Kaleidascope Program Enriches Students

By SHANNON HICKERSON Chronicle Staff Writer

Kelly Ruff, rising senior at Thomasville High School, said that her self-esteem has gone up since she joined the Kaleidascope program three years ago.

"It's (the Kaleidascope program) given me a boost," she said. "And, when I go back to school I feel like I've got a step up on everybody else."

Ruff plans to get a degree in child psychology and elementary education from North Carolina State University, Norfolk State University or University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the fall 1996.

And, according to Dr. Ernest Wade, director of Minority Affairs at Wake Forest, that's exactly what the program is designed to do.

There is not as many negative experiences as in the classthese kids in a positive environment, doing positive kinds of things. It's hard to be bad when you're given positive support."

Another goal is for the students to think for themselves and be able to develop ideas.

"I would rather have them struggle and gain the amount of knowledge and skills they need than to breeze through things," Wade said. About 50 students from Forsyth County, South Stokes and Thomasville have spent two weeks every summer since their freshman year in high school on the campus of Wake Forest University experiencing college life and getting prepared for classes they will take in the fall.

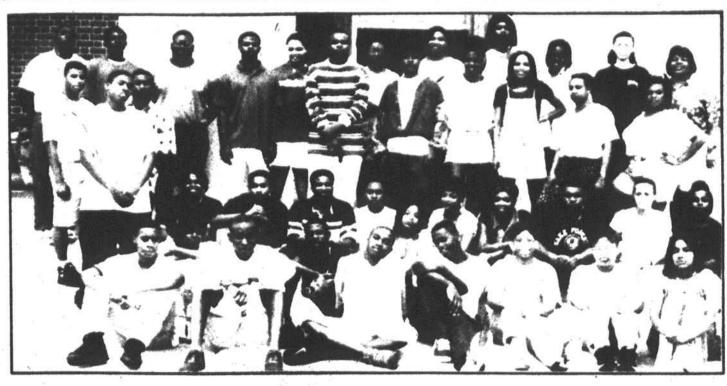
The focus of the Kaleidascope program is academic enrichment for talented African American students, said Wade. It is designed to prepare them for

room," Wade said. "We try to put classes they plan to take in the upcoming school year. They attend English, civics, physics, anatomy, chemistry, life skills and math classes that pertain to whatever courses they signed up to take the next fall.

The instructors of the Kaleidascope program realize the time crunch they are under when setting up the curriculum for the class, Wade said.

"They (instructors) might zero in on a difficult part of the class of go over key concepts of the class.

In the past, the program has included classes that focused on African American history, churches and their involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. Sometimes these courses can create conflict when the students go back to school because the teacher may have a different philosophy on teaching African American history, Wade said.



Students who participated in Kaleidascope program.

"We give them some of what they don't get in school," Wade said. During the two weeks, the students have mini schools where they visit medical, engineering, law and business schools at local universities.

Programs similar to the Kaleidascope program have been running since 1988, with the start of Project Ensure that took children from a wide range of academic standings, put them in a positive environment and increased

their feelings of self-worth.

"The rewarding part is when you see them graduate from college," Wade said. "That's what makes it worthwhile. They know that the sky's not even the limit for them."

Maya Angelou Recited Poem

Maya Angelou, Reynolds professor of American studies at Wake Forest University, recited a new poem at a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Charter June 26 in San Francisco.

Angelou shared the stage with President Bill Clinton and Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, both of whom will

The U.N. commissioned Angelou to write and deliver the new poem.

In January 1993, she performed the same honor for the inauguration of President Clinton, creating and reciting "On the Pulse of Morning."



Maya Angelou

She is a prolific author and poet, and many of her books have been bestsellers, among them, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings and Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now.

Angelou is also an accomplished actress, playwright, producer, director and civil rights activist.

Piedmont Foot Patrol Celebrates First Year

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"People get to know us and realize that we're just a phone call away or they can page us," Vance said. "There's more opportunity to communicate with them and them with us in a place they feel safetheir homes."

By being all about the neighborhood on foot, parking their cars in various locations for effect, the foot patrol has been able to deter outsiders that bring crime into the neighborhood. Vance said there is a ban list prohibiting certain individuals from entering Piedmont Park.

Vance, who has been an officer for 21 years and a sergeant for eight, said he is extremely satisfied with the group of individuals he works with in Piedmont Park.

"Everyone works together," he said. "It's one big friendship."

The foot patrol is supported in a large part by the Winston-Salem Public Housing Authority.

HAWS Executive Director Art Milligan says the foot patrol serves a very important purpose.

"The foot patrol has taken the fear out of telling on bad people," he said.

Residents and foot patrol offi-

cers say Milligan's support is extremely appreciated. "Art Milligan is the sweetest

and best man you will find," Black said. While the presence of the

foot patrol has made Piedmont Park a better place to live, it still is not without its problems.

Officers say some of the residents, most of them single

women with children, do not appreciate the foot patrol being in the neighborhood. "We're hindering them from having the kind of lifestyle they want," Vance said.

Recently, foot patrol officers signed warrants on six females after they vandalized a police car after one of their female friends had been arrested, Vance said. On Friday, three had been arrested.

Officers are always in uniform. Friday was one of the rare occasions officers were not in uniform and without their bullet proof vests. Vance said he and the other officers try to blend in and be part of the community. Many of them have formed special bonds with the young people which makes Ross feel better about this job.

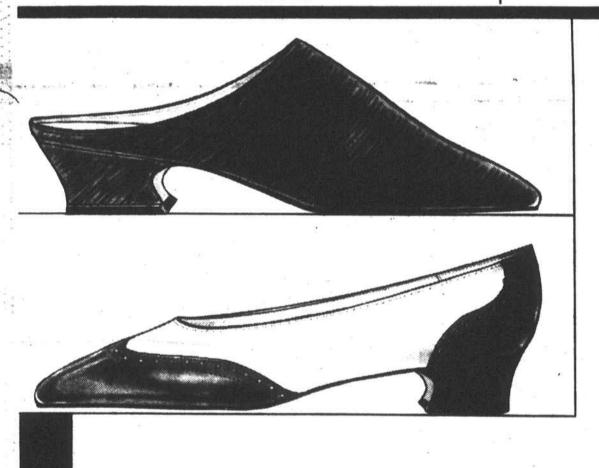
"Its fun interacting with the

youngsters," he said. "It's nice when young babies don't runaway from you but run up to you." Out of their concern for

youth, Vance said the officers have formed the 960 Youth Enrichment Program to help kids between the ages of 10-18 to be more productive, and through field trips and other activities, give them the opportunity to become better educated culturally and spiritually.

While the concept of community policing has worked for Piedmont Park, Vance said he is still concerned about the young and the elderly and is committed to making sure they are safe.

"Somebody's got to look out for them," he said, "and I've taken on that task with my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."



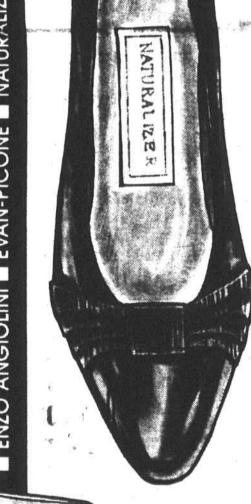
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