



Patricia A. Russell
.....Guest speaker

Barber-Scotia Plans

117th Commencement

Students, visiting parents and friends, faculty, staff and guest dignitaries will bring the Barber-Scotia campus alive on Sunday, May 13, when the 117th commencement exercises get underway in the college convocation center at 10 a.m.

Guest speaker will be the articulate, substantive, and thought-provoking Patricia A. Russell, attorney-at-law and public speaker for San Antonio, Texas.

Other special guests at the exercises will include members of the college's board of trustees.

Bachelor degrees will be awarded to 50 graduate seniors in ten areas; sociology, history, mathematics, computer-science-mathematics, business administration, secretarial administration, elementary education, secondary education, medical technology, and biology.

The 117th commencement exercises are special

to the BSC campus, in that it marks the first graduating class of Virgin Island students enrolled at the institution.

A host of family and friends of these graduating seniors will be traveling from the Virgin Islands to witness this occasion.

Russell, the commencement speaker, is a graduate of Howard University School of Law and Kentucky State University.

President of Patricia Russell Consultants, this National Elk's Oratorical award has appeared nationally as keynote speaker for numerous institutions, organizations and associations.

Russell, a member of the U.S. Supreme Court, the District of Columbia, is the immediate past national parliamentarian of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Michael Parker Says Young Democrats Open To Everyone

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer

The members of the Charlotte Chapter of the Young Democrats will present to Mecklenburg County its first black vice president, at the annual Installation Banquet, May 19 at 7 p.m.

Though the organization has three vice presidents Michael Parker assumed the duties of first vice president earlier this month. He explained he will act as president in the absence of the organization's leader. Parker oversees projects and assures programs and events operate smoothly.

"I think my position as first vice president will make more people realize Young Democrats is open to everyone," Parker noted. He has been a member of the politically oriented group for two years, and served as treasurer last year.

Stating he has no "defined political ambitions," Parker informed he became a member of Young Democrats after working on a senatorial campaign. "While working on the

campaign I really enjoyed learning about behind-the-scenes politics," Parker stated. "A friend encouraged me to join Young Democrats."

When Parker joined the organization, he became noticeably active. He mentioned he spent about six months working on several projects within Young Democrats. At the next election he was nominated and elected treasurer.

"I'd like to see the Young Democrats as the impetus to work with other organizations with similar interests," Parker stated. Other organizations in the area which associate with politics are effective. However, he'd like to see an even greater impact occur through a unified effort of all the organizations.

Parker is also looking forward to blacks participating in the organization as well as an increase of dedicated young people. "Our members are 18-35 years old," Parker expressed. "I want to see this age range remain interested in politics and how it



Michael Parker
.....First vice president

works. This will encourage the members to later join perhaps the senior organization or the Democratic Men's or Women's Clubs.

Parker stressed some of the 450 members throughout the Mecklenburg County who are members of Young Democrats didn't have political knowledge. "The members learn the political process by attending meetings and listening to our speakers," he continued.

Young Democrats originated in Charlotte during the 1960's. It has three regular

monthly activities: a luncheon, a general meeting and a board meeting.

According to Parker, the organization doesn't endorse Democratic candidates before the primary. "Once the Democratic candidate for 9th District Congress has been selected, I'm sure we will work with that candidate's campaign," Parker assured.

A graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, Parker is a budget analyst with the

City Budget Evaluation Office. If you'd like to purchase tickets (\$12.50) to the Installation Banquet, tele-

phone Parker at 598-7796. Inquiries for joining the Young Democrats may also be directed to Parker.

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