

1997's best and brightest

This year's class of Charlotte Post/Coca-Cola Top Seniors are more than smart.

They're well-rounded individuals with a sense of community.

Sherilynn Black of West Charlotte High School and Corey Johnson of Independence High are representative of the best and brightest Charlotte-Mecklenburg students. Sherilynn, the Senior of the Year, has a 3.78 grade point average and is 16th in her class of 506 seniors and has won several scholarships, including the Morehead Scholarship to UNC Chapel Hill. But she is more than a superb student. Kimberly is active in her community through Girl Scouts, the National Conference of Christians and Jews and Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church.

Corey Johnson has a 4.0 grade point average and ranks 11th in his class at Independence. He's active in school activities ranging from

president of the Executive Council to president of the Spanish Club. In the community, Corey is involved in Kids' Voting, and the Shriners' Hospitals, where he volunteers his time to help others.

As you meet the 22nd class of Top Seniors, we appreciate the efforts of people who have given of their resources, time and talents to make this publication possible: Don Coleman, ethnic marketing manager of Coca-Cola Bottling Company Consolidated of Charlotte; Donna Curry and Betty Potts, who helped compile the student biographies and the selection committee of Deb Saine, Evelyn Blackwell and Robert Johnson.

Saine is media relations coordinator at Winthrop University, a comprehensive teaching university in Rock Hill, S.C.

Before coming to Winthrop, Saine worked as a newspaper reporter, copy editor and page designer for eight years. She received her bachelor's degree

in journalism from UNC Chapel Hill and is currently pursuing a master's degree in liberal arts at Winthrop.

Blackwell is retired from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools where she taught language arts, social studies and vocational education for 33 years.

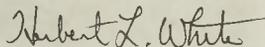
She also was a coordinator of the Academic Internship Program for the school district, which placed high school students in internships so they could sample careers of their choice prior to college.

Through the years, Blackwell has been affiliated with several community organizations and activities, including Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Friends of Johnson C. Smith University, Chums and Jack and Jill of America. She is also active in the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Association, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Retired Teachers Association and Johnson C. Smith University Alumni Association.

Blackwell is a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University and UNC Charlotte, where she earned a master's certification in English, social studies, pre-vocational education and supervision. Johnson, general manager of The Charlotte Post, is a retired Charlotte-Mecklenburg educator as well. A graduate of West Charlotte High School and Johnson C. Smith, Johnson is active in several organizations, including JCSU's Alumni Association and the Mecklenburg County Semi-Pro Baseball League.

As graduation day draws near, take time to congratulate members of the senior class. And take extra time to give a hearty "well done" to this year's Top Seniors.

Peace



Herbert L. White
Editor In Chief

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