succeed in it in any way I possibly can," Brown noted. "In three years I'd like to make the national scene with The Electric Fried Okra Band." That's the progressive rock-funk band Brown plays with. Consisting of a rhythm bass guitar, lead bass and brass that group plays occasionally in the Charlotte area - Freedom Park, Johnson C. Smith. The group holds down performances because most of their music is originally composed by group members and have not been copywrited yet.

Recently, Brown was contracted as a percussionist at Pineville Dinner Theatre.

"I was recommended by Marvin Davenport, band director at Johnson C. Smith. I went down to the theatre, sat down with the music director, ran over the score and got the job."



Clyde Dudley Brown
...J.C. Smith student

Brown stated. The job will cover 14 weeks with plays including "South Pacific," "Camelot," and "My Fair Lady." Brown also plays with gospel groups and started playing with the Smith Pep Band when he was in the sixth grade. He has been a percussionist for Johnson C. Smith's Marching and Stage Bands for the past four years.

While attending the International Percussion Symposium at East Carolina University, Brown received the distinguished Ludwig Percussion Symposium Award. He has studied under Ed Sharrhnessy of the Johnny Carson's Tonight Show and

Rock Drummer Carmine Appic currently with Rod Stewart's band.

Brown, however, readily admits that his abilities come from practicing. "Most of my abilities come by me practicing on my own. I spend a lot of time practicing - as much time as I can. It's not book work, but how much practice you do on your own."

As a business and marketing major at Johnson C. Smith, Brown plans to incorporate his training to benefit his musical career. "I'll try to get into the artist and repertoire department of a record company. The department signs bands, allocates money and tells them how much they have in the budget. I'd like to do work involved with music to learn more about the business," he stated. "I'd like to start a recording business. Being in music - it's unlimited what I can do."

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde H. Brown of 1400 Waddell St. Brown not only plays all drums but also plays the bass guitar and clarinet.

Brown seems to be waiting for the right amount of knowledge and the right beat to make his mark in the entertainment industry. And when he does he is bound to be one of the best.



Shkelia Becton had her first birthday party. With hats, whistles, and special decor the gang had a lovely time. Pictured from left to right are: Lamont Wright, Pat Davis, Sonja Link, Pat Vinson, Tiarra Vinson, Mickey Davis, Dema Newberry, Sharon Newberry, Yolanda Becton, Shkelia Becton, Ann

Austin, Michelle Austin, Nkenge Wright, Mary Munday, Tony Spicer, Edward Newberry, Jackie McCoullough, Chantra McCoullough, Michelle Mundy, Jesse Spicer. The birthday girl, Shkelia is the daughter of Robert and Yolanda Becton. The party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Spicer, Sr.

Summer Lunch Program To Feed Needy Children

Needy children in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County will be receiving free lunches this summer in a special program sponsored by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools' Food Services.

The free lunch program designed to serve children in areas with high concentrations of low income families will begin on June 23 and run through August 1. Children who receive

free lunches during the school year generally will be served during the summer.

Funds for the program are being provided by the U. S. Department of Agriculture through the Special Food Service Program for Children. Funds are being channeled to CMS through the Department of Public Instruction's School Food Services Division. There will be no discrim-

ination of any child because of race, color or national origin.

The local program, which is in its sixth year, is being coordinated jointly by the city and county recreation departments, churches and civic groups.

Read the Post
Each Week

GI Home Loan Interest Decreases One Percent

The first decrease in the GI home loan interest rate ceiling since 1976 was announced last week by Veterans Administration chief Max Cleland.

The new maximum rate - 13 percent - took effect last week. It is a full point below the record 14 percent ceiling which has been in effect since April 3.

For a veteran buying a home with a 30-year, \$50,000 GI loan, the one percent rate decrease will lower the monthly payment by about \$50.

The rate change does not affect existing loans, Cleland pointed out. Once a loan is made the interest rate remains the same over the life of the loan.

The new 13 percent rate

was agreed upon jointly by VA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and is in line with interest rate reductions in the private sector.

VA guarantees loans made by private lenders to eligible veterans, unmarried surviving spouses and active duty military personnel. The guaranty covers 60 percent of the loan amount for a maximum of \$25,000 whichever is lower.

VA has guaranteed loans worth \$8.6 billion so far in fiscal year 1980. Since the GI loan guaranty program began in 1944, approximately 10.5 million loans worth \$178.6 billion have been guaranteed by VA, Cleland said.

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Famous Clydesdale

Horses Coming To Town

The Clydesdale is a heavy, draught-horse breed which originated in Scotland and was later improved by cross-breeding with Flemish stallions. It was introduced into North America about 1842 and was used principally as a draught horse. An average horse stands 64 to 66 inches tall, weighs 1,700-2,000 pounds and is bay, dark brown or black in color, with prominent white markings. The breed is noted for its high hoof action while walking or trotting and for the feathered hair on the legs. The Clydesdale's ancestors include those strong mounts which bore Christian knights to battle in the Crusades.

The Clydesdales can be seen at the old Town & Country Ford location on E. Independence Blvd. from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. beginning May 19 through May 26.

In the early days of American brewing, it was said that a brewer's success was determined by how far his draught horses could pull their beer wagons in a day's time.

In 1933, August A. Busch, Jr., currently honorary chairman of Anheuser-

Busch, Inc., acquired a team of Clydesdales to celebrate the repeal of Prohibition. Anheuser-Busch's commitment to the propagation of this remarkable breed - and America's love affair with the Budweiser hitch - date from that year.

The official home of the Budweiser Clydesdale is in St. Louis, in an ornate stable built in 1885 on the grounds of Anheuser-Busch's 70-block headquarters-brewery complex, a registered National Historic Landmark.

Two eight-horse teams tour the United States to make more than 300 public appearances each year. The teams are based in St. Louis and Merrimack, New Hampshire.

At Grant's Farm in suburban St. Louis County, nearly 100 Clydesdales roam in pastures adjacent to the former home of Ulysses S. Grant, the nation's 18th president. They comprise the largest Clydesdale herd in the nation. Between 20 and 30 foals are born each year.

Each Clydesdale team is transported by caravan in three 40-by-eight-foot vans, with air cushion suspension and thick rubber flooring to ease the rigors of standing.

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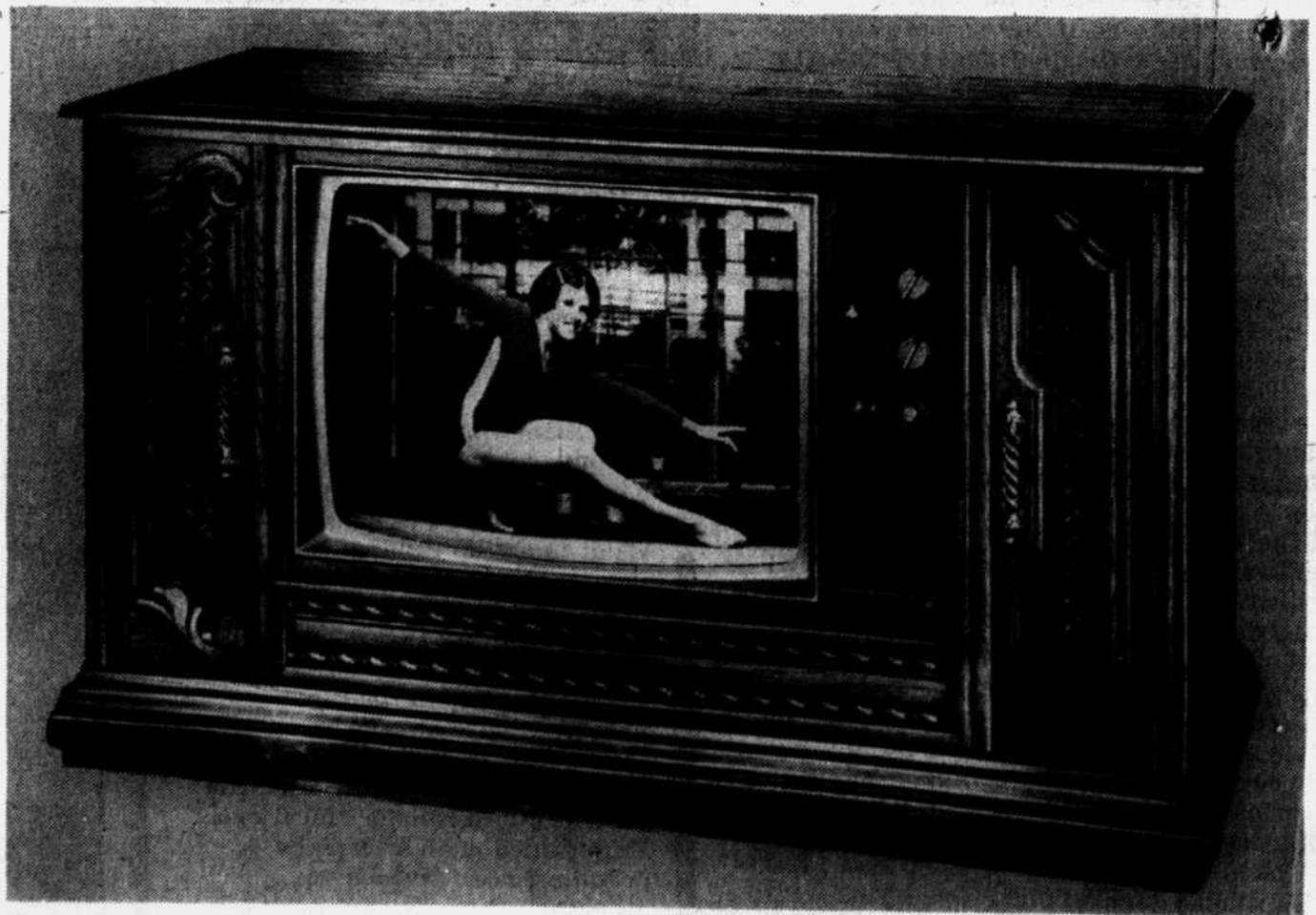
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