

**Procrastination!**

# Darnell Ivory Encounters Common "Characteristic"

By Audrey C. Lodato  
Post Staff Writer  
Churchworker contestant Darnell Ivory of Faith CME Church (medium category) has encountered that common characteristic, procrastination, in her efforts to raise money for her church and, possibly, win a trip for herself. "People are saying, 'I'll do it; when is the last day?' They're waiting til the end," she reports. "I'm expecting the people on my committee to go forth these last few weeks."

Her committee consists of Edna Barnett, Juanita Curry, Valerie Houston, Charlie Williams, Mary Battle, Cloie Jones, Josielyn Thompson, and her sister-in-law, Carlenia Ivory.

Ivory admits, "I need to become more committed on a daily basis," to selling Post subscriptions. "I don't think I've done all I can do. It's a question of discipline and commitment." The contestant has been surprised that so many of the people she has called already subscribe to the Post.

Faith CME's pastor, the Rev. Willie Sturgess, is a relative newcomer to the Charlotte community, having moved here about a year ago from Florida. This provided the initial motivation for Ivory to become involved in the contest. "Rev. Sturgess approached several of us about the contest. I volunteered to help because our pastor is new to



Darnell Ivory  
.....Faith CME contestant

the area. My concern was to introduce the community to Faith CME and to Rev. Sturgess."

An additional motivator for Ivory was "to see if I could do it." Although she didn't become a contestant in order to qualify for prizes, she admits she would enjoy winning the trip. "I do enjoy travel and would like to travel more, especially in Christian ministry," she says.

Challenge is nothing new for this contestant. Ivory worked in Barbados, The West Indies, for six years, five of them in the Peace Corps, and the last year for the government. Previously, she had spent a summer in Togo, West Africa, as part of the cultural exchange program. Operation Crossroads, begun by a black minister in New York. So when she saw an advertisement for Peace Corps volunteers while

job-hunting after graduate school, she jumped right in.

"The Peace Corps was an invaluable experience," she recalls. "I learned a lot and, professionally, I think I grew." With a B.S. in physical education from Spelman College in Atlanta and a masters in education from Springfield College, in Springfield, Ma., Ivory's work in Barbados was as a physical education specialist, first in a primary school and then at a teachers' training college.

Since returning to the States, she has been employed as a recreation specialist with the Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Department, working at the Davidson Community Center.

Ivory is active in her church, which she joined in 1981. She is secretary of the Sunday School, a member of the Commission on Membership and Evangelization, and just this week was elected president of the Young Adult Council.

The Ivories moved to Charlotte from Rock Hill when Darnell was in the sixth grade, following the death of her father, a Presbyterian minister. Her mother, Emily Ivory, now lives in Los Angeles but is in Charlotte visiting for a month. One brother, Cecil Ivory, is a judge in New York. Her other brother, Titus Ivory, is employed at Wachovia.

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