

Community News B1

A Double Dilemma

Twins' split decision creates stir with family and friends

By PATRICIA SMITH-DEERING
Chronicle Staff Writer

Twins always attract attention from the day they are born. And whether their twins are identical or fraternal, parents tend to perpetuate that by dressing them alike, sometimes pursuing identical interests, and making decisions for the two budding personalities as though they were one entity. But, as with most children approaching maturity, individual goals and needs blossom forth in a way that can unnerve, please, or disappoint others.

Chareba and Charlita Cardwell, the 16-year-old twin daughters of Charles and Joan Greenwood Cardwell on Greenway Avenue, have reached what is, in essence, a crossroads for them. Excelling academically at an early age, both young women received their education at private schools in Winston-Salem--St. Leo's for elementary schooling and Bishop McGuinness Memorial High School for their freshman through junior years.

Theirs is a shared history of achievements in school and in their varied extracurricular activities. But, that changed when a recruiter visited Bishop McGuinness and extolled the virtues of Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire. Both Chareba and Charlita were accepted for their senior year of study.

The typically effervescent extrovert, Charlita, decided that, rising Bishop McGuinness senior notwithstanding, she wanted to make the move to Exeter. Chareba, however, the dollars-and-cents (or sense?) introvert, chose to complete her senior year at her high school alma mater. Their decisions virtually rocked the Cardwell household and left friends nonplused.

"I wasn't interested in changing schools; I was very happy at Bishop, I love Bishop," said Charlita, recalling her initial reaction to the recruiter. But, following a visit to the Exeter campus, her feelings changed. "It just felt right as soon as I walked by the campus. Everyone was very friendly, and it was very New England, trees, buildings were very old-fashioned, the community was very small..." she continued, recounting a few of the things that appealed to her about the environment.

However, there are academic reasons that have influenced Charlita's decision. Attending a school that is noted as the number one prep school in the nation means being prepared for some very stiff competition. "I really want that change," Charlita said, adding, "It's going to offer me an opportunity to explore things I haven't had a chance to

explore before. Bishop McGuinness is a very good school...but, you can't take a course in African History." She feels that the type of curriculum offered and the types of experiences and people that Exeter affords will provide a broader education. "I don't think one can claim to be educated if you only have one perspective," she added.

Chareba also visited the Exeter campus, but the feeling that she had in no way dovetailed with her sister's. She decided that the prep school was not where she wanted to be because it did not feel "right" for her own academic and personal needs. However, her concern for what will, in the long run, make her happy has not lent much support for her decision. "I don't think anyone around me or anyone who has concern for me can be happy if I'm not happy," she said. "For instance, the thing now is the fact that I'm not going to Exeter, and it's very difficult because I have little, if any, support for my decision not to go."

One of the frustrating and disheartening things Chareba has had to face is the expressed disappointment of people whom she thought had her best interests at heart. "It really hurt me when this lady in church told me how disappointing I was, and she made it seem like this was the end and that I was going to be a failure in life because I didn't go to Exeter," she recalled sadly. Then the practical side of her shined through. "I think it's a lot of expense, a lot of stress, a lot of time, and I just don't see...what purpose it's going to have in my life," she said.

Chareba believes that it is not the school but the person who determines individual success or failure. "I think a place is what you make it, and if I make the best of myself at Bishop McGuinness, then that will be the place for me...I don't want to go somewhere if I know that I'm not going to put 110 percent of myself into it...because I don't do anything unless I know that I'm going to put 100 percent of myself into it," she explained.

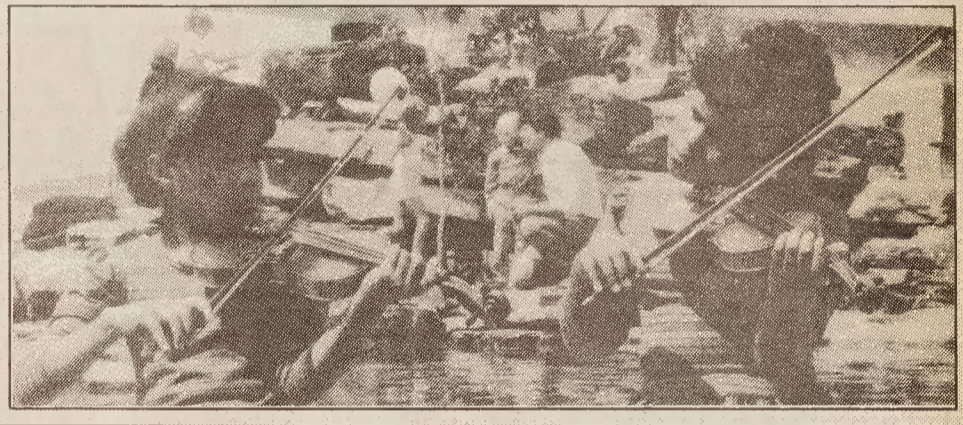
Oddly enough, the dilemma posed by the twins' divergent decisions has brought Chareba and Charlita closer in their sibling relationship. "I'm becoming more supportive of my sister because she's made her decision," Charlita said of Chareba. "She's made her decision and stuck by that, even though I want her to go...(it) made us able to relate to each other more and on a more mature level," she added.

Chareba added, "...I think the fact that she can make up her own mind and I can make up my own mind...even if this is the wrong decision for me and it would have

Twice As Nice

Below, Chareba, left, and Charlita Cardwell celebrate their 10th birthday. Above, at right, the 16-year-old twins prepare for their senior year at separate schools.

Top Right Photo by L.B. Speas Jr.,
Bottom Photo from Files



turned out that my life would have been better by my going to Exeter, that's a consequence that I am willing to accept...I don't want to blame other people for what goes wrong in my life."

The common bond--taking personal responsibility for one's actions and decisions--that the sisters share was forged early in childhood by their parents and has governed every aspect of their lives including their attitudes about teenage drug abuse and peer pressure. Both generally agree that neither drugs nor pressure from other teenagers should be used as an excuse to exempt a person from his or her own responsibility for effecting a change in a situation.

The two have always worked well together, considering each one the other's best competition. As Charlita expressed it, "Competition between us drives me more than anything." But Chareba clarified their complementary roles with each other using an analogy, "If we were to do a

play, I would write it, and Charlita would act and be the producer/director."

Neither Chareba nor Charlita have decided on a college, once they finish their respective schools.

Chareba participated this summer in the Minority High School Research Apprentice Program through the Bowman Gray School of Medicine, spending a few weeks on the campus of Wake Forest University. She also participated in the "Summer Experience" Program earlier this summer at Bowman Gray as a physician assistant. But, what she really wants to do as a career is to operate her own day care center. "But, that's not an idea that's getting much support either," she said with a smile.

Charlita spent a month this summer at the University of Arizona in Tucson at the 1990 National Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Program in Business. She feels that teaching would be the best fit for her but "the money isn't there." She plans to attend law school.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

• Family Services Inc. will sponsor a seminar on the programs Family Services offers and how to qualify for them from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood Government Services Office at 2301 Patterson Avenue.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

• Cub Scout Pack #868 will reconvene its new charter year at 11 a.m. in the Family Life Center at First Baptist Church. Shedrick Adams is Cubmaster.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

• Reynolda House, Museum of American Art will sponsor an opening for the public to the exhibit entitled "An Impressionist Legacy: The Collection of Sara Lee Corporation" from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Regular admission prices will be charged: \$5 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens, and \$3 for students. There will be refreshments. Exhibition dates are Sept. 7-Dec. 28.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

• The Education of the Black Child Parents Rally will be held at 7 p.m. at Shiloh Baptist Church. Mr. Jerry M. Guess, associate publisher of "NAACP Crisis Magazine", will be the guest speaker. The rally is sponsored by the NAACP Education Committee, the Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem & Vicinity, and the Phi Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

• Reynolda House, Museum of American Art will sponsor their fall Docent Discovery for those interested in becoming a volunteer at Reynolda House. Six sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. The fee is \$15. To register, call (919) 725-5325.

• The Gamma Zeta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing, will hold their September meeting at 7 p.m. in the UNC-G School of Nursing (Moore Building). A parking sticker, located in the Newsletter, can be used. For further information, call the UNC-G School of Nursing, (919) 334-5010.

• L.I.F.T. (Learning Is Fun Too) seminar on Alternative Education in the Community will be held at the Neighborhood Government Services Office at 2301 Patterson Avenue from 10 to 11 a.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

• Urban Arts of The Arts Council, Inc. presents "Super Saturday For Kids" from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Winston Square Park. Activities include arts and crafts, face painting, children's songs, balloon-twisting, toy giveaways, and The Clown Ministry by First Assembly of God.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

• New York Model Workshops is having a Model Seminar at John Casablanca School of Modeling, 302 L-Pomona Drive in Greensboro, Sept. 12-13, from 7-9 p.m. to discuss starting a career in modeling and commercials. The charge is \$45 in advance. For an appointment and more information, call Imaginings, (704) 787-4186. Callers will receive "15 Tips on Becoming a Model" by Jake Pena, president of New York Model Workshops, Inc.

• The Knollwood Hall Family Council is having a yard and pastry sale Friday and Saturday, Sept. 14-15, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the park area, 5755 Shattalon Drive. Rain date: Friday and Saturday, Sept. 21-22. Proceeds will go to the Family Council operating fund. Everyone is invited.

Bulldogs, Camels, Yellow Jackets reunited

By PATRICIA SMITH-DEERING
Chronicle Staff Writer

Calls went out for all the graduates of Anderson High School, Carver High School, and Atkins High School to return to the city of their alma maters and get reacquainted, reminisce, and share in the general merrymaking that reunions tend to generate. And the alumni responded in large numbers to celebrate with a variety of activities over the Labor Day weekend.

The Carver Roundup

When a group of Carver graduates decided in 1984 that gathering all the classes together for an annual affair would be an ideal way to see old friends and classmates again, the Carver Roundup was the result, according to John Rice, president of the Carver High School Alumni Association of Winston-Salem, Inc. In 1985, the same year that the Association was incorporated, the first Carver Roundup was held at the Hyatt House with a Friday night

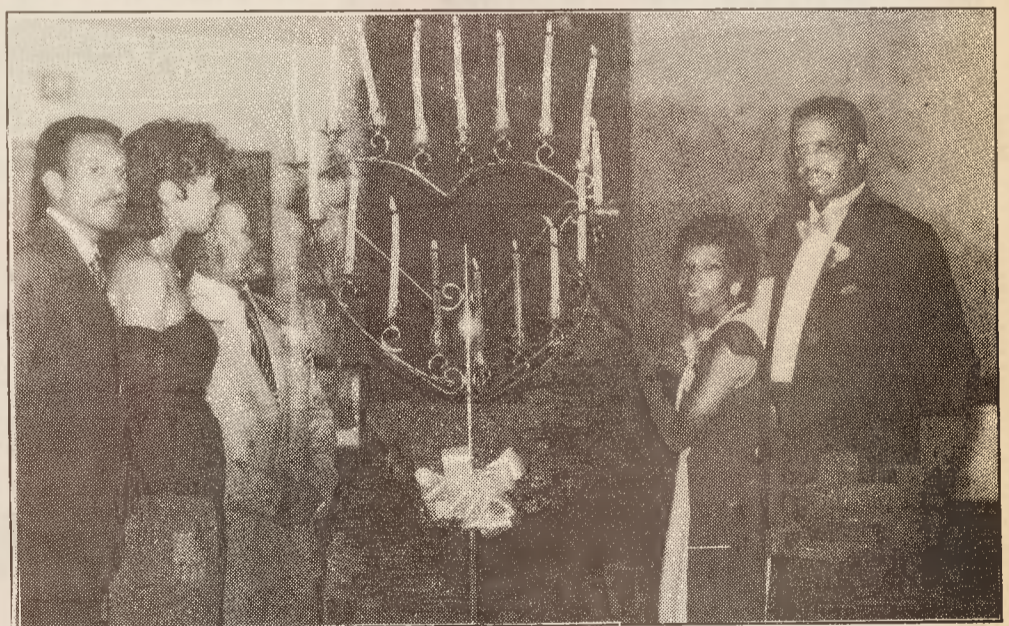


Photo by L.B. Speas Jr.

Members of the Atkins Class of 1966 light candles for deceased class members at "Camel Fest." From left are Rutherford Moorman, Margaret J. Gist, Arthur Bradford, Delores S. McConnell and Billy McClain.



Photo by L.B. Speas Jr.

Members of the Carver High School Class of 1955 were honored at the Roundup for the 35th anniversary of their graduation.

reception, a Saturday picnic at Carver High School, a Saturday night dance at the Benton Convention Center, and Sunday worship service at Carver High School.

Over the ensuing years, the annual weekend activities have become a tradition. "Sunday worship is always at Carver," said Rice, "but, we spread the other activities

among the other hotels to help business."

Sunday's message was delivered by the Reverend Alvin Damon (Class of 1956), pastor of Ezekiel A.M.E.

Zion Church in Lexington, NC.

The Roundup serves to do more than bring alumni of classes 1939-1970 together for fun and worship. Each year scholarships are awarded to Carver seniors from the proceeds of the event. Winners for 1990 receiving \$1,000 scholarships are: LaShanda Y. Brown, University of North Carolina--Chapel Hill; Kelly Greene, Virginia Tech; and Keith Greene, University of North Carolina--Chapel Hill.

Honored for reaching benchmark anniversaries were members of the Class of 1940 for its Golden Anniversary, the Class of 1955 for its 35th Anniversary, and the Class of 1965 for its 25th Anniversary. According to Rice, from 700-800 alumni returned for the Roundup.

Atkins "Camel Fest" (A Humpty-Hump)

When the Atkins Senior High School Class of 1966 decided that

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