



THEODORA TOLBERT CROWNING
...Michelle Crowder

Crowder, Gaddy Capture

"Miss YMCA" Contest

By Cynthia Bell
Post Staff Writer

The Seventh Annual Miss McCrorey Branch YMCA was recently held at the "Y" on Beatties Ford Road. The distinguished Kenneth Golden was Master of the Ceremony.

This Year 19 young lovelies competed in the two titled contest. In the Queen Division, Michelle Crowder captured the title by raising the most money. Renee Maxwell and Tracy Moore were first and second runner ups, respectively.

Monica Evette Gaddy will reign this year as winner in the Princess Division. Ami House was first runner up and Charlette Simpson was second runner up. Other dedicated, hard-working contestants were: Leisha Colston, Rosemary Fortune, Leight Jack-

son, Shelia Jackson, Sherrie Jackson, Michelle McCoy, Nichole Oliphant, Cathy Roberson, Cathleen Robinson, Cosine Taylor, Florence Walker, Pricilla Windley, and Sari Withers.

All of the contestants participated in a fashion show sponsored by Richway Stores of Charlotte. Outfits ranged from evening wear to swim wear and each contestant added a bit of spice to their particular outfit.

The melodic voice of Maria Johnson chimmed out "You Light Up My Life" to wrap up the gala evening of festivities.

Congratulations are in order to all of these young ladies, especially winners. Funds that they raised will go toward sponsoring deserving youths to camp and for membership.

Mercy Hospital Plans Annual Ball

The Board of Directors and the Auxiliary of Mercy Hospital will sponsor the First Annual Mercy Ball on Saturday, January 21 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel.

Letters of invitation from the Mercy Ball Committee, headed by board member and Rexham marketing executive John V. Shea, were sent last week to friends of the hospital, medical staff, and auxiliary. The Ball is expected to draw over 300 people.

The black tie dinner-dance is not a fund-raising event.

Says Shea, "This is just the appropriate event for Charlotte citizens to become more involved and support this community, non-profit hospital."

Other members of the Mercy Ball Committee are: Brevard S. Myers, chairman of the board; Edward J. Dowd, Jr. - arrangements; Dr. Frederick Taylor - special guests & recreation; Dr. E. Reed Gaskin - publicity; Mrs. Rita G. Taylor and Mrs. Barbara Perriello - tickets.

Read the Charlotte Post each week.

Study Of Expectant Dads If Dad Experiences Classic Symptom, Beware!

UNC-G News Bureau
Special To The Post

GREENSBORO--With all the classic symptoms of food cravings, backaches, fatigue and irritability, there could be only one diagnosis -- the husband is expecting.

Don't laugh. Dr. Ora Strickland Davis, an assistant professor of nursing at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, has found that a husband's involvement with his wife's pregnancy goes far beyond the initial conception of the baby.

"Most expectant fathers experience one and usually more to the symptoms and mood changes that their wives undergo during the course of a pregnancy," she said.

Dr. Davis, who received her Ph.D. in child development and family relations at UNC-G last August, explored this far-reaching concept in her dissertation entitled, "Moods and

Symptoms of Expectant Fathers During the Course of Pregnancy."

She surveyed 91 expectant fathers in Greensboro and Guilford County and found that most of the men at some point during the pregnancy reported at least one of the symptoms of pregnancy.

"The most commonly reported symptoms were food cravings, backaches, fatigue, increased appetite, irritability, restlessness, weight gain, difficulty sleeping, indigestion and heartburn, nausea and even vomiting in the early stages," Dr. Davis stated.

The faculty member said she got interested in the expectant father's experiences during pregnancy when she was serving as a nurse in the maternity ward of Harlem Hospital Medical Center in New York.

"Many of the women there told me that their husbands

were experiencing the same physical symptoms and mood changes that they were going through," Dr. Davis recalled.

"After that I took a keen interest in the expectant father and I discovered that the medical profession has tended to leave out the father in the childbearing process.

"As far as I could determine, my study of expectant fathers using statistical analysis is the only one of its kind in the U.S.," she said.

Dr. Davis explained that the symptoms experienced by the expectant father are known as the "Couvade Syndrome." Couvade is a French word meaning to brood or hatch and was practiced widely as a part of childbearing by primitive cultures.

"As a practice, it was a way that the expectant father took part in the childbearing process," she explained. "For instance, an expectant father would not eat meat during his

wife's pregnancy. He would go to bed when his wife began her labor pains and go through the motions of giving birth.

"They believed that the energy given off by the husband in the practice of Couvade increased the wife's ability to give birth," Dr. Davis explained.

Of the 91 expectant fathers surveyed in the project, the black, working class man experienced more symptoms and mood changes during the course of the pregnancy than the white, middle class father-to-be.

Also, those expectant fathers in unplanned pregnancies exhibited more symptoms and mood changes than the expectant father in a planned pregnancy.

"I expected that the unplanned pregnancy would cause more stress and less personal satisfaction than the planned

pregnancy," Dr. Davis commented. "Working class expectant fathers in unplanned pregnancies also showed significantly higher anxiety and depression as pregnancy progressed than middle-class expectant fathers in unplanned pregnancies."

Dr. Davis said that each of the expectant fathers were questioned about their satisfaction with their situation in regard to their house or apartment, finances, relationship with the wife, wife's health, sexual adjustment, involvement in household tasks and relationship with the couple's parents.

"The most marked difference related to change in personal satisfaction was the sexual adjustment as pregnancy advanced," she found. "Expectant fathers with prior experience showed less overall satisfaction with their personal situation than the inexperienced men, which was probably due to additional stress."

The social breakdown of Dr. Davis' findings shows that middle class expectant fathers in managerial, professional or skilled-labor work experienced the least number of symptoms and were most satisfied with their personal situation.

Working class expectant fathers in semi-skilled and unskilled labor positions were less satisfied and experienced more symptoms, according to the study.

"As anxiety, depression and hostility increased so did the symptoms," Dr. Davis pointed out. "And as personal satisfaction decreased, the symptoms experienced by the expectant father increased."

"There is a wide range of variation to the way men respond to their wives' pregnancy," she commented.

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