

# What's happening!

**TRACK MEET FUN...** The Johnson C. Smith Golden Bulls while experiencing a dismal season in football, and a basketball season that turned into a pumpkin at the end have found their place in the sun on the track field.

Last Saturday, Smith broke six records in posting a sound track and field victory, against Winston-Salem State who finished second, Shaw, North Carolina Central, High Point, Clafin and Fayetteville state.

During the time Victor Cozart, Emile Randolph, Johnny Colquitt, and Sim Fogle were doing their thing on the field, the fans were doing their thing in the stands, having fun urging the Bulls on and engaging in bits of good humored witticism as usual.

Some of the people at track meet were Ken



Bob Johnson

Thompson, Jake Suggs, Randolph Erwin, Bernard Ervin, Bobby Carelock, David Young Jackie Davis, Vernal Osborne, Gwen Davis, Willie Boulware, Kenny Faulkner, Norman Mitchell, Sam Johnston, Mike Fullerton, Coleman Harris, Gene Stewart, Walter Biggers, Geraldine Springs, Willie Mae Holston, Alfred Horton, Lindsay Horton, Sonny James, Carlton Sims, Melvin Strange, Carl Addison, William Woods, and Isaac Melton.

**POLITICAL RECEPTION...** Thomas Staton and Vincent James hosted a reception recently for Luther Hodges, Democratic candidate for the United States Senate from North Carolina.

The reception was given to enable our community to get an understanding of where Mr. Hodges stands on Black Community.

Plenty of food and beverages were on hand as the Senatorial candidate was asked a number of questions.

Included among the guest that gathered in the excelsior Club's main ballroom for this fellowship were Maxie Granger, Ed Camp Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Spurgeon Webber, Dr. Tally Kennon, Bill Cunningham, Julius Cousar, Bishop George Leake, Tommy Sanders, Councilman Bob Walton, Vivian Galloway, James McDonald, Randy Harris, Theresa Graves, Mike Motley, Rev. Paul Drummond, Bill Atkinson, Harris Williams, Eddie Ward, Charles Mackey, Mary Spencer, Barbara Phillips, John Barnes, Richard Reeves, Curtis Johnson, J. R. Johnson, Purvis Lee, William Douglas, Henry Wallace, James Appling, Charles Williams, Joyce Linder, Diane Sercy, Sandra Caldwell, Malachi Greene Sr. and Malachi Greene Jr.

Most of the guest from the business community of Charlotte. **BIRTHDAY CAPERS...** Birth is the beginning, a time when a person is born into this world. Each year after that mark, that day is an anniversary.

Last weekend there were several parties given to honor ladies born in April.

Hattie Ardrey was quite pleased Sunday as she lazily reflected on the events of last Saturday night honoring her birthday. Hubby Curtis

spent his time and energies wisely in preparation for the many guest that helped in the celebration at their home on Quentin Place.

Among the guest were Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Whaley, Mr. and Mrs. John Miles, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Haywood, Charles Hodges, Ed Moore, Duffie Hyatt, Myra Maxwell, Richard Reeves, William Boger, and Bill Cunningham.

"She used to be My Girl!" was the tune most danced to by the group.

Willie (Cocoa) Washington celebrated her 18th birthday recently, thanks to Vanessa Parker and Andre Culp. The party was given at 8825 Softwind Drive.

Some of the guests that enjoyed the food, beverages and music were Carrie Lee Washington, Carolyn Eubanks, Alfreida Broome, Freddy Perdue, Jerry Culp, Oliver Bennett, Carlton Aders, Greg McVay, Roosevelt Broome, Lavant Washington and Bennett Miller who acted as "d. j." for the event.

Sula Henderson was honored last Saturday night by friends in a fantastic party held in south Charlotte.

The affair started early in the evening and ended in the morning as the guest did not want to leave.

Some of the guests included Gloria Tatum, William Simmons, Lovelia Weddington, Odell Robinson Jr., Donna Tatum, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Stephens, Edward Newland, Calvin Morange, Carolyn Moragne, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard McKinney, Linda Hart, Cheryl Sullivan, Bonnie Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Crowder, Reginald Spratt, Gwendolyn McCollough, Sam Oglesby, Robert Smith, Phillip Tate, Carl Howard, Bernard Weddington, Jerome Roseborough, Mr. and Mrs. Raeford Witherspoon, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Godwin, Dwight Preston Sims, Gene Grier, Daisey Garvin, Ms. Willie Garvin, Jean Brown, Alphonso Davis, Linda Bigelow, Alan Harmon, Josephine Smith and Carolyn Gary.



MS. ANNIE WILSON

Reproduces anything on fabric

## Ms. Annie Wilson Produces Art With Sewing Machine

By Jeri Harvey  
Post Staff Writer

Annie Wilson is an artist but instead of paint and brush, she produces art with a sewing machine and colorful threads.

Working in a small shop at 228 South Church Street, Ms. Wilson creates monograms, insignias, and any other designs the customer wishes. "If someone brings a picture of what they want and tells me the colors, I can reproduce anything on fabric with thread and the machine," she said. The recent showing of "Roots" on TV created a lot of interest in family coats of arms and she said she has done several of those.

Though monogramming is first love, Ms. Wilson said the income isn't sufficient to support herself and three children so she depends on tailoring and alterations to make ends meet.

"The important thing is that I'm able to make an honest living and take care of us," the 41-year-old woman said. She is a seamstress in various downtown stores, always earning not quite enough to support her family. "For a long time I got supplementary help from welfare," she revealed. "In spite of my job and doing extra sewing at home, I wasn't earning enough and my family needed things, so I swallowed my pride and asked for help. But I got tired of all the personal questions you have to answer and told them to cut me off."

This was when she decided to take another chance. "I knew there were these small empty stores downtown and I went to a realtor, B.W. Cutter, and laid my cards on the table. I told him quite frankly that I didn't have enough money but I was an honest woman with a desire to take care of my family by my own

labor. I told him if he'd let me have one of those small spaces it would be better than letting vandals wreck it. He thought it over a few minutes, then agreed to let me have one for little or nothing.

"I'd already accumulated a lot of equipment over the years, working out of my home, so here I was with a store, some equipment and about \$130 in capital, if you can call that capital." By the time she got the lights, water and phone turned on, Ms. Wilson said her funds were depleted but she didn't have anything to lose anyway so she took it from there.

"It hasn't been easy," she admitted, "but life isn't easy, at best. I figured the only direction I could go was up and I'm still hanging in there."

Describing herself as "basically an optimist," Ms. Wilson is also apparently a practical person. At present she is sharpening her business skills by attending Small Business Orientation and Management classes at Central Piedmont Community College On-The-Square. She also hopes to expand the business through the City of Charlotte's Economic Development Program.

Much of her work now comes from nearby cleaners and stores and walk-ins from offices and other business downtown. Stores like Belk's and Miller and Rhodes often send 200-300 items at a time to be monogrammed; and motorcycle clubs, basketball teams, Masonic groups and various organizations frequently order insignias and patches.

An articulate woman, Ms. Wilson said she owes much of her determination to the inspiration she received from older, parental-figure friends she cultivated after leaving home at 17. "I looked to older, wiser people for guidance and it paid off," she smiled.

Another source of inspiration has been poetry and she names "If" by Kipling and "It Couldn't Be Done" by Edgar Guest as two favorites. The love of poetry extends beyond reading to writing original verse and, in fact there's a collection of poems just waiting for a publisher to come along. In the foreword she says in part, "Life is like a great chain with many, many links. As we touch one another physically or verbally it only for a brief moment we can either strengthen or weaken one another - encourage or hurt." Other pieces reflect her concern for mankind and a desire to take care of her own loved ones while lending a hand to others.

The first lines of one entitled "My Heart Desires," are: "My heart desires only enough to make me happy. And to make happy also many others who are dear to me."

Even though many of them I do not know.

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## Happiness Through Health Suicide Is Second Largest Cause Of Death Among Children

By Otto McClarrin  
Special To The Post

"Suicides among school-age children are the second biggest killer of children," said Dr. Peter Fanning, director of special education for public schools in Wichita, Kansas. Accidents are the biggest cause of children's death.

In Kansas during 1972 to 1974, seven youngsters 10 to 14 and ages 15 to 19 committed suicide, according to statements by representatives of the Kansas Department of Health Environment's Vital Statistics. Kansas ranks 22nd in the nation for the total number of suicides.

During 1975, the most recent year for which data are available, 170 confined child suicides nationwide were reported. Nationwide statistics indicate an increase in child suicides, according to the American Association of Suicidology in Houston, a group interested in suicide prevention. In 1954, 0.3 percent of children 10 to 14 committed suicide. By 1975 the figure increased to 0.8 percent.

The figures for children ages 15 to 19 increased from 2.4 percent per 100,000 persons

in 1958 to 7.4 percent in 1975. A number of national experts believe there would be more child suicides if young children had the skill to carry them out.

"Young children aren't as adept (as older children) to take lives in a way that would appear accidental," said Dr. Calvin J. Serick, of National Institute for Medical Health in Baltimore, Md.

The highest suicide rate is for ages 45 to 65. No figures are available for children under age 10. Kansas statistics compiled by the National Center for Health Statistics in Hyattsville, Md., indicate that suicides in the 15 to 19 age group were committed

by whites, 17 were boys. Firearms and explosives caused the death of 11 boys. Three boys and two girls from hanging, strangulation of neck, suffocation, and other means. Three boys poisoned themselves. Poisons included drugs. Experts say children commit suicide for three reasons:

Families have increased mobility that separates children from their roots and supportive relatives.

More divorce and both parents working away from home can result in a breakdown in the family.

Some parents pressure their children to excel and to become independent at an early age.

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