



ATTRACTIVE RENEE HARRIS
...Manages basketball team

Paulette "Renee" Harris Is Beauty Of The Week

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor
Our beauty, Paulette "Renee" Harris, took the advice of her mother a couple of years ago and became involved. She has found out that being involved in many aspects of life often enhances one's view of the world.

While Miss Harris' mother realized this awhile ago and through experiences, she wanted to share the excitement with her daughter. Today Miss Harris plays volleyball, runs track and is the manager of the basketball

team. At Rockwell AME Zion Church where Rev. J. W. Thompson is pastor, our beauty ushers, sings soprano on the Youth Choir and is active in the church's Junior Department.

Miss Harris, an eighth grader at Ranson Junior High School is fond of her mother. "Whenever I'm in trouble I can always come to her and talk to her about anything." She always helps me out.

Willie Mae Johnson is our beauty's mother. She also has two brothers, Corey and Bobby Phifer.

Dancing, traveling, meeting people and singing on her church choir are a few activities enjoyed by Miss Harris. Stevie Wonder is her favorite musician. "There's something about the music of Stevie Wonder," Miss Harris stated. "His music is not too hard and not real slow, but it's a pretty sounding music."

Ambitions for our beauty include attending cosmetology school and becoming a beautician.

"I'll probably go to Independence or West Charlotte High School first because they offer lessons in cosmetology," Miss Harris revealed. Becoming a cosmetologist has been her long-time dream. "I like to work in people's hair. I like to fix hair and make people's faces up."

She also enjoys various subjects she is now taking in school. "I especially enjoy math and problem solving and I like learning language so that I can speak properly," Miss Harris is conscious about how well she communicates with others. In the future this will no doubt aid her in her desired profession as well as other walks of life.

Her favorite instructors at Ranson are Ms. Robinette and Mr. White. Even though the world is an exciting domain that Miss Harris had decided to take a positive part in, she still notices events and occurrences which displease her. "I'd like crime in the world to stop and I'd like for the world to be a safer place to live in."

Macon, actress Eileen Neely as "Sojourner Truth," and Lori Winfree doing Indian legends. Winners of the poster, essay and poetry contest will be announced.

Saturday's conference will begin at 9:30 a.m. Two panels are scheduled - one on women organizing for jobs, peace and equality in the South, the other on women organizing internationally.

Resource persons include Jennifer Henderson of the N.C. Hunger Coalition; Barbara Sharpe, head of Women's Affairs in North Carolina for the Communication Workers of America; Brenda Best of the American Federation of Teachers; and Jean Davis of the Georgia AFL-CIO Minority Affairs Department.

The international panel will feature Belinda Adriano of the Philippines, who recently returned from a tour through several Asian countries; Maisha Abdul Raqueeb, a Pan Africanist and women's organizer; and Rosa Winfree, coordinator for the Indian Education Project of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

Saturday's conference will also highlight two North Carolina labor leaders, portrayed by local artists: Ella May Wiggins, who organized textile workers in Gastonia in the 1920s, and Theodosia Simpson, who organized tobacco workers in Winston-Salem in the 1940s.

Mrs. Evelyn Lowery, Convenor of the SCLC WOMEN, will keynote the Saturday evening program, beginning at 8 p.m. Ms. Lowery recently led the SCLC-sponsored pilgrimage from Alabama to Washington, D.C. to secure the Voting Rights Act and in defense of two black women from Alabama, Maggie Boseman and Julia Wilder, who were imprisoned last year for registering senior citizens to vote.

President Reagan's Order Bans Minority Charities

Ms. Foster To Budget Commission

Raleigh - Representative Jo Graham Foster of Mecklenburg County has been appointed to the North Carolina Advisory Budget Commission by House Speaker Liston B. Ramsey. She replaces the late Representative Sam Bundy of Pitt County.

The Advisory Budget Commission and the Governor prepare and submit to the General Assembly a recommended budget for operating the State government. "I feel sure Mrs. Foster's experience and ability will make her a valuable member of this important commission," Speaker Ramsey said.

A retired public school administrator from Charlotte, Mrs. Foster is serving her sixth term in the House. In length of service, she is the senior female Member of the House. Representative Foster is serving her second term as Chairman of the House Committee on Education. She also serves as Vice Chairman of the Base and Expansion Budget Committees on Education.

Visits White House

Geraldine Brisbane and Angie Brown, both of UNC-Charlotte along with Benjamin Gallman and Darryl Broome of Johnson C. Smith University, are visiting White House officials at a Youth for Energy Independence (YEI) conference.

The four students and other students across the nation will meet with members of the Department of Energy and other committees related to environmental protection to discuss improvements. The students from Charlotte are representing the Youth Division of the NAACP.

Dorris Archie Has Found Niche In Cabarrus County Judicial System

By Andrew McCorkle
Post Staff Writer
As the first black appointed as a magistrate in Cabarrus County, Dorris Archie has found her niche in the county judicial system.

Ms. Archie, of Concord, applied for the position of magistrate because of the urging of a friend. Her friend heard that a seat would be vacated and suggested that she apply for it. Ms. Archie has worked as a librarian, elementary school teacher and accountant. She said that she finds her job as a judge rewarding.

"It's always something different to learn," she explained. "It's quite a challenge. I really like it." As a Cabarrus County magistrate, Ms. Archie administers oaths, issues arrest and search warrants and civil summons, performs marriages, issues widow allowances and makes involuntary commitments of persons to mental hospitals. She also

has the authority to set bonds and release persons who are arrested, until their court date.

"Anytime a person is arrested he has to come before a magistrate," she said, "but everytime a person is arrested, he does not have to go to jail."

Ms. Archie is aware of her power as a judge. She believes the most important part of her job is remaining objective and impartial.

"I think that's why they hired me," she began, "not because I'm black, but because they wanted an impartial person for the job."

Ms. Archie said that she thinks her appointment is indicative of more progressive attitudes in Cabarrus County government and that more blacks should apply for positions.

"I would like to see more black people in the judicial system," she said. "Even if they don't have any experience in city government, they should apply."

She said the job has re-



Chuck Erexson addresses a group of disgruntled merchants faced with neighborhood harassments. (Photo by Bernard Reeves)

Angry Merchants Organize To Protect Their Property

By Andrew McCorkle
Post Staff Writer

Despite disagreeing about the severity of the problem, merchants who do business in the Camden Rd. and Park Avenue section of Charlotte say that something has to be done to curtail neighborhood crime.

Chuck Erexson, owner of Duke Photo Company, 121 W. Park Ave., has occupied the same location for 10 years. He has had two break-ins. The most recent, about two weeks ago.

Erexson is spearheading a community effort for merchants to organize to better protect their property. His total loss from the break-ins was about \$3,500, he said.

"You work your whole life for something and then somebody comes in and rips your stuff off," he said. "I don't want to quit but I don't want to go through that either."

Erexson thinks that

neighborhood business men and women should communicate with each other more. "We don't know each other, we need to do something to pull us closer together," he said.

Although Erexson doesn't consider the district a "high risk" area, he thinks it should have better police protection.

"I have no reason to think that we are getting any police protection whatsoever now," he explained.

J.R. Snider, owner of Park Avenue Barber Shop, 123 E. Park Ave., said although there have not been a rash of break-ins recently, burglaries have occurred consistently in the community for 60 years.

"It happens more often now, but I don't think it's been a rash," he said. "What we need is a night patrolman to patrol on foot from about 10 p.m. to 4

a.m.," he stated. His shop has been busted into about three times for a lost of about \$300.

Ann Medearis who, along with her husband, operates Claydes Furniture and Jewelry Store at 127 E. Park Avenue agreed.

"The police work with us, but I think we need more coverage," she said. "We need a foot-patrolman like we had about 20 years ago."

Mrs. Medearis and her husband have operated the store in the location for 37 years. "We have not escaped a year without a break-in," she pointed out. Mrs. Medearis estimated the loss at \$600, although many of the burglaries were thwarted because of a good alarm system.

Although they have been plagued with consistent crime problems, Mrs. Medearis said that they would not consider moving out of the area.

She said the problems are no worse in the Dilworth community than they are in any place else in Charlotte. "I don't think that the neighborhood is that bad. We have good customers and we're centrally located," she stated, "we have a lot to offer here."

"I feel safe here or I wouldn't be here, but I would like more protection," she added.

Mary Davis, an assistant manager at Dilworth Food Center, 100 E. Park Ave., disagreed. She said that she has witnessed purse snatchings in the area. Some customers have come into the store after they have been beaten and robbed, she said.

The store has been vandalized and burglarized repeatedly, she stated.

"They mostly steal meat, wine, cigarettes, stuff like that," she explained. "You can't have anything in this neighborhood that you can't nail down or lock up."

Republican Party

The Mecklenburg Republican Party will hold their County Convention on March 14, at the Holiday Inn on Woodlawn Rd. at 7:30 p.m. in accordance with the party Plan of Organization.

Black Groups Could Lose \$Millions

Many charities run by minorities will be ousted from the federal government's \$100 million on-the-job fundraising drive by an executive order signed recently by President Reagan.

The executive order says that any charity that tries to change public policy through advocacy or litigation will not be eligible to receive gifts from federal employees through the Combined Federal Campaign.

Among the dozens of groups that could lose millions of dollars are the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, the National Black United Fund and the Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent Social Change.

Critics of the Reagan action say it directly contradicts his many statements about the need for charities to rely more on private gifts.

"Because federal employees could give to many of these charities for the first time last fall, overall giving shot up 7.5 percent," explained Robert Bothwell of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy. "This was the first time since 1977 that the increase in giving exceeded inflation. Apparently this administration's commitment to increase giving does not extend to charities concerned about civil rights."

The administration contends that the elimination of advocacy groups was needed so that the campaign would be "aimed directly at the needs of the poor, the infirmed, the hungry and the truly needy."

Pluria Marshall of the National Black Media Coalition disagrees. "It's absurd and hypocritical to say the purpose of this change is to help the 'truly needy.' Many of the activities funded by the United Way, which gets 70 percent of the money, are benefiting middle class people, not the poor. The purpose of this change is, pure and simple, to eliminate charities the administration doesn't like."

Marshall says that all of the groups that would be eliminated by the executive order help the truly needy.

"The problem is that these groups realize that it takes more than handouts to help poor people," he pointed out. "They realize that people are poor because of discrimination, because public education is poor, because there aren't any jobs."

"These groups want to change these realities, not just give people a turkey dinner at Thanksgiving. It's not right for Reagan to tell government employees that they can't choose to use their money to support these groups."

The change in the Combined Federal Campaign came after the United Way asked the President in September to eliminate many competing charities.

TURTLE TALK

Spring is one of nature's greatest shows; you can enjoy the next few months immensely if you take time to observe what is all around you.

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PICTORIAL PAGE ON THE SUCCESSFUL LEM LONG JR. STORY
PLUS
SCLC ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING.....