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MANAGER BILLY FOWLER
...With Employee Linda Mackey

Try His Pizzas! Fowler Wants To Make You An Offer You Can't Refuse?

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

Billy Fowler wants to make you an offer you can't refuse. As manager of the newly opened Godfather Pizza restaurant at 1525 Ledwell Ave., just off Freedom Drive, he says if you'll come in and try his pizza, he'll see to it that you go away with a satisfied smile on your face. "We've got the best pizza in town," Fowler explained. "I've worked for two other pizza chains before joining Godfather and I think I know something about good pizza. If we can get people to try our they'll never be satisfied with any other kind."

The store which opened about four weeks ago. The Independence store does a tremendous business and it was expected the new store would get off to a good start. He feels the poor showing may be partially attributed to the poor reputation left behind by a former tenant of the location he occupies. However, he is working hard to let people know he operates a family oriented business, where the atmosphere is restful and pleasant and where a first-rate pizza can be obtained.

Godfather Pizza originated in the mid-west and has approximately 67 stores in 12 states. The two stores in Charlotte are the first this side of the Mississippi River. The North Carolina franchise is owned by Jim Harris.

Fowler joined Godfather this year after answering an ad for managers. He said he left the company he was with because the Godfather is a young company and he sees more chance for advancement with them.

Specializing in thick crust pizza, the Godfather chain uses its own patented brands of seasoning and spices and ships all tomatoes in from California, according to Fowler. They also use domestic mushrooms while most companies use "cheaper imported brands." The crust is made

Almost all of Fowler's work experience has been in pizza restaurants. He said, "I started working with pizza and just fell in love with it."

So far Fowler has been disappointed with business at

From scratch on the premises and Fowler demonstrated his skill twirling the dough over his head on the tips of his fingers. "The product is the thing," he told us. "We don't rely on gimmicks or even on advertising a great deal. Most of our customers come to us by 'word of mouth' recommendation. We're doing a half-price promotion right now and we'll also give a free drink to customers who call their order ahead but mainly we depend on the quality of our product to build a good following."

Mike Volk, a visitor here from Chicago, was having his first Godfather pizza Tuesday, and said "I've been eating pizza since 1941 and I consider myself a connoisseur. This is as good as any I've had. It's as good as 'Home Run' pizza, the most famous brand in Chicago. The only thing wrong is I can't possibly eat a whole small one by myself, as I can with most others I buy. I love pizza and if I can find Godfather when I get back home you can be sure I'll be a steady customer."

Currently, Fowler is working a 16 hour day and attending classes at Central Piedmont Community College in business management. He expects to graduate this fall and be able to spend a little more time with his family. He enjoys playing and watching basketball and he and his wife plan to start construction of a new home very soon.

A native of King's Mountain, Fowler still lives there with his wife, Mamie, and their two sons, Andy, age 5 and T.J., 16 months.

Courtesy is too cheap for some people to be interested in it.

An Election Analysis

Experience Creates Front Runners



Low Voter Turnout Expected

Final Look At The Contenders

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.
Post Executive Editor

With Charlotte's primary just five days off (Sept. 27), it's time for a final look at the contenders in these history-making races. We say "history-making" because the majority of the city's registered voters were either too young or not yet born during the last district election over 32 years ago.

The Mayor

The odds-on favorite among the four Democrat mayoral hopefuls is a bid to face the single Republican candidate, Ken Harris, in the November 8 general election is Jim Whittington.

In addition to 18 years of experience on the City Council, Whittington appears to be gaining support from blacks and the business community. Both groups had been less than enthusiastic with Whittington because of his lackluster record where black interests are concerned and his less-than-glowing businessman's image.

Evidence of support from one of these groups came Sunday when the Black Political Caucus endorsed Whittington with the apparent concurrence of the Black Women's Caucus and the Black Ministerial Fellowship Alliance.

Undoubtedly, Whittington's increasing support among these groups is at least partly reflected in the quality of his three opponents. Each of them, Jim Black, James R. Johnson and James P. Kaperonis, are seeking political office for the first time. Black, 29, is the public affairs director of Radio Station WGIV. His political experience has been limited to his station's voter registration endeavors. Johnson is a 46-year old architect and a former Democratic precinct chairman. Kaperonis, 54, is a real estate dealer and has no known political experience. Furthermore, with regard to key issues such as neighbor preservation, transportation, airport expansion, city and industrial growth, and consolidation, neither of

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LOVELY JOYCE WATT
...Has dynamite smile

Miss Joyce Watt Is Beauty Of Week

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

Joyce Watt, the POST Beauty of the Week, is a perfect example of the old saying, "good things come in small packages." Standing barely five feet tall and weighing just around 100 lbs., Joyce has a dynamite smile and personality that more than make up for her small stature.

We discovered Joyce at Jimmie Grier's tailor shop, where she works part-time, assisting with alterations and dressmaking. She learned to sew in high school and has studied at Belmont Textile School.

"I've liked sewing all my life," she said. "It's sort of a hobby. Helping out in the tailor shop is more pleasure for me than work."

Growing up in Mount Holly, Joyce attended Gastonia Highland High School and is a graduate of Livingstone College. Before moving to Greensboro recently, she was a secretary at Belmont Textile

and Piping. Right now she's busy getting her family settled in their new home and has no plans to work fulltime for a while. She'll continue to help Jimmie out occasionally but most of her time will be devoted to husband, James, and their nine year old son, Kevin.

Smiling with anticipation, she said, "I hope I'll find more time for reading and decoupage and a few other things I enjoy." For entertainment she and James play cards, pokeno, go to movies and have friends over for informal get-togethers.

At first Joyce appeared unusually quiet and reserved for a Sagittarian, but after a short while her natural warmth and humor began to shine through and we thoroughly enjoyed our meeting with her.

We're happy to present her to you as our Beauty for this week and hope the city of Greensboro knows how lucky it is to have such a lovely addition to its population."

Only 25,000 Will Vote

In Tuesday's Primary?

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.
Post Executive Editor

Only 25,000 Charlotteans are expected to vote in Tuesday's primary election, according to Bill Culp, executive secretary of the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections.

Culp said, "The kind of responses we're getting from talking to candidates, political workers and people in general would indicate a low voter turnout of not more than 25 percent. However, the lack of

a Republican primary in the mayor's council at-large and District 1, 2, 4 and 5 races plus the approximately 7,000 unaffiliated voters (not registered with the Republican or Democrat parties) account in part for the low expected voter turnout." He added, "people apparently haven't caught fire about the issues." Weather conditions too may affect the turnout Culp noted.

Consider the overall expected low voter turnout and the historical voting patterns of blacks, Culp estimated that "not more than 18 to 20 percent of the black electorate would cast votes in the primary."

Many political observers have already noted that such a low voting percent by blacks could have "serious consequences for black district candidates no matter what percentage of whites vote."

On Tuesday, election day, voters will find four individuals, including one black, seeking the Democrat nomination for mayor. Eight Democrats, including one woman and one black, will be seeking the four places on the November 8 ballot for council at-large seats. Finally, 26 Democrats will be seeking seven district nominations and seven Republicans will be seeking three nominations. They include four black males, one black female and five white females. In addition, of the 45 primary candidates, 21 are under 40 years of age and six are under 30.

Culp said the polling places will be open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. "to accommodate the voters at the city's 78 voting locations."

All voting machine ballots will have the Democrat primary candidates for mayor and council at-large. However, district primary candidates will appear only on the ballots in the district where the candidate is running.

Among the prominent political and personality figures appearing on the primary ballot are: 18-year city council veteran Jim Whittington (D), seeking a mayoral bid; incumbent council persons Betty Chafin (D) and Harvey Gantt (D) and five terms (1965-1975) City Councilman Milton Short (D), each hoping for one of four Democratic Party general election council at-large berths. Among the district candidates are Mrs. Willie Smith (D,D-1), a third term member of the state Democratic Executive Committee; Ron Leeper (D,D-3), an activist voter education and registration worker; Mrs. Lillian McGrath (R,D-3), a member of the state Republican Executive Committee; Mrs. Laura Frech (D,D-4), a past president of the local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union; Joe Ross (D,D-2); one of the designers and promoters of the district representation plan; L. Herb Nuebauer (D,D-5), ran unsuccessfully for the Republican nomination for mayor in 1975, now a Democrat; Kimm Jolly (D), D-6), a member of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission; and George Selton (R,D-6), a former chairman of the Mayor's Urban Renewal and Community Improvement Committee.

Charlotte 3

Appeal Set

For October 5

Special To The Post
(CCNS) - The appeal of the Charlotte 3 defendants, convicted in 1972 of the burning in 1968 of the Lazy B Riding Stable, is set to be heard October 5 by the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal in Richmond, Virginia, according to chief defense attorney for the defendants, James Ferguson of Charlotte. Two of the three defendants have been out on bail since June of 1976. Dr. James Grant, Jr. and T.J. Reddy. The third defendant, Charles Parker, was paroled earlier in the same year.

The appeal before the Fourth Circuit Court is based on the failure of the prosecution to disclose evidence vital to the defense during the trial. Many consider the three civil rights workers victims of a frame-up by the authorities, most graphically exposed by Charlotte Observer reporters who discovered U.S. Justice Department pay-offs to the only witnesses who testified in the trial against them.

On December 28, 1976, Grant and Reddy were ordered back to jail by U.S. District Judge Woodrow Wilson Jones, after Judge James McMillan, who had in June approved their release pending appeal, disaffiliated himself from the case after pressure from the State. Their imprisonment was thwarted when defense attorneys immediately appealed Jones' decision to Judge J. Braxton Craven of the Fourth Circuit, and thousands of letters, telegrams and telephone calls were made to Craven from across the country on behalf of the three. Craven heard the appeal on December 31, 1976, over-ruled Jones and ordered that Grant and Reddy remain free until their appeal was decided.

Earlier this summer Judge Craven died of a heart attack. Recently a committee submitted to President Carter five candidates from which to choose his replacement: U.S. District Court Judge James B. McMillan; Kenneth Pye, Chancellor at Duke University; J. Dickson Phillips, former UNC Law School Dean; Civil Rights Attorney Julius Chambers of Charlotte; and William Van Alstyne, Duke University law professor.

It is possible the new appointee may be made before the October 5 hearing, but any three of the remaining 8 members of the Circuit Court can hear the appeal.



Courtesy is too cheap for some people to be interested in it.

Johnson Says Whittington Is:

"Patient Legislator Who Waits To See Which Way Wind Is Blowing"

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

Jim Whittington has been called a "patient legislator who waits to see which way the wind is blowing before taking a position."

Jim Johnson, who will face Whittington and three other candidates for mayor in Tuesday's primary election, cited press bias for the projection of Whittington as a leader. "I have yet to see any examples of that leadership," Johnson said in an exclusive interview with Post reporters Tuesday.

In his first bid for public office, Johnson, an architect and owner of Johnson and

Associates Architects, calls for the Charlotte community to choose "a brand new kind of leadership," saying "the city has the opportunity to get a whole new start on responsive government."

Johnson revealed his plans to assure communication between the community and government if he is elected. "The mayor has the right by charter," he explained, "to call together a special meeting of department heads and other staff as often as he wishes, to confer with them concerning matters of city government. I intend to establish a mayor's community



Jim Johnson
...Mayoral candidate

forum which will meet in the evenings. I will ask the help of

the Urban Institute in Chapel Hill to help structure this forum, the purpose of which will be for citizens and interest groups to gather and have dialogue with city officials. The mayor and council people would attend these forums as citizens and listen to the concerns of the people. The entire thrust of the idea is education - hearing both sides of issues. I would hope to be able to get support from the visual media so the public will know what is happening at these meetings."

High on Johnson's list of priorities is housing. "I find it See JOHNSON on Page 6