

150 Pre-Registers For K-6 Optional Traditional School

The Charlotte - Mecklenburg Schools' (CMS) Information Center has received more than 110 pre-registrations for a planned optional kindergarten through grade six traditional school.

The CMS Board of Education has voted to launch the school in August, 1974, if there is sufficient community interest and if appropriate facilities to house the school can be found.

Seversville School has been mentioned as a possible location but other sites are also being considered. Seversville now houses a child development center where federally-funded kindergarten programs are located, but it is scheduled to close at the end of the current school year.

The idea for a traditional school was proposed by a group of parents who are interested in an optional school that is different from the open school now operated at Irwin Avenue School and open schools planned at Elizabeth Elementary and Piedmont Junior High School next year.

Irwin Avenue has been a kindergarten through grade six open school this year; next year Irwin and Elizabeth will operate as kindergarten through grade five open schools. Piedmont will be an open middle school, grades six through eight.

The proposed optional traditional school will feature basic academic courses, self-contained classrooms for the

full school day, and an emphasis on competition in the grading and motivation of students. High priority will be given to structure and order and to conformity of department.

Philosophically, proponents of the traditional school believe adults, parents and teachers know the facts and skills children need for today's world and design the educational program.

Plans for the program and the school are incomplete. When a principal and teaching staff are selected, they will make detailed plans for the courses and administration of the school program with help from volunteer parents of children who will attend the school.

The school will have the same allotments of teachers and materials as any other school in the system.

Students will come from other schools in the system and will be chosen from those volunteering to attend in such a way as to insure racial and system-wide representation.

Enrollment will follow guidelines similar to those used for optional open schools.

The Board of Education has instructed the school staff to search for means by which school bus transportation may be provided for students in all optional schools.

For more information about the optional traditional school, interested persons can call the CMS Information Center at 332-5114.

**Gail Covington
Will Perform
With NCC Choir**

A local girl will be featured with the 52-voice touring choir of North Carolina Central University, beginning Friday and ending two weeks later following a tour of the northwest and the mid-west.

She is Miss Gail Covington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Octavius Covington. Miss Covington sings second soprano with the NCCU choir which will give performances in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Morristown, N.J., Cincinnati, and five Wisconsin towns-Whitewater, Madison, Superior, LaCrosse and Ashland.

The choir is under the direction of Charles H. Gilchrist.

Remember! If You Don't Read The Post, You Don't Know What's Happening!



KARATE CLASS - Front row from left to right Sharon "Shay" Covington, Monica Mannie Love Jr., John Steele and assistant Felicia Steele, Daniel Blackwell, Jackie Steele, instructor Jerome Johnson, and instructor Ron Wilson.

YMCA Karate Class Has High Turnover

There is a "high turnover" in the McCrory Branch YMCA's Karate Course according to Physical Director Nat Smith.

It seems that while visions of Bruce Lee's movie screen capers compel people to enter the 6-week course, Charlotte School of Karate instructor Ronald Wilson's rigid regimentation causes them to withdraw and quit.

It takes about two years of serious practice and stick-to-it-ness to earn a black belt and according to Nat Smith, the class now being offered for its

fourth year has yet to produce its first BLACK BELT alumni.

Anyone can register for the class any day of the week except Saturday and Sunday and it only costs \$12 for a member age 5-15 years and \$15 for the same age group for non-members. Persons 15 years of age and older with a membership pay \$15 and non-members must pay \$18.

In addition to the small fee, "a person must have a strong determination to stay with it," says Physical Director Smith.

**Miss Cynthia Williamson
Makes NCCU Dean's List**

Cynthia Williamson, Howard University Junior and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Williamson of 2534 Abelwood Road, was awarded a certificate Feb. 11th in recognition of her being placed on the Dean's Honor Roll of Howard University's School of Business and Public Administration.

The 1971 graduate of West Charlotte High School was the only black among ten senior high school students receiving Charlotte-Mecklenburg PTA Council Scholarships worth at least \$265.00 for their academic achievements upon her graduation from high school.

She, and Angela Woo, were chosen head marshals for having maintained the highest scholastic averages in the Junior Class at West Charlotte High School in 1970.

While at West Charlotte, Miss Williamson was active in the National Honor Society (ranking second in a graduating class of 388) the Future Teachers of America, the Y-Teens, and in the YWCA.



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