

Unemployment:

It Is No Laughing Matter!

By Don McEvoy
Special To The Post

I have a new nominee for the Hall of Shame. In the sweepstakes to win the title of Cruellest American of the Year, I submit the anonymous clod who placed an ad in two Miami newspapers announcing fictitious job opportunities.

Over 300 unemployed job seekers showed up at two Coral Gables building sites in response to the advertisements which promised construction jobs which did not exist.

Many of the work-desperate laborers came from a considerable distance and waited throughout the night to be near the front of the line on Monday morning. They lined the sidewalks of plush Coral Gables and waited and waited ... until police

officers were dispatched to explain to them that it was all a hoax. Then some of them broke down and cried.

My guess is that the jerk who placed the ads in the Miami Herald and the Miami News probably drove by the long line and chuckled to himself for pulling off such an ingenious practical joke. "Wow! Look at those suckers. There must be at least 300 of 'em. I can't wait to tell the gang at the club about this."

And some of the men on the line broke down and cried. The officer who had the difficulty responsibility of telling them that there were no jobs, that it was all a hoax, reported that the response was not so much one of anger as it was humiliation. He said that he felt like crying, too.

Unemployment is no laughing matter. Its impact reaches far beyond the obvious absence of a weekly paycheck. It creates a whole interlocking network of personal and social pathology.

Unemployment breeds problems of both physical and mental health. Alcoholism increases. Child abuse and spouse abuse increase. Emotional disorders proliferate. Suicide rates zoom upward.

One unemployed person filled with despair and often a lack of self-confidence, (and even self-esteem) affects whole families. Ten million unemployed Americans means a minimum of 40 million victims. In a larger sense it means that every one of us is victimized.

Some sarcastically say, "It's really their own fault. Anyone who wants a job can find one. Just look at the pages of want ads in the papers." Other says, "It is unfortunate, of course, but that is the price we have to pay to get inflation under control."

(Don McEvoy is senior vice president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The opinions expressed are his own.)



Bernadetta Williams
...Enjoys attending church

Bernadetta Williams Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Simmons
Post Staff Writer

Blossoming into a flower filled with compassion for others is our 12th grade beauty, Bernadette Williams.

"I wish I would see everyone living together as one. I would also like to see crime cease," she commented about the world today.

Ms. Williams is one who enjoys attending church and giving her time in order to help others. She is a member of the Junior Missionary and the Sunday School of Second Calvary Baptist Church, where Rev. Dr. Lemar Foster is pastor.

She is also on the basketball team of the church, sharing her athletic abilities in the church league competitions.

Ms. Williams' talents also benefitted Garinger Senior High School's basketball team as well as their volleyball team. A member of the Marching Band and The Equal Opportunities Togetherness and Companionship Club, (ETC), Ms. Williams finds little time to be idle.

Running track at Garinger is one activity Ms. Williams enjoys also. This year she was named "Most

Improved in Track." "I really like running the 440 relay," she expressed.

On the Garinger track team she ran in the state meet competition. The team members had to compete against local schools to qualify.

Mathematics is our beauty's favorite subject to study and her ambition is associated with the mass of numbers. When she attends college she would like to major in accounting.

A few of Ms. Williams' hobbies include playing the alto clarinet, the clarinet and the piano. She has taken piano lessons for six years. She also enjoys listening to the music of the group FAMEO.

Her mother, Deborah Williams, is one person she looks up to. "She's always been behind me 100 percent," Ms. Williams voiced. She has one sister, Audrey.

Through the years our beauty has learned persistence and the patience to accomplish her goals. "My philosophy is to never give up. Keep on going until you reach your goal."

She is one flower that God will not allow to fade, for she has that special faith - the nourishment for each existence.

Churchwoman Contest

Jessie McCombs Continues To Set Pace

By Loretta Manago
Post Staff Writer

Uncomfortable with the close margin that was held by Memorial United Presbyterian contestant, Jessie McCombs, and Gethsemane Baptist contestant Gale Miller, Mrs. McCombs has sought to alleviate that uncomfortable feeling by widening the lead between them.

Undoubtedly her efforts have paid off for this week not only is Mrs. McCombs the leading contestant, she holds that lead with 1,515 points.

Mrs. Gale Miller, making a very strong fight for first place, is currently in second place with 910 points. She is being followed by Mrs. Gladys Massey of Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church with 550 points.

Holding fourth place in The Post's second annual contest is Anne Herron of Metropolitan United Presbyterian Church with 400 points.

In fifth place is Grier Heights' contestant Leatha Short, with 185 points.

Other candidates the churches they represent and their point values are as follows: Josephine



Mrs. Jessie McCombs
...Leads with 1,515 points

Morris, Wall Memorial, 130 points; Bonita Peay, Greater Galilee, 120 points; Lula Watson, East Stonewall, 110 points; Ella Miller, Greater Providence, 100 points; Patricia Leak, Grace Memorial, 80 points; Elmira Polk, First United Church of Christ, 80 points; Hattie Harris, Chappell Memorial, 75 points; Florence Gillis, University Park, 120 points; Viola Buyers, Pleasant Hill, 160 points; Della Kibler, Catawba Presbyterian, 45 points; Lois Pendergrass, Antioch, 40 points; and Cola Gilchrist, Pentecostal Temple, 10 points.

Featured churchwoman

Democrats See Gains In November

"With an excellent slate of candidates, high enthusiasm and gains in registration, Democrats have a lot to look forward to in November."

This comment came from North Carolina Democratic Chairman Russell Walker (D-Randolph) following the June 29 primary. "The vote shows that we had good people running at every level.

"I look for gains on the county and state level, and in our Congressional representation as well," said Senator Walker, who resumed his chairmanship following his own successful campaign for renomination. Vice Chairman Betty Speir of Bethel assumed the chair during the campaign.

"Our candidates had good campaigns, and we can feel a spirit of unity following the decision of the voters in the primary. Most of us will be straight ticket Democrats at the end of the 1982 campaign."

The Democratic chairman expressed pleasure with the registration trend, including new registrants that bring the total -- as of the close of registration in June -- to 1,885,320 Democrats out of 2,618,340. "This means we're 72 percent Democrats. And with our enthusiasm we expect a good turnout. People want to solve some of the problems that Reaganomics have imposed."

July Bag Sale

Friday, July 30, and Saturday, July 31, take advantage of our BAG Sale at The Wearhouse, the Union League Thrift Shop in uptown Charlotte.



Jim Richardson
...House nominee



Mrs. Willie Smith
...Campaign manager



Jim Polk
...Senate candidate

Post Poll Finds

Blacks Make Significant Impact In Local Election

By Mac Thrower
Post Staff Writer

A considerably larger percentage of black voters primarily found the June 29 primary election to be important than did white voters.

The overall turnout in Mecklenburg was approximately 16 percent, while the vote in black precincts averaged about 26 percent, according to Bill Culp, Mecklenburg Elections Supervisor.

In one black precinct -- No. 16 -- East Stonewall AME -- 38 percent of all those registered voted, the highest percentage in the county, well over double the county-wide average. And in several other predominantly black precincts, the turnout topped 30 percent.

Why did blacks exercise their civic responsibilities in much larger percentages than whites?

That question was put by The Post to local political leaders in an effort to determine what factors contributed to the comparatively large turnout by black voters -- a turnout that

had a significant impact locally -- helping to bring success to five black candidates and influencing the outcome of the sheriff's race as well.

Bill Culp mentioned that he felt the "general response to the importance of the election was greater in the black community than among whites." Culp attributed this response to several factors, including the presence of strong black candidates in the local races, the efforts of the Black Political Caucus, and the voter awareness drive initiated by the SCLC march in Charlotte in May.

Mrs. Willie Smith, campaign manager for 36th District Democratic N.C. House nominee Jim Richardson, pointed, like Culp, to "strong black candidates" as the impetus for the black turnout. Richardson, and Jim Polk, successful Democratic 22nd District N.C. Senate candidate, political newcomers with strong records of service in the black community, helped to stimulate interest particularly. Mrs.

Smith believes.

In terms of tactics at the precinct level, Mrs. Smith mentioned that lists were compiled in black precincts of people who usually vote those lists were checked at mid-afternoon on primary day and voters contacted if they hadn't yet voted. Also, Mrs. Smith revealed, cards with telephone numbers for people to call if they needed a ride to the polls were distributed by Richardson campaign workers prior to the election; this produced "many calls" on election day and "helped a great deal," she noted.

Looking ahead to the general election in November, Mrs. Smith said that although a larger turnout will reduce somewhat the impact of the vote in black precincts, she still has hopes that black candidates will be able to "triple" their successes. "The economy and what the legislature does to resolve the problem of federal cutbacks could be the issues that will create even greater black political involvement in November," she cautioned.

A coalition or cooperative effort with politically compatible white candidates, while not a major influence in the primary, is a possibility for the general election, Mrs. Smith concluded.

Mecklenburg Elections Board Chairwoman Phyllis Lynch reported that "traditionally, a large field of black candidates in various races serves as a motivator" for black voters who share "a sense of identity" with these candidates. Local black "political success stories" such as Bob Davis, Chairman of the Mecklenburg Democratic Party, County Commissioner Bob Walton, and School Board Chairman Phil Berry, were also "positive examples" that produced "a great deal of enthusiasm" among blacks for more involvement in the political process.

Mrs. Lynch explained that churches in the black community also played a major role in increasing political awareness. "The churches, and groups within the churches," have been especially active this political year, Ms. Lynch observed.

Other grassroots efforts -- telephone communications, recruitment of young people, and good public relations -- were all important in bringing black voters See BLACK on Page 5

Killing Of Policemen Is Deplorable

By Lori Grier
Post Staff Writer

The phone rings at the crack of dawn, in the middle of the night, or at the stroke of midnight. Some of us might not be alarmed by the phone rings, but if you're the wife, child or parent of a police officer, those phone rings could symbolize tragedy and be devastating.

Those phone rings symbolized tragedy for police officer Edmond Cannon's family when he was shot five times after he walked in on a robbery at the Handy Pantry store at Eastway and Kilborne Drives on November 23. Recently, those same tragic phone rings were dialed to police officer Ernest Coleman's family on June 30 after he was shot once in the forehead as he stood on a sidewalk in front of Paso's convenience store after ejecting a man from the store for rowdiness.

Other police officers in Charlotte have been more fortunate against harm, unlike Cannon and Coleman, and their families are relieved for it, at least for now.

Police officer Franklin Coley, 36, was born in Wayne County, N.C. to the late Isaac and Elenor Franklin. He is a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, CPCC, and UNCC. He has received an Associate degree and a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice. Coley was the 1981 nominee and 1982 recipient of an award representing one of five top officers in Charlotte. He has received numerous commendations from citizens and the community for dedicated work as a police officer.

Why did Franklin Coley decide to become a police officer? "It was one of the occupational options I considered. I decided to become a police officer in 1973 and was accepted in 1974," he replied.

The man who loves black spirituals, wood working, primitive furniture, carpentry work and tree houses has experienced many good times as a police officer because of citizen support and better benefits in the Charlotte community.

He has also encountered problems on the police force. "The major problems are promotions of black officers, education of black officers, and a need of policemen to be sensitive to areas they work for."

On July 19, 1982 the Westover Hills' Community Association will receive an award for community service work. Coley is a member of that group and his participation is what enables him to say, "I'm loved as a police officer. I could go in 3,000 houses in Charlotte and stay. My uniform commands a lot of respect."

The deaths of Cannon and Coleman have made Coley more cautious. "It's a tragic situation. There's See POLL Page 7

Walker Resumes Democratic Leadership

Senator Russell G. Walker (D-Randolph) has reassumed the chairmanship of the North Carolina Democratic Party following his successful bid for renomination.

He applauded the actions of Vice Chairman Betty

Speir of Bethel, who was acting chairman during the primary campaign just concluded. "She brings remarkable talents to the Democratic Party and kept things moving -- including an enthusiastic state convention with excellent posi-

tions for Democrats. "We all appreciate what she did and what she is contributing," Senator Walker concluded.

Walker has served the party as chairman since 1979.

TURTLE-TALK



A handful of good life is better than a bushel of learning.