

Post Commemorates Black History

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DAWANA DYLYNNE DURANTE
...Olympic High School cheerleader

Dawana Dyllynne Durante

Is "Beauty Of The Week"

by SHERLEEN McCOY
Post Staff Writer

Our beauty for this week is Dawana Dyllynne Durante, a junior at Olympic High School.

Interested in business, Dawana said that she would like to be an executive secretary when she finishes her academic studies.

"I like office work," she said, "especially typing and shorthand."

Dawana said that she wants to attend Kings College but seriously thinks it would be better to matriculate at a four year college. Nevertheless she still has time to make the best decision.

A fashion conscious person, Dawana stated, "I also want to go to modeling school someday. I want to be able to dress and look nice and develop poise. It's something else to do aside from working

in an office all the time."

Dawana wants to get involved with modern dancing. At the present though, she doesn't know how or where to get started here. A Charlottean, Dawana was raised and lived in Durham until two and a half years ago when she moved to Charlotte. While there in an Upward Bound Program she learned modern dance and wishes to continue with it.

Dawana describes herself as having a very nice personality, attractive, quiet (sometimes, "when I'm in the mood"), nicely built, nice smile, pretty eyes and one who likes nice things.

"When the weather permits, she likes to swim. Considering herself as a semi-amateur, she said she was on her school's swim team about five years ago.

"I like horseback riding,

too, though I haven't ridden a horse in a long time," she said.

Dawana also likes listening to music. Her favorite male vocalists are Earth, Wind and Fire and female vocalist Donna Summers.

Though she doesn't fix anything special, Dawana said that she likes to cook. At Olympic, she belongs to the cheerleading team. Her favorite school subjects are shorthand, typing, English and business math.

Dawana credits her parents as having the most influence in her life. "They try to influence me to get on the right track when I'm off," she explained. They tell me why I need to go to school everyday and finish my education."

Dawana said that even though she misses her friends from Durham, she has developed a liking for Charlotte, however, she doesn't plan to make her future home here.

"I don't want to go up north," she said assuredly, "but I like Atlanta and I'd like to see California."

In the meantime, she said, "I want to get out of school (college), get a good job somewhere, save some of my money and go into modeling."

Dawana is the daughter of Reginald and Ernestine Durant and has a brother, Reginald Quanta, who is four years old.

households.

This latest report reveals that Black people spend more of their earnings than the general population to live in decent housing. It estimates that 37 percent of Black Americans—but only 20 percent of the total population—need to spend more than a quarter of their income to live in unflawed, uncrowded housing.

"The fact that some Americans are still treated as second class citizens cannot be tolerated," said Secretary Patricia Roberts Harris. "I will continue to fight for the right of all minorities to get a fair share of the benefits of this society."

Another finding in the report, which is based on data from HUD's Annual Housing Survey for 1976, is that maintenance and plumbing are the most frequent deficiencies found in Black households.

HUD Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, Donna E. Shalala, whose office prepared the report for release during Afro-American Heritage Month, said that, "No better time can be imagined to rededicate ourselves to the goal of a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family."

NAACP Warns Carter To

Stop Playing Political Tennis

NORTH BRANCH LIBRARY

P.I.N. Down

Childhood

Diseases

The recent outbreak of red measles in Charlotte schools again calls attention to the need for proper immunizations against preventable childhood diseases.

Last Spring, Mercy Hospital joined in a nation-wide effort through the American Hospital Association to provide free immunization record cards for parents as a public service. That project is again being promoted to help make more parents aware of the potential dangers in lagging behind on their children's immunizations.

The program called P.I.N. (Proper Immunization Now),

reminds parents that 40 percent of the children in America today are not receiving vaccines as they should, even though these vaccines are readily available. As the card explains, "no matter how effective a vaccine is, it can only work if a child receives it."

The P.I.N. project encourages proper timing for immunizations as well, since too many parents put off

children's vaccinations until they are ready for school—long after disease has an opportunity to strike. Still others forget that older children need booster shots, as evidenced by the measles outbreak in junior high schools.

The P.I.N. card contains a complete schedule of immunizations as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Childhood diseases for which vaccines are now available are diphtheria, tetanus, polio, whooping cough, measles, mumps, and rubella.



Union Members are on strike at Continental Forest Industries, demanding equal pay. Cora Audrey, Gladell Mar-

shall, Stanley Alexander, Billy Joe Burch, Mary Frances Green. (Photo by Eileen Hanson)

Union Strikes For Equal Pay

By EILEEN HANSON
Special To The Post

Neither sleet nor snow nor cold of night could keep the striking employees of Continental Forest Industries from walking the picket line 24 hours a day for the last four weeks.

As members of Printing Specialties and Paper Products Union Local 527 (AFL-CIO), the employees say they want equal pay with a sister plant in Lithonia, Georgia and less harassment on the job. On Jan. 19 they set up a cardboard shelter, a fire and a picketline in front of the plant on Westinghouse Blvd.

When their union contract expired Jan. 15, the company refused to sign a master agreement covering the Charlotte and Lithonia plants, as they had promised when they opened the Charlotte plant three years ago.

The two plants produce the same fibre drums, but in Georgia the pay is 40c an hour more. New contract proposals at the two plants would put the Georgia employees 62c an hour ahead. The

workers in Lithonia belong to the same union local and are also on strike.

Wages under the old agreement at the Charlotte plant, which has 60 employees, began at \$4.12 an hour, with a wire operator making \$4.85 and mechanics \$5.60.

"We just want equal pay for doing equal work," said T.R. Wilson, shop steward and member of the negotiation committee. According to Wilson the strike is 100 percent effective. "All but one employee belongs to the union. There is no production going on inside, only management," he said.

The company, division of the multinational corporation Continental Group (formerly Continental Can) refused to comment to The Post about the strike.

When a Mecklenburg County police car suddenly appeared on Jan. 22, strikers feared something was about to happen.

"Within minutes a big truck shot around the corner and through the picket line at

about 35 m.p.h.," said Kerry McGee. "It skinned Dennis Brown on the leg and spun him around so he fell down."

Frances Green said she pulled Brown out of the truck's path just in time. "I don't know what would have happened, that truck was coming fast," she said.

According to the pickets the policeman was looking, but didn't see anything. He spoke to the driver from Johnny's Transfer Co. and left. When the truck left the company premises it hit Brown's car before speeding off.

Pickets say the police officer returned and told them to be quiet or they would be locked up.

The next day the company requested and got an injunction against the strike prohibiting them from blocking the plant entrances. "Now we know when a truck is coming in," said McGee. "The cop car always arrives first."

In addition to equal pay and a master agreement, the union wants a holiday for Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, increase in vacation pay, shift differential, a 30-month contract and increase in insurance benefits.

Employees also want better work rules. "There's no sick leave and if you've out one day they demand a doctor's statement," said union leader Alfred Harrison. "The employee loses three times for one illness—no pay for being out sick, having to pay an unnecessary doctor bill, and risk being suspended," he said. "This rule hurts people more than anything."

According to Rev. Frank Reid, pastor of the church, "These batiks are some of the most beautiful pieces of art I have seen. The designs are uniquely African."

A full afternoon of African culture is planned for Sat. Feb. 24 beginning at 1:00 p.m. See Bethel on page 5.

Carter Urged

To Prepare

Energy Policy

Special To The Post

Washington, D.C. — The leader of the NAACP has warned Congress and the Carter Administration to stop playing political tennis with an energy problem that poses a massive threat to employment and upward mobility for minorities.

Speaking before the National Conference on Energy Advocacy in Washington, D.C., on February 3, Margaret Bush Wilson declared: "The national government must be made to lead in ensuring that the country develops abundant, affordable energy supplies that will promote vigorous economic growth."

She urged President Carter, in preparing an updated energy policy, to this time seek the views and concerns of minorities, the poor and the aged, "the most vulnerable segments of the population."

Another conference speaker, U.S. Senator James McClure (R-Idaho), also addressed this theme, warning that an America without adequate energy supplies could result in the creation of a new "feudal era."

"The reason is that an economy which does not grow makes no allowance for upward mobility. Of necessity, it would result in the creation of a permanent underclass." Blacks, and others who are "only just attaining the American dream, would be the ones condemned to that fate," he argued.

The relation between energy and jobs also was stressed by U.S. Rep. Mike McCormack (D-Washington), and by the AFL-CIO's Jacob Clayman, who called energy production "a simple economic issue involving the preservation of our economy — our jobs."

Mrs. Wilson spoke out sharply against the present tendency to politicize the energy situation. "Someone told me that the senior Senator from Massachusetts is making our energy policy. What he meant, I later realized, was that the administration is in disarray on energy and is concentrating on the primaries of 1980. If that's the case, I say to them: 'A pox on both your houses.'"

"If the Congress and the administration continue to engage in a tennis match with energy policy, it will be a love game and the American public will be out."

The NAACP national chairwoman also attacked the federal regulatory bureaucracy as a "monster" that has gone so far beyond its mandate to protect the public that it is now causing injury.

For February 21-25

African Liberation Weekend Set

by EILEEN HANSON
Special To The Post

Building bridges between Charlotte and Africa will be the theme of an African Liberation Weekend, Feb. 21-25, sponsored by Greater Bethel AME Church, 201 Grandin Rd.

The 5-day program will feature local black leaders, African music and dance, a colorful exhibit of African batiks, an African art sale, films and religious services.

"We want our children to know more about Africa," said Dora Durante, a member of the planning committee that has been working for three months to put the program together. "This is

our contribution to Black History Month."

The programs are free and open to the public. All events except Friday's batik exhibit will be held at the church.

On Wed., Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Attorney James Ferguson will speak on "Black Justice - world, state and local." Educator Elizabeth Randolph will discuss "Competency Testing," and Dr. Bertha Maxwell of UNCC's Black Studies Department will speak on "Black Culture." Refreshments will follow.

The youth of the church will present the program Thurs. Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m. The theme will be "Is Charlotte ready to adopt a sister city in



Elizabeth Randolph/
...CMS Administrator

Africa?" The youth have selected three African cities for consideration: Francistown, Botswana; Lilongwa, Malawi; and Ouagadougou, Upper Volta.

A colorful art exhibit and sale of East African batiks will be held Fri., Feb. 23 at the Radisson Plaza on the square. The public is invited to a walk-in exhibit from 4:30 to 6:45 p.m. At 7 p.m. Jerry Drew of the Sister Cities Program will give a formal talk about the batik art. A raffle is planned with one of the batiks as a prize. Refreshments will be served.

According to Rev. Frank Reid, pastor of the church, "These batiks are some of the most beautiful pieces of art I have seen. The designs are uniquely African."

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TURTLE-TALK



Nothing brings the traffic REGULATIONS TO MIND QUITE LIKE SPOTTING A POLICE CAR IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR.

Due to mechanical breakdown you are getting your Post late this week. We regret any inconveniences.