

Close-Up

From Page A6

the book's chapter on "The Buppie Look."

"I've always enjoyed myself. It's an attitude -- an attitude that eliminates the crab system and lets you do your own thing."

Not everyone, however, shares Staples' enthusiasm about the distinctions, if you will, that characterize Staples' Buppies.

Along with attention from the media, Buppies have garnered criticism from some segments of the black population.

June auditions set for Chamber Singers

The Piedmont Chamber Singers of Winston-Salem will hold auditions in June for singers interested in joining the choir.

The Chamber Singers, a small vocal ensemble numbering between 24 to 26 voices, specializes in the performance of chamber choral music from the Renaissance to the 20th century.

The group's repertoire includes madrigals, motets, cantatas and other works by master composers of the past and of the current generation.

The choir was founded in 1977 and is an independent organiza-

Critics say Buppies are "snobs," who have traded a respect and awareness of their history for designer wardrobes and high-priced automobiles.

Staples places their criticism into a historical perspective.

"Historically, in the black community, when you had a good job and you went to college, you were being 'uppity,'" Staples says. "In 1986 we say, 'That stinks.' You've got a right to everything you work for."

tion which is a funded member of the Arts Council Inc. of Winston-Salem.

The 1986-87 season of the choir will include three subscription concerts in October, February and May, plus additional performances.

People who wish to audition are asked to bring one solo piece which they are prepared to sing. An accompanist will be provided.

Auditions are being scheduled by appointment for the week of June 23. Singers interested in more information or an appointment may call 722-4022.

"It's all right to feel good about yourself. It doesn't mean you're not concerned about the sick, the hungry and the homeless. Why apologize for being successful?"

Although his book discusses such light topics as "The Buppie Vacation," "The Buppie Diet" and "The Baaad Buppie," Staples says his motivation for writing the book is deeply rooted.

"With the (Bill) Moyers (CBS) documentary and the MOVE incident in Philadelphia, there has been some negative press about black families," says Staples. "Black people need something positive to read about."

"There has been a phenomenon where we've been known as 'cool breeze,' 'urban guerrillas' and 'Shaft.' We've always been depicted as some sort of superbeings," he says. "Now, white people are saying, 'You are urban professionals, you don't have to be super people. You don't all have to be Muhammad Ali.'"

"All of us are not illiterate, and all of us don't live in the projects. All my book is saying is that black people are moving into more and more of the urban occupations."

While black urban professionals are just beginning to

make their presence known in large numbers, Staples foresees a time when membership in that category will practically be a necessity.

"I don't think this is a fad. In order for us to survive, we may all have to be Buppies," Staples says. "I'm not saying we'll all have to own everything that I mention in my book, but I think for sheer economic reasons, more and more black people will become urban professionals, and that covers many occupations. It will be necessary so that we don't self-destruct. We are going to have to be Buppies. We'll have to catch on."

Having offered Buppies a humorous look at themselves and at their lifestyles, Staples' last thought to his readers is a word of caution.

"We all owe a debt to someone. Let us not let education, money, position, possessions -- and the lifestyle that results from these things -- allow us to forget 'from whence we came.'"

The Staples' book, which has sold more than 10,000 copies and is now in its second printing, is available in bookstores. Staples has also created a line of Buppie paraphernalia available through his company, Pyramid Designs, in Pittsburgh.

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NCNW to hold 13th Honors Banquet

The local chapter of the National Council of Negro Women will hold its 13th Anniversary Occasion Honors Banquet at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 14, in the Kennedy Dining Hall at Winston-Salem State University.

Mistress of ceremonies will be Larn Dillard. The guest speaker will be Bonnie H. Daniels, a counselor with the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System.

Members of the community

and local students will be honored at the program. The chapter will also present its NCNW Award.

Other participants will be Thelma Pigford, Joan Cardwell, Willard Tanner, Aldine Griggs, the Rev. Wendell A. Johnson, Martha Jones, Mabel E. Johnson, Maybelle Hedgley, Roxanna Pitts, Manderline Scales and the Rev. B.F. Daniels. Admission is a \$10 donation.

'Abstract Objectives' scheduled at SECCA

The Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art will open four new exhibitions with a reception for members from 7 to 9 p.m. on Friday, June 6. The exhibitions will be open to the public from June 7 through July 27.

The Main Gallery exhibition, "Abstract Objectives," will present five southeastern artists who work in the abstract mode of expression. The artists are Paul M. Krainak, William Mize, Amy Landesburg, Vernon G. Pratt

and Mildred Taylor.

Also opening at this time will be a solo exhibition of recent mixed media drawings by Virginia Derry.

Yuriko Yamaguchi will be represented in a solo show of his painted wooden sculptures in the Open Air Gallery.

There will also be an exhibition of mixed media birdhouses by Randy Sewell.

The exhibits are open to the public at no charge.

Marable

From Page A4

Mandela and every political prisoner.

These steps might not end the alliance between the Reaganites and the apartheid regime. President Reagan bears the responsibility for these recent murderous assaults against African people, because he has continued to defend the crimes of apartheid more than any other politician outside of South Africa. But if we succeed in the next steps, we'll go a long way toward fostering a climate of

strong external pressure. This will culminate in meaningful negotiations, at long last, between the ANC and the white minority. And perhaps in the long run, this may represent a major transition toward the destruction of the apartheid system.

Dr. Manning Marable will become a political science and sociology professor at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., beginning this July.

Jacob

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adequate enforcement provisions.

For several years Congress has considered amendments to the Act that would put some enforcement teeth in it. And each year it has failed to pass those amendments. Now it is again considering a bill that would strengthen and extend the fair housing law.

Unless that bill is passed, fair housing will never be a reality. The victims of discrimination must have access to fair hearings and the initiators of discrimina-

tion must get stiff penalties for their illegal acts.

The key to fair housing is strong and certain enforcement. We do not have fair housing in America today because we have weak and uncertain enforcement, and the remedy for that is passage of amendments to the Fair Housing Act that make it effective.

John Jacob is director of the National Urban League.

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