

# Ministers Feel Contest Is "Very Good For Us All"

By Audrey C. Lodato  
Post Staff Writer

Not only is The Post's Church Woman of the Year Contest exciting for contestants and their committee members, it is also "a beautiful experience" for the participating congregations, according to Rev. A.B. Sutton of Ebenezer Baptist Church, last year's second place winner.

"It gives the church a certain exposure," noted Rev. Sutton. "It is very good for us."

Besides providing valuable prizes for the contestants, the contest enables local churches to fund projects or equipment they might otherwise have to do without. Last year, Ebenezer's building fund was the beneficiary of the money raised by the church's contest participants.

New Hampton Presby-



Rev. Isaiah Phinisee  
New Hampton Presb.

terian Church was the 1983 first-place winner. Rev. Isaiah Phinisee, pastor of the congregation, felt the experience of participating in the contest was exciting and rewarding for all involved. "Every weekend we had something to look forward to," the pastor explained. "It was a let-down when the contest was over." The money raised



Rev. A.B. Sutton  
Ebenezer Baptist

went toward the purchase

of a copy machine for the church's Christian Education Department.

Last year was New Hampton's first opportunity to participate in the Church Woman of the Year Contest as a congregation. Despite the lack of previous experience, however, the church's contestant, Estelle Davis, was able to secure the coveted title.

Memorial United Presbyterian on Beatties Ford Rd. finished in first place for two years in a row. The money that Memorial's

congregation raised by selling subscriptions to The Post went toward the purchase of a new church organ and needed office equipment.

Memorial's pastor, the Rev. Edward Newberry, thinks the contest is a good endeavor. "It gives members a short project to work on and brings people together," Rev. Newberry stated. The pastor believes CWOY provides the congregation with something to be proud of and pleased about. "It's a rallying point," he noted.

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