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MISS ALTHEA EYVONNE BUCHANAN
...WGIV commercial copy writer

Althea Buchanan Is Beauty Of Week

By Melvetta Jenkins
Post Staff Writer

With a smile that encourages friendly words, our Beauty of the Week, Miss Althea Evyonne Buchanan, says one of her favorite past-times is talking with people.

Althea is a senior at Johnson C. Smith University where she is majoring in Communications Arts. Althea is presently employed at WGIV Radio Station where she can put some of what she's learned at Smith into practical use. She serves as a commercial copy writer and also gets the opportunity to record commercial material sometimes.

She plans to pursue an occupation as a Speech and Hearing Therapist because it's a branch of Communications, which is her favorite field.

"Communications is a broad field and it's very interesting," Althea said, explaining her choice of the area.

Althea is a native of Fayetteville, Tennessee. She is the daughter of Mrs. Lettie Buchanan and one of two children. She graduated in 1973 from Central High School where she participated in the band and the chorus.

Since she came to Charlotte, Althea has held the office of president of Smith's United Negro College Fund, Station manager for WJCS, Smith's campus radio station, and she was a freshman counselor.

Althea is a Sagittarian born on November 23. She is 5'7 1/2."

Mint Street Closes

Until October 15

The northbound lanes of Mint Street were closed Monday, October 4 to allow replacement of pavement on Mint Street torn out during the construction of the Mint Street - Poplar Street connector, according to a news release from the Public Service & Information Department of Charlotte. The lanes will remain closed through Friday, October 15.

Park Center Rally To Aid Martin Campaign

One of the major campaign events of 1976 will be held Tuesday, October 12 at Park Center, according to William K. Van Allen, General Chairman of the Congressman Jim Martin reelection campaign.

Van Allen said the "Congressman Jim Martin Campaign '76 Rally" signals the beginning of 3 weeks of intensive campaigning by the Congressman.

Van Allen also announced that Charlotte business executive Charles R. Jonas, Jr., will serve as Chairman of the rally.

TURTLE-TALK

Those who founded the United States would probably be amazed at what it is today.

NEA Sets Up \$50,000 Fund To Assist NACCP In Mississippi

Carter Leads Ford 6-1 In Black Poll

WASHINGTON—Democratic presidential nominee Jimmy Carter commands a substantial margin of votes over President Ford from potential Black Voters. Carter leads Ford 59 to 10 percent according to results of the last ACRA Black Opinion Survey, conducted among a cross-section of 388 randomly selected Black households nationwide following the Republican convention.

Associate Control Research & Analysis, Inc., (ACRA), an eight year old Washington-based firm, is reputed to be the only Black-owned, professional services organization doing research and analysis, designing public opinion surveys, conducting polls, and collecting advocacy data on a national basis. ACRA's president James S. Gee says his firm entered the field last January to fill an unmet need and give greater credibility, accuracy and relevance to information flowing into and out of the Black community.

ACRA's survey methods were developed in conjunction with Survey Research Corporation of Bethesda. Their approach consists of a newly designed, random, digital dialing telephone technique that completes a survey in less than 48 hours.

ACRA's direct focus on households among America's 23,000,000 Black families, concentrates on using computer generated numbers. This method was favored because of the following points:

1. It proportionately reaches unlisted telephone households.
2. It insures the anonymity of those called, which together with ACRA's Black perspective, induces greater candor and responsiveness from minorities.
3. It reaches a proportional cross-section of Blacks at all ages, economic, demographic and income levels.

The monthly sample size was set to produce reliability at plus or minus 5 percent. It confirms that while Carter's lead is at present decisive, there is still a large percentage (31 percent) of uncommitted voters. Of those responding to the question: "Suppose the Presidential election were being held today, which candidate would you vote for, President Ford or Governor Carter?" thirty-one percent were undecided, indicating that Ford could, with careful attention to the concerns of Black voters, close the gap considerably.



CONCORD POLICE SURROUND COURT HOUSE
...Ward off militant protesters

Was Long Guilty? Ronnie Long Never Had A Chance?

Special To The Post

Ronnie Wallace Long never had a chance. That was the consensus of about 200 blacks after an all-white jury convicted him of first-degree, rape and first-degree burglary, Friday night at 8 p.m.

The 20-year-old Black man had been charged with rapping and robbing Sarah Judson McKinley Bost, a 54-year-old white widow of a prominent Concord executive. Her husband, Gray Bost, was treasurer for Cannon Mills for about 30 years. She lives one block from the new Cabarrus County Courthouse in a stately two-story home at 158 Union Street.

Among other things, the clerk of Cabarrus County Superior Court, Eustus White, said they're close friends. Assistant District Attorney Tim Hawkins said she used to babysit him and he was too close to her to work on the case.

Members of the Ronnie Long Defense Committee said a \$10,000 reward was offered for information leading to the capture of the suspect who raped and robbed Mrs. Bost on April 25. The committee said Cannon Mills offered the reward. Police Chief Jack Moore, whose job allegedly depends on his Cannon Mills support as does most everybody else's in Cabarrus County, said he wouldn't comment

on who offered the reward or if it was collected.

Also a couple of weeks before the trial District Attorney James Roberts told a reporter, "I'm being squeezed on by one-side by the bluebloods and the other side by the radicals."

Trial-Jury selection started out somewhat unique with only 24 prospective jurors on duty for the trial Monday morning. White admitted to a reporter that it was unusual, noting that they usually call 50 people for a court session, but he didn't explain the abnormality.

Judge William Z. Wood of Winston-Salem; who dips snuff and tries dry humor during court recesses, summoned an additional 50 jurors.

The defense used 16 to 20 challenges, without cause, to remove jurors, while the prosecution used 4 of 15 challenges, three of those to remove three of four Blacks out of a total of 70 prospective jurors. Wood removed the other Black juror, leaving an all-white panel.

More than half of the dozen jurors and two alternates work for Cannon Mills or their spouses were employed by the company. They said during questioning they knew of the widow's husband and most of them had read about and discussed the case. But Wood did not remove them from the jury.

The state's case was based around the testimony of Mrs. Bost that she saw Long's face several times that night when he broke into her home. She described her assailant as being 5'5" to 5'9", slim, very light-skinned, wearing a black leather coat, dark toboggan and possibly gloves. She also said he was a plain-spoken man with no apparent accent.

Long was first identified by Mrs. Bost on May 5th in the Cabarrus County District Court where police had asked her to attend to see if she could identify her assailant. After waiting for an hour and a half Mrs. Bost said she recognized the man that raped her by his voice. That testimony was contradicted by a neighbor that had accompanied her to the courthouse. Donnie Vennell, who lives next door to Mrs. Bost said under cross examination that Mrs. Bost identified Long before he spoke in court.

Mrs. Bost, whose distinguished gray hair and refined mannerism have an upper-class tinge, pointed to Long in the courtroom Tuesday evening. "There's no doubt in my mind that this is the man," she said, pointing at Long who has a chocolate complexion.

The defense presented Long's mother, Elizabeth and girlfriend, Janice Spears, as his key witnesses. Mrs. Long said her son came home that

night at 8:30 p.m. and remained home until his father returned at 10:30 p.m. Miss Spears, who has a three-year-old son, Anthony, by Long, said they talked on the telephone from 9 to 9:45 p.m. that night. Mrs. Long testified that she talked to her grandson during that time while Long was also on the telephone upstairs.

The rape and burglary occurred about 9:30 p.m. that night according to police and Mrs. Bost. According to the testimony offered by Long's mother and Miss Spears, Long could not have been the assailant.

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Judge Wood and the attorneys on both sides were "politely" saying race was not an issue in the trial. But when it was over, it was obviously too much to ask an all-white jury to take testimony of all-black defense witnesses for a black defendant and give equal weight given to testimony by white state witnesses for the victim.

When the jury foreman announced the guilty verdicts after the three and a half hour of deliberation, 200 black people released tension building throughout the week in a simultaneous scream, "no".

Women began to cry throughout the courtroom, Long's mother hugged her son and asked somewhat vainly of the court "do you call this democracy?"

People began to head for the door in disgust before Wood could poll the jury, others hugged Long who was transferred hastily to Central Prison in Raleigh.

Police officers and deputy sheriffs had been called in advance, a defense attorney speculated by Cannon Mills, with two dozen lining the courtroom walls at the time of the verdict. They ran down the hall in back of the courthouse after some shoving began at the public entrance to the courthouse. They manned riot helmets and two foot sticks, and used mace forcing the crowd outside the courthouse into a heavy rain.

Most of the crowd were women and children, some were beaten and several taken to the Cabarrus County Memorial Hospital treated and released.

There were minor rock throwings at the police Saturday and one house was burned.

Fund To Serve As Seed Money

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The National Education Association has set up a \$50,000 fund to serve as seed-money to assist the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and 130 black defendants currently in litigation in Mississippi.

NEA's affiliates will be encouraged to contribute to the fund, which is to aid the NAACP and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights in appealing a \$1,250,000 judgment against the NAACP.

The NEA fund will be made available to the NAACP and the Lawyers Committee jointly to help pay attorney's fees, court costs, and other expenses related to the litigation effort.

Under Mississippi law, in order to appeal, the NAACP must post a bond amounting to 125 percent of the judgment—or a total of \$1,563,000. Failure to raise the amount "can mean the end of the NAACP," according to the NAACP's Washington, D.C. office.

NEA President John Ryor, in a letter today to Gloster B. Current, NAACP Associate Executive Secretary, New York City, pointed out the NEA presented its 1976 Friend of Education Award to Roy Wilkins, longtime head of NAACP, "in recognition of the contribution that the NAACP...has made to the advancement of human and civil rights in this country."

"It is with this firm conviction that the NAACP must be allowed to continue its fine work that the NEA has taken the present action," Ryor said concerning the establishment of the special fund.

The Aug. 9 judgment against the NAACP stemmed from a suit brought by 12 white merchants of Port Gibson, Miss. The merchants charged that the NAACP had been involved in a 1966 boycott by local citizens, aimed at eliminating employment and voting discrimination and other racial abuses.

J.C. Smith Plans Two-Day Festival Activities

A re-enactment of the first intercollegiate football game between two black colleges will be held at Charlotte Memorial Stadium Saturday, October 16.

Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU) will host Livingstone College of Salisbury. The 1:30 p.m. match also promises a festive two days of activities.

The Bicentennial Football Classic will feature a schedule of events that include a commemorative banquet at 8 p.m. Friday, October 15. Admission for this banquet is \$7.50.

Events for Saturday start at 11 a.m. with a gala parade from Sycamore Street and West Trade to the stadium. A pre-game show begins at 1 p.m.

Kick-off for the classic is at 1:30 p.m.

After the game, a patio dinner will be served at JCSU Memorial Union. Dinners will be \$1.50 for students and \$2.25 for adults.

Two balls will be held Saturday night.

Bicentennial Classic Ball II will be held at Charlotte Park Center also from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Admission is \$3 per person with student identification.

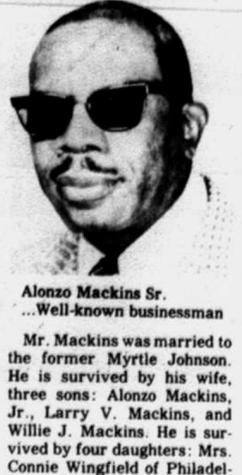
Alonzo Mackins Sr. Dies

By James Peeler
Post Staff Writer

Alonzo Mackins, Sr., well-known and well-liked Charlotte businessman died last Sunday in Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness at the age of 61.

The business acumen of Mr. Mackins is legendary in Charlotte where he reportedly began his business career selling hot dogs and peanuts from a push cart on Charlotte streets. "Daddy O", as he was affectionately called was an immaculate dresser and his personality always exuded a warmth that made it a pleasure to be in his company.

During the course of his business career he owned several highly popular night spots and restaurants and was a Mecklenburg County Bail Bondsman at the time of his death.



Alonzo Mackins Sr.
...Well-known businessman

Mrs. Elaine Gibson of Hamlet, Alonzenia Mackins and Laura Ann Mackins.

The Mackins lived at 1904 St. John Street in a large house on a spacious lot. Mr. Mackins, who had extensive real estate holdings, once laughingly said, "I had to sell some of the land around me so I'd have some neighbors."

Mr. Mackins was a member of First Baptist Church, pastored by Rev. J.B. Humphrey, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Mecklenburg Bondsman's Association, the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Masons and the Elks.

Funeral services for the beloved Charlottean will be held October 7, at 4 p.m. at First Baptist Church with Grier's Funeral Service in charge of the service.

Post Office To Observe National Holiday Monday

Monday, October 11, will be observed as a National Legal Holiday by the U.S. Postal Service.

There will be no regular mail delivery service.

A service window will be open at West Trade Street from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and at classified stations from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Self service units will be in operation. Stamp vending machines are available at all postal stations.

Special delivery mail and parcels containing perishable matter will be delivered.

Normal Saturday service will be provided October 9.