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LOVELY PAM DAVIS  
...South Mecklenburg junior

## Pam Davis Is Beauty Of Week

by Sherleen McKay  
Post Staff Writer

This week's beauty is Pam Davis, a junior at South Mecklenburg High School.

Pam's ambition after graduation is to attend fashion school in Atlanta to become a model.

"I love clothes," she said, "and I decided that becoming a model would suit me." Another deciding factor she mentioned is that people often compliment her on her appearance.

In the event that things change their course, Pam's alternate career preference is to work with children.

"I love children," she said emphatically, "Oh, I do!" In her sparetime, she usually babysits.

Pam likes to play tennis, swim, roller skate, go to school discos after games and attend parties given by her friends. She also has another unusual interest.

My father owns his own upholstery business," she said, "and sometimes I like to go there and sew."

Responding to the question of whether or not she likes school, Pam exclaimed, "Oh yes, school is one of my main things." Her favorite subjects are math, English and a child development class, respectively. Pam said that her mother, a math teacher at Sterling Elementary School, aided in the development of her interest in math.

Being the youngest of three girls, 16-year-old Pam (her birthday is next month) said, "I seem to get more attention and concern. My family likes for me to be involved in things, but they like for my schoolwork to come first."

Pam recalls that the happiest time in her life was when she was "old enough to date." Last summer was another momentous occasion when she worked at Carowinds. "It was my very first job," she said. "I loved meeting people and there was a lot to meet down

at Carowinds."

Pam considers herself to be very friendly and to get along with practically everyone she meets. She said that she likes to talk with her friends and help them with their problems.

Two weeks ago, Pam and her family lost a dear, close friend in the form of a dog named Apollo. "We had him for a long time," Pam said. "The family really misses him."

Given one wish to be granted if only it could, Pam said, unselfishly, "I wish the whole world would straighten out so that everyone could get along and that there would be no more disruptions in the world."

Pam is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Davis.

Long Holiday

Period Awaits

CMS Students

All Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools will be closed at the end of the school day on Thursday, December 21, for the Christmas holidays which will extend through New Year's Day. The Education Center and other offices will be closed December 22, 25, 26, and January 1.

The School System, consisting of approximately 107 schools with an estimated 79,000 students in attendance, will reopen and resume normal scheduling on January 2.

## "3" To Be Released Before Christmas?

by Susan Ellsworth  
Post Staff Writer

Will the Charlotte Three be among those prisoners to benefit from the traditional package of pardons handed out by the governor?

Officials are predicting that the Three may be released before Christmas.

"Pressure is quietly mounting," for Governor James Hunt to take action, according to three officials in the Hunt administration.

The Charlotte Three were convicted in 1972 of burning a riding stable in 1968.

Governor Hunt is receiving pressure from the North Carolina Human Relations Council (which he appointed) to commute the sentences to time already served in prison, ascertained the officials.

Other administration insiders discount the likelihood of Governor Hunt pardoning the civil rights activists or reducing their sentences.

The Charlotte Three have been designated as political prisoners by groups and indi-

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## Bus Strike Slowly Strangling

## Downtown Charlotte Businesses

State Gets

\$384,726

Grant

Governor Hunt and David Caldwell, Director of the Atlanta Region, U.S. Civil Service Commission, jointly announced Monday the approval of a grant award in the amount of \$384,726 to the State of North Carolina.

This award, which is matched with 50 percent of State and local funds, will support projects designed to improve personnel and administrative management in State agencies and in local governments. At the State level, projects include: the expansion of an executive development program for key state officials, a career development training program, and a skills inventory system for applicant referral. Projects for local governments include: personnel assistance for cities and counties in the area of classification and other personnel advisory services, a management audit, and an extensive training program for state and local employees throughout North Carolina.

Other provisions of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act include: the admission of State and local government employees to Federal training courses; graduate fellowships for employees in administrative, professional and technical occupations; technical assistance in a wide range of personnel services; and the mobility program which allows for the temporary interchange of employees between the Federal government and State, local jurisdictions and institutions of higher education. Six Federal employees are currently on assignments in North Carolina and twenty-five employees of the State are on assignments with the Federal government.

Business Workshop

Increasing your small business, cash flow and protecting your business against crime will be the topics of a free workshop held Saturday, Dec. 16.



PHOTOGRAPHER JAMES MCCULLOUGH captured the idle buses of the City Transit System waiting gingerly for the settlement of the strike that is entering its fourth week.

Meanwhile, downtown businesses and the poor people who ride the buses are facing a bleak Christmas.

With Health Problems

## UNC-CH Program Trains Church

## Members To Help Congregation

by Beverly H. Mills  
Special To The Post

CHAPEL HILL—The department of health education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Public Health will develop a community health education program with a \$10,260 community service and continuing education grant from the University of North Carolina under Title I of the Higher Education Act.

The program, which has been set up in Chatham County, may be used as a demonstration model for other areas of the state.

Three members from eight churches in a six-mile radius of Siler City are participating in the program, said Dr. John W. Hatch, UNC-CH associate professor of health education and program director. These representatives are learning good health practices in order

to deal with problems such as hypertension and diabetes.

"We realize that advice is important in the process of seeking help, and health behaviors are influenced by people who are perceived as knowledgeable," Hatch said. "We selected people from churches because churches are usually the center for community cohesiveness."

Several things demonstrate that the small, rural church is the focal point of a community, Hatch said. Communities are often named for churches, and vice versa. Also, members of these churches usually belong to a small number of extended families.

"We asked these churches to select from the congregation persons who give advice or who are leaders to participate in a series of sessions on high risk health problems."

When the sessions have been

completed, Hatch said each of the communities will have three persons who are knowledgeable about community resources to help control health problems and what individual families and communities can do to manage them.

The participants are also learning how to run movie projectors and lead small group sessions so they will be able to conduct their own workshops to help educate the rest of the community.

They are being given information about nutrition and proper diets that often accompany a particular health condition, Hatch said. The importance of social support that members of the family, church and community can give a person who is having to adjust to new habits is also stressed.

Working on the program with Hatch are Chatham County resident Margaret Brown, community co-ordinator, and UNC-CH graduate students Marquis Eure and Kate Lovelace, assistant community co-ordinators.

Before coming to UNC-CH in 1970, Hatch was associate director of a rural health program in Mississippi. He is currently working on another rural health program in Chatham County and one in Africa.

Presbyterian

Pediatrics Set

Christmas Party

The annual Presbyterian Hospital Pediatrics Christmas party will be held this year on Saturday, December 16, beginning at 2 p.m. in the hospital auditorium.

Entertainment will include the Carolina Clowns, dancers from the Grose School of Dancing, Trey Vaughn, a young Charlotte magician, as well as a visit from Santa Claus who will give each child a present.

Managers Estimate Business

Has Decreased By 50 Percent

by Susan Ellsworth  
Post Staff Writer

On a crisp, clear December afternoon, downtown Charlotte is frequently a scene of busy shoppers bustling about from store to store. As many as 75 people have been known to congregate at the corner of Trade and Tryon Street waiting for buses—but that hasn't happened in a while.

"There's hardly anyone now when the store is usually jam-packed for this time of the year," said Mrs. Broadnax, co-manager of The Bad Man, a men's clothing store.

This description could apply to almost all of the shops along Tryon Street since the beginning of the bus strike. Business in downtown Charlotte has declined drastically. People who were dependent upon buses to transport them downtown cannot get there to shop.

Many business managers estimated a decrease of 50 percent and some as high as 70 percent below their sales for the 1977 Christmas Season.

The Style Setter, a men's shop, usually has 300-400 shoppers a day; that number has now dwindled to a possible 10 daily, according to manager David Goings. The strike has resulted in a loss of at least \$3,000 in sales weekly, Goings ascertained.

Other businesses have suffered more severe losses. Friedman's Jewelers, which typically services 80 customers a day during the Christmas season, according to manager, Clinton Preston, is down to 25 customers a day.

Estimated losses are \$12,000 since the strike began and now is \$1,500 daily.

Friedman's Jewelers has been in existence for 54 years. Although all downtown businesses have been curtailed, some are more fortunate than others.

"The big stores are not affected like the little stores," asserted Ron Bliss, manager of Mr. High Style. His statement is especially true of downtown Woolworth's which has experienced only a 15-25 percent decline in business, and credited this comparatively small reduction to a good lunchtime business mostly from office workers.

What actions are businessmen taking to entice customers into making an extended effort to shop downtown?

Stores like the Style Setter, are offering discounts. The managers of the Soul Shack, a record mart, and Friedman's Jewelers affirmed that they cannot afford to cut back the prices on many items. Mr. High Style and The Bad Man favored subsidizing taxi service for a short time by paying a portion of the cost of transporting customers downtown if the shoppers make purchases in their stores.

What will happen to downtown businesses if the strike continues?

"A prolonged strike may put people out of business," warned Ron Bliss.

"If the strike continues it will severely cripple most merchants. Businessmen will suffer as far as paying for merchandise already ordered for the Christmas season," explained David Goings.

The most optimistic statement came from Clinton Preston who said, "downtown

businesses will survive but be hurt."

Even if the strike ended tomorrow, irreparable damage has severely paralyzed most businesses. Store managers agree that they can't compensate for losses during the entire Christmas season in one week before Christmas.

"It takes four weeks of business to catch up to one week of loss," acknowledged Clinton Preston.

One downtown merchant alleged that bus drivers intentionally chose Christmastime to strike hoping that desperate downtown merchants would pressure the city into producing a quick end to the strike.

That hasn't happened, and it appears too late for downtown businessmen to benefit from this year's Christmas season.

"The City wasn't ready for a strike," commented Ron Bliss. "After Christmas, putting pressure on the city won't matter because of the losses already suffered," he continued.

Chain stores and shopping malls in suburban areas are doing a booming business. Sales in Friedman's Jewelers in the suburbs for example, is high while the downtown stores need customers.

Who is suffering the most because of the strike?

Commuters having to find alternate means of transportation to work, poor people and local businesses, were the most common responses.

One businessman predicted the strike will end "when bus drivers get hungry enough."

Cab Companies

Extends "Share

A-Ride" Service

Starting Monday, December 11, local taxicab companies offered an additional "Share-A-Cab" service to assist persons during the bus strike. The new program permits customers to call for immediate cab service and still receive a substantial reduction off the regular meter rate.

The new "Share-A-Cab" works this way:

1. Call any local cab operator and request immediate service under the "Share-A-Cab" program.

2. A cab will be dispatched immediately and the customer will be given the amount of the fare.

3. Under the plan, cab customers will pay \$1.25 for the first mile, and \$30 for each additional mile. (Normal meter rates are \$1.35 for the first mile and \$60 for each additional mile. The new plan results in a savings of \$10 for the first mile and \$30 for each additional mile.)

The new "Share-A-Cab" plan is being offered due to public demand for immediate cab service at reduced rates. On December 1, the four-hour advanced-notice was announced. Under that program, customers pay a flat \$1.25 for service as long as four hours notice is given. This service is still available.

Local taxi cab companies would like to remind passengers to call only one cab company per trip.

TURTLE-TALK



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