

**Chronicle Profile**

# Budding Star Lands Leading Role With Lots Of Talent

By EDWARD HILL JR.  
Staff Writer

During her audition for a part in the play, "The Wiz," Stephanie Barber greatly impressed the selection committee with her singing, dancing and overall showmanship.

But just hours before, Stephanie says she was anything but confident and poised.

*"Her singing ability and her voice were probably the most important factors in her getting the part."*

-- Bob Hicks

"I sat there and I thought about all the people who would be trying for the part and I just said I wasn't going to go through with it," recalls Stephanie. "I called my friends and told them I wasn't going to do it."

After a lot of prodding and encouragement from those friends, Stephanie decided to go through with the audition. And now she's glad she did.

"Once I went through with it, I felt better," she says, with a sigh. "Even after I completed the audition, I was not sure I had gotten the part. In fact,

I just decided that I would be content whichever way it went because I had given it my best."

Stephanie's best was impressive enough that it gave her the lead role as Dorothy in "The Wiz," which opens at the Little Theater Aug. 5.

"I was so excited, I just screamed as loud as I could," says Stephanie.

For Stephanie, 18, the role in "The Wiz" is the fulfillment of a double dream: She has always wanted a leading part in a major play, and she now has the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of her idol, Diana Ross, who played Dorothy in the movie version of "The Wiz."

Stephanie says her acting career began as a ninth-grader at Paisley High in her role as Isabelle in the musical "Mr. Scrooge." Her only other acting role came during a skit for fair housing a year ago. Her singing career began at the age of 10 as a member of the youth choir at Castle Heights Church of Christ.

With such little acting and singing experience, Stephanie says she was surprised she got the role. But Bob Hicks, managing producer of the Little Theater, says it is fairly common for raw, untested individuals to get leading roles.

"That's the beautiful thing about community theater," explains Hicks. "You'll have someone like Stephanie who doesn't have the experience, but she

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Stephanie Barber says that some prodding and a lot of encouragement from friends helped her land the role as Dorothy in the black musical, "The Wiz," which opens at the Little Theater on August 5 (photo by James Parker).



The dean of pledges for the Psi Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Norman Sanders congratulates the fraternity's two new members, Alvin Atkinson and Donald Scales.

## Two Inducted Into Fraternity

Alvin L. Atkinson and Donald D. Scales were recently inducted into the Psi Phi Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

Atkinson, a personal banker for Wachovia Bank & Trust Co., has a bachelor's degree from Davidson College.

The Brunswick, Ga., native is a member of a sub-committee for United Way of Forsyth County's allocations, treasurer of the board of directors of Serendipity House and a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

In college he served as the captain of the football team and president of the black student coalition. He has also been featured in "America's Outstanding Names and Faces" and in the *Chronicle*.

Scales has a bachelor's degree from Winston-Salem State University and a master's degree from North Carolina A&T State University. He is a fire marshal with the local fire department and is married and the father of three

children. Scales coached track and basketball at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic School and is one of the pioneers of little league baseball for black youth in Winston-Salem.

He is a member of the N.C. Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation and the International Fire Marshall Association.

The final project of their initiation period was the installation of smoke detectors on June 25 in the homes for the elderly at Eastgate Village at 2900 New Walkertown Road. Approximately 50 smoke detectors were purchased and installed. The following Omega men assisted Atkinson and Scales: Charles W. Gadsen, Raphael O. Black, Benny Murrell, Robert McCullough, Wendell Brown, who initiated the project last year prior to his initiation; Charles Hairston, Ervin Reinhardt, Delray Hartsfield and Isaiah Tidwell.

## Calendar

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for information.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

•The YWCA Options For Living Program will sponsor a Walk Your Way to Fitness at 10:30 a.m. at the Shaffner Park Exercise Trail. Transportation can be arranged by calling 722-5138.

•The YWCA Footsteps Film Festival will present "The Secrets of Little Ned" at 12:15 p.m. Call the Y at 722-5138 for information.

### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

•The Winston-Salem NAACP will have its first Star Telethon on Saturday, July 30, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the parking lot of Mechanics And Farmers Bank on Claremont Avenue. There will also be live entertainment and refreshments.

•The Atkins High School class of 1948 will hold its 35th class reunion on July 22-24 with headquarters at the Downtowner Ramada Inn. For information, call Annie Pearl Wilson at 723-8149.

•Registration for the YWCA/Girl Scouts Day Camp at Camp Betty Hastings will be held through Aug. 12. Register Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 722-5138 for information.



Dehavelyn Devay Wilson

## Wilson Named Queen

Dehavelyn Devay Wilson was crowned Miss Morning Glory Queen recently at Union Bethel AME Church.

Wilson is the daughter of Sandra Wilson and Marcus McConnell and the granddaughters of Mr. and Mrs. Ray.

The men of Freedom Baptist Church observed Men's Day and sponsored a

picnic for senior citizen's on July 4 at Reynolds Park.

Mrs. Oree Broomfield, wife of the Right Rev. Oree Broomfield, presiding bishop of the 7th Episcopal District's Carolina Conference, was the guest at a reception sponsored by the Ministers Wives and Widows from the Carolina Annual Conference of the

CME Church. The reception was held at the Winston-Salem Hyatt. Ministers wives from all over the state and from South Carolina honored Mrs. Broomfield with an hour of fellowship, appreciation and refreshments. Mrs. Daisy Montgomery was the hostess.

## SOMETHING'S WRONG

Equality was once an issue everyone acknowledged. For or against, it was hard to ignore. And that was good; it is an important and moral issue. But now, something's gone wrong. People forget that the advances made by the minorities in this country came after decades of struggle.

The NAACP hasn't forgotten; through the changes of presidents and national moods, the NAACP has single-mindedly sought one goal: EQUALITY IN ALL ASPECTS OF AMERICAN LIFE. It has contributed greatly to the quality of life in America for Black citizens. Now, the NAACP needs your contribution.

You can contribute to the NAACP painlessly by telling your employer (city, county, state government or major corporation), you'd like to give to the NAACP through a payroll deduction plan.

The NAACP hasn't forgotten!

Don't forget the NAACP! HELP US HELP OURSELVES.

# NAACP

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