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PRICE 20c



MISS KAREN A. JONES  
...A&T State sophomore

## Miss Karen Jones

### Is Beauty Of Week

By Melvetta Wright  
Post Staff Writer

An indirect Charlotte native who has spent quite a bit of years away from "home" is our Beauty for this week.

Miss Karen A. Jones, the 21 year-old daughter of Chief Warrant Officer Jacob H. Jones (Retired) and Mrs. Mary L. Jones, is one of three children, and the only girl.

As a result of her father's career, Karen has lived in Okinawa for 3½ years and in Turkey for 2½ years. She has visited Rome and the Holy Lands twice and said of the experience, "It was unforgettable. The hardships that the people over there face are just like those here, only people overseas see Americans as having everything."

Karen is an advanced sophomore at A&T State University in Greensboro where she is a Clothing Textiles and Related Arts major. She was on the Dean's List last semester and became a member of the Air Force ROTC in January. She was recently selected Miss Air Force ROTC and said, "I am looking forward to the opportunity to lend a hand and an active imagination to the AFROTC at A&T."

Karen was born February 4, 1956 under the sign of Aquarius. She describes herself as "easy-going and people loving." According to Mrs. Jones, who has a lot of experience with Aquarians because her oldest son, Jacob Jr., is one, Aquarians are not necessarily made out of one particular mold. About Karen she said, "She does what she feels; it's almost like she's hanging loose, but she has it well in hand. She has a mind of her own."

Karen, a multi-talented Beauty, writes poetry, plays table-tennis and pool, paints in water colors and acrylic oil, sculpts and does sketches.

In spite of her future ambition to own a clothing store where she will design the pattern for the material and the fashions she will sell, Karen doesn't sew. But she always says that she will

"conquer the battle of the needle and the thread before leaving A&T." She said that her creations will be "tailor made suits for the physique and character of the persons" she serves.

"People are my greatest interest," Karen said. "And I do what I can to make life a more pleasant state of existence for them."

"Some people say that I'm too soft-hearted or too nice, but I figure that the world would be a total disaster if it weren't for those who care."

Offering another bit of philosophy, Karen said, "I enjoy challenging activities that take some effort and ingenuity for me to accomplish. People are always a constant challenge. Every one of them feels that they have to play 'people games' in order to get over. I guess the only way to survive is to play along with them."

Keep an eye on Karen Jones; one day you may be fortunate enough to have a "Karen's Original" and you can say, "I first heard about her in the Post."

## Congressional Bills Of Vast Importance To Black People

By Melvetta Wright  
Post Staff Writer

The 95th Congress of the United States is presently in session and is about to decide on four bills that are very important to all people, especially those in the Black communities. One is designed to enable pregnant workers to claim disability benefits, two to improve and extend the Food Stamp Program, and one to raise the federal minimum wage.

Last December the Supreme Court, in the General Electric Company v. Gilbert case, overruled the Equal Employment Commission and six circuit courts of appeal decisions that it is discriminatory to deny female workers pregnancy benefits. A majority of the Supreme Court ruled that since male workers cannot get pregnant, and ultimately pregnancy benefits, it would be discriminatory to give them to female workers.

The case of G.E. v. Gilbert gained attention when it was revealed that the company, in most circumstances, pays 60 percent of loss income up to 28 weeks for disabilities resulting from sport-injuries, attempted suicides, venereal diseases, fights, hair transplants, vasectomies and circumcisions. While it is true that men cannot become pregnant, women cannot be treated for vasectomies and circumcisions; but men are paid disability benefits for such

## To Black Community

# NAACP Head Kelly Alexander

## Denies Reneging On Commitment

### New Hope For Older Workers

The National Caucus for the Black Aged is holding its fifth annual conference from May 26 through 28 at the International Inn in Washington, D.C. The conference which will be co-sponsored by the National Center on Black Aged, will address the total health of the Black elderly, including the physical, mental, social, economic, environmental, and cultural aspects.

There will also be scientific research symposia covering health and clinical research on the Black aging process. Papers will be presented on such topics as morbidity, mortality and mental health aspects. Featured Conference speakers will discuss spiritual health, social and economic health, and health programs, both in the federal and private sectors, which benefit the aged.

Workshops will be held at the conference to enlighten interested persons in many areas as long term care, delivery of health services, health education for senior consumers, and manpower and training needs: more Black nurses, doctors and health geriatrics. The NCBA was organized in Philadelphia seven years ago for the purpose of improving the overall quality of life for the Black elderly.



**KUUMBA-NIA FESTIVAL SUCCESSFUL**  
A group of the more than 1,000 people who contributed to the success of the second annual African cultural festival, entitled Kumba II, held at the Greenville Community Center last week. T.J. Reddy, one of the organizers, summarized the afternoon as: "This was a coming together of a lot of creative Black minds to deal with the problems that concern Black people."

## Black Caucus Supports Controversial Legislation

(CCNS)-The North Carolina Black Democratic Leadership Caucus (NCBDLC) took positions on several controversial legislative proposals now being considered by the North Carolina General Assembly.

Support for a bill to allow the Governor and Lieutenant Governor to succeed themselves was voted by the group following a lengthy discussion. Several of the caucus members opposed allowing the Lt. Governor to succeed himself, expressing some displeasure with current Lt. Governor Jimmy Green. Green defeated Howard N. Lee in a run-off for the post last September in a race that was subtly racist.

Rep. H.M. Michaux, Jr., of Durham said that he would oppose the Lt. Governor's succession on the floor of the House. In another action the Caucus appointed a committee to investigate support for landlord-tenant reform which is yet to be introduced into the legislature. A draft proposal was circulated which caucus members said may be introduced by Wake Representative Robert Farmer. Some of the

protections tenants need in the state and should be investigated by the committee. For the past three sessions Rep. Henry Frye of Guilford has introduced measures to change the archaic landlord-tenant law passed by the 1868 legislature to regulate sharecropping. Those proposals have been drafted and defeated, primarily because most of the legislators are landlords and have a vested interest in not passing such legislation.

The caucus also approved amendments to the testing proposals now being considered by House and Senate education committees. One testing bill would make mandatory the passing of standardized exams by high school students prior to graduation.

## Luther Hodges To Keynote Minority Business Banquet

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.  
Post Executive Editor

The Charlotte Local Business Development Organization (LBDO), in cooperation with Radio Station WGIV, will hold its first annual minority business awards banquet on Thursday, April 28 at the Holiday Inn-North. Luther H. Hodges Jr., board chairman of the North Carolina National Bank, will deliver the keynote address.

Thomas Staton, executive director of the Charlotte LBDO, said "the event has been designed to give recognition and encouragement to a number of minority business people that LBDO has given assistance to over the past year. Specifically," he continued, "12 minority entrepreneurs who have received certificates as minority business men of the month will be recognized and two from that



Luther Hodges, Jr., NCNB Board chairman

group will be named 'Minority Businessmen of the Year.' Staton concluded "the banquet will offer corporations in the area the opportunity to become a little better acquainted with the growing number

of minority -- largely black -- business firms that they might desire to carry on some activities with."

Charlotte LBDO board chairman Hoyle H. Martin said, "We are pleased to have Luther H. Hodges as our keynote speaker because under his leadership NCNB has demonstrated a commitment to the support and encouragement of minority business. Furthermore, as chairman of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce last year, Mr. Hodges was active in that organization's assistance to minority business, particularly through cooperation with the Charlotte LBDO."

An estimated 300 business, civic and minority business people will attend the banquet. Tickets and other information about the banquet may be obtained by calling 334-7691.

## Institutionalized Racism Continues To Exist

By O. I. Mani Churu-Aka  
(V.W.P.)

"The Black community suffers on several fronts concerning positive development, physical upkeep, and economic stability. The lack of a concentrated unified commitment by the Black Community, along with the reality of institutionalized racism that continues to exist in the forms of resegregation, and claims of reverse segregation are the problems that we face as a people," according to Kelly Alexander Sr., President of the North Carolina State Conference of Affairs of the NAACP, and proprietor of Alexander Funeral Home Inc.

In a follow-up interview concerning the conditions of York Memorial Park, his seeming disregard of those conditions, and the allegations that he and other funeral home directors exerted pressure on the owners to keep prices down, Alexander vociferously stated his position on that issue and several others affecting the Black Community.

"We don't sell graves, we sell funeral services, and we usher the deceased to the cemetery the families dictate, be it York Road, Pineville, Sharon, or Beatties Ford Memorial Park. The people in the community have a responsibility to effect changes in problem areas. If you want better services, you have to tell the owner what you want done," he stated.

When told members of the community were charging he directs little business to black businessmen, Alexander answered, "I serve the public, it's my responsibility as a businessman to get the business and to keep the business. I am not responsible for another man not getting his share of the business, it's his responsibility to price his produce within the income levels of the community he serves." Responding to statements, he and other funeral home directors exert pressure, "I don't resort to the use of personal pressure tactics, it is a fallacious statement for anyone to suggest that I or any member of my establishment has threatened any cemetery with a loss of patronage, and I deny it. The public will patronize those who offer the best price, and we deliver our services as directed by the public, we have no control over their selection of businesses to patronize, and again, price is the major factor."

He continued, "It is important to note the historical connotations involved, fundamentally the society we live in is a racist society. Historically the basic form of black-white relationships has been that of separate but equal. In our business it has been the same, the pattern of selection of cemeteries and related services, from the beginning was done on a segregated basis. The City of Charlotte even refused to accept blacks for burial. When the separate but equal doctrine was outlawed by the Supreme Court, no one could be refused service at public facilities. Since private businesses also offered their services to the public at large, it was unconstitutional for them to refuse to serve black people. Pinewood Cemetery on Ninth Street is an example. Blacks and whites were separated by a fence, my brother,



Kelly Alexander  
...NAACP state president

Fred Alexander, had it torn down." (Interstate 77 now exists where the fence once stood.)

**POSITION CRUMBLING**  
When told results of a Post community poll indicated his position in the community appeared to be crumbling, Alexander took time to state his case for the record. "I have never had to identify myself as a man committed to the struggle for the rights of all humanity. I grew up in the slums and have no apologies to make concerning my past and continuing contribution to the community. My life has been sacrificed for the rights of black people. Check the record for yourself. It's easy for those lacking in commitment to criticize, now that the tough fight is over. Those who criticize are not combat soldiers in the struggle for human dignity, ask them if they know how it feels to have your head on the chopping block. The lives of myself and my family were threatened, a nitroglycerin bomb exploded under my home during the late '60's. Also threatened were the lives of my brother

See Alexander on Page 5

### City Employees

### To Observe Easter

### Holiday Monday

All City government offices will be closed Monday, April 14, in observance of Easter Monday. Regular business hours will be resumed Tuesday, April 12 at 8 a.m.

There will be no meeting of the Charlotte City Council on Easter Monday. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Center. The meeting will be televised live by WTVI, Channel 42.

Due to the holiday, the City's Sanitation Division will operate on a four day residential collection schedule. Homes regularly serviced on Monday-Thursday will receive collections on Tuesday-Thursday and Tuesday-Friday collection will be changed to Wednesday-Friday.

There will be NO curbside trash collection next week. Items should not be placed on the curb until Tuesday, April 19 for collection on Wednesday, April 20. For citizens who wish to dispose of their own trash, the York Road Landfill will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Bulk containers for household trash are located outside the landfill gates for convenient 24-hour deposit.

**TURTLE-TALK**

It takes a mighty conscientious man to tell the DIFFERENCE between being TIRED and LAZY.