



TABITHA MCMULLEN
...Melodious soprano

Beauty Of Week

Tabitha McMullen Utilizes Talent Through Singing

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor
Seldom do we see one so young take such a devout commitment to a special talent given by God. Tabitha McMullen, our 11th grade beauty, is just that person. A unique 16-year-old with a vocal gift, a melodious soprano voice which has not been buried or gone unused.

Instead it's been utilized through gospel singing and through the chorus at her school, East Mecklenburg. She is also president of the Junior Choir at her church, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

"My grandmother, Daisy Jones Fielder, has always told me to carry on with my singing. I'd like to someday become successful with my singing and acting. I enjoy singing Gospel especially. I'd like to major in music at either Spelman in Atlanta, Ga., or East Carolina in Greenville."

Ms. McMullen's first solo was in church under the direction of Jo Evelyn Liggett. "She gave me the first song I have ever led on the choir. Every since then she has been helping me."

Irene Cara, one of the stars of the movie "Fame," is the favorite entertainer of our beauty. "She puts feelings into what she sings," is the reason Ms. McMullen is so impressed with her talents.

Being musically inclined, Ms. McMullen enjoys singing and drama. She also likes to skate and cook, and occasionally whips up various surprising casseroles.

She possesses other interests besides singing in talent shows and cooking, however. She also enjoys modeling, watching "Fame" on television and

participating in various activities at East Mecklenburg, including the DECA Club, and in 1982 being Junior Varsity head cheerleader.

The daughter of Martha Smith, our beauty has two sisters, Lakeitha Sheridan and Shantelle Smith. She also has one brother, Van. She and her family are close knit and loving. She has many favorite relatives including aunts, Lillie Denise, Patricia Ann, Peggy Marie and Edna Katrina. "I'm just proud of

all my aunts."

From the many positive forces within her life, Ms. McMullen has realized the importance of using every ounce of talent and special gifts bestowed upon her. "I think we should never stop trying until we succeed. And even after succeeding we should strive for more," is one way Ms. McMullen views life. With this view point and ambition, who can predict that Tabitha McMullen will become anything else but a brilliant star?

SCLC To Hold Conference

The Charlotte Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), will hold a two-day conference at Little Rock A.M.E. Zion and the Radisson Plaza Hotel on June 17-18.

The activities include a kick off rally at Little Rock A.M.E. Zion Church, 401 N. McDowell St. The rally will take place 7-9 p.m. On Saturday, beginning at 7:30 a.m., breakfast will be served at the Radisson (\$7.50). Workshops will be

conducted 9:30-11:30 a.m. (\$15). The issues to be discussed at the workshop include voter registration and politics, unemployment, housing, black land exploitation, criminal justice, health care, economic development and toxic waste.

Dr. Herman Thomas, president of the local SCLC chapter has requested all ministers select a person to be responsible for holding voter registration at their church.

Carol B. Ricks Confers With Individuals With Marital Problems

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor
James walked slowly towards home after getting off the city bus. He really didn't feel like going to his small apartment or his wife. There had been so much strife between Mae and him lately that he just hated when the business clock struck 5:00. And what made matters worse was that the arguments were over nothing...or so they both thought.

Situations like these are as common today as they were many years ago. Traditionally black family members may have sought counseling and advice from the community pastor or perhaps parents. The openings of various professions to blacks in recent decades, however, have added another dimension of aid to those seeking counseling regarding marital problems.

Professionals like Carole B. Ricks who obtained a Master's of Social Work (M.S.W.) at the School of Social Work in Atlanta not only confer with individuals



MRS. CAROL B. RICKS
...Professional counselor

with marital problems but they also explore various other situations and experiences.

Mrs. Ricks explains what she accomplishes and why she started her practice entitled Ricks Resources (909 East Blvd., 333-0140): "Usually social workers are employed by agencies and there is a stereotype

Ingram Schedules Fund Raiser

Special To The Post
Raleigh - The Ingram For Governor Task Force has scheduled a June 7 fund raiser as a "snow check" reception for supporters who missed an earlier event due to the freak snowstorm which hit North Carolina on March 24. "Snow must be good luck for us," stated Task Force '84 Coordinator Mike Rogers. "We raised over \$50,000 from ticket sales that night. What does the almanac say about a June 7 blizzard?"

Rogers, a Cary businessman, said, "No one who bought a ticket but couldn't get to us that night has asked for a make-up reception. They were just happy to help us raise so much for the '84 race. But Commissioner and Mrs. Ingram want to see their friends before the Task Force spends that \$50,000." Rogers added that the money raised that night was more than the North Carolina Insurance Commissioner has ever needed to win any of the four primary and run-off elections in his career.

The reception honoring Commissioner Ingram will be held at the Wake County Shrine Club on Leadmine Road near Crabtree Valley Mall, the site of the March fund raiser.

In a mass mailing sent from the recently-expanded Ingram For Governor Headquarters in Raleigh, complimentary tickets were mailed to supporters who contributed to the March event and could not travel the icy roads. New invitations were also sent to those supporters who had planned to pay at the door. According to Rogers, tickets will be sold at the door again, and March 24 invitations will also be honored.

Black Men Have Highest Incidence Of Cancer



Vivian Williams, President of Friends, presenting check to Barbara Ferguson, Shirley Farrar receiving check from Jeanne Brayboy, Chairperson, Friends Funds Committee.

Promoting Arts

Friends Of The Arts Present Checks To Various Groups

The Charlotte Friends of the Arts have successfully completed their fourth season of fund raising in support of the arts in Charlotte. During the last four years the Charlotte Friends of the Arts, a group of 45 energetic ladies committed to promoting the arts, have raised and given over \$30,000 to various groups ranging from the Charlotte Arts and Science Council, the Afro-American Cultural Center to local artists such as Sammie Stevens and individual students from Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools.

Recipients of funds from this year's events are the Afro-American Cultural Center, Shirley Farrar, Director, and The Summer Theater Workshop for Children at Johnson C. Smith University, Barbara Ferguson, Director. Scholarships will be given also to local talented high school seniors who plan to further their artistic studies at various colleges.

The public is invited to attend "BLACK GEMS," a musical production on Sunday, June 4, at Wachovia Center, Top of the Tower, at 5 p.m. This is the second year for the Friends to sponsor "BLACK GEMS" which provides an opportunity for talented youth to perform publicly. Local high school seniors will be featured who will be receiving scholastic awards. For ticket information, call Vivian Williams, 392-1540.

Mayor Knox Urges

Greater Support Needed For Community Colleges

North Carolina must advance its standards of education or it "will not be able to keep up with the law of supply and demand in the job market."

This is the message Eddie Knox, mayor of Charlotte and candidate for governor, gave graduates at the Pitt Community College commencement exercises this week.

Knox, who has made education a key plank in his platform, told the community college's graduates that industry in the 1990s may require a 12th grade reading level from all employees.

"Our state doesn't meet that level yet. That's a job, in part at least, for the community college," Knox said. Knox urged the students and the state to give greater support to the community college system. He recommended the schools have more capability to meet particular needs in various areas of the state.

Knox cited recent national publications - among them NEWSWEEK magazine - which have praised North Carolina's efforts to upgrade the quality of education.

He said Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores are rising, high school competency scores are on the upswing, and there is a concerted effort to improve the state's university system. "We can do no less for our community colleges... it is in the community college system that we find the broad range of folks who will move into positions of leadership in the neighborhoods. It is in the community colleges that we find our future data technicians and middle management business leaders. It is in the com-

munity colleges that we find the microcosm of the community itself," Knox said. For these reasons, he said, it is important that each of the state's 58 community colleges have "a measure of autonomy... in order to ensure that the needs of each community will be served to its fullest capacity, to meet those needs in ways that are meaningful to the people living there."

Knox told the graduates their education was "not a gift, not some favor the state bestowed on you... but an investment, one that North Carolina makes willingly and gladly in its people, one that pays off for all of us in hundreds of ways."

The most important benefit to the state of well-trained community college graduates, Knox said, is an enhanced competitiveness in the marketplace as North Carolina more aggressively seeks new industries to improve the state's economic mix. The new industries will, in turn, increase revenues and help provide upgraded services for the state's citizens, Knox said.

"In the 20 years since it was founded," Knox said, "our community college system has become the third largest in the nation with virtually one of every seven adults in the state taking at least one course in the system - and 70 percent of them are in job training programs."

"An institution with that much strength and vitality must become a basic ingredient in the prescription for our future, or we risk our economic and industrial health," Knox said.

One Of Five Blacks Die From Cancer

Black American men have the highest incidence of cancer among all races and both sexes, according to a report released at the Second National Conference on Meeting the Challenge of Cancer among Minorities.

The report, "Cancer Facts and Figures for Minority Americans, 1983," revealed a cancer rate of 454.3 among black American men compared to 371.6 for white American men and 331.5 for all races and both sexes.

The report noted, however, that the incidence of cancer among black American women is lower than their white counterparts. The rate of cancer among black females is 228.7. Among white females it is 301.2.

Available data indicates that in 1983 approximately 955,000 individuals will be diagnosed as having cancer and nearly half will die. Eighty-three thousand black Americans will be afflicted with the disease, 49,000 of whom will die. It is estimated that one out of every five deaths of black Americans will be from cancer.

Sites where black Americans have significantly higher rates per 100,000 in cancer incidence include prostate (black men 103.9, 66.2 white men); esophageal (black men 16.9, 4.8 white men, and 4.5 black women, 1.6 white women); lung (black men 110.0, 76.4 white men and black women 24.3, 21.8 white women); cervix (black women 25.7, 10.9 white women).

Breast cancer incidence is lower among black women with 70.2 versus 85.6 white women.

Dr. LaSalle D. Leffall Jr., chairman of the National Advisory Committee on Cancer in Minorities and past president of the American Cancer Society, has noted that since 1979 when the society focused on the problem of cancer among black Americans, it has moved to bring cancer control programs to other ethnic populations.

"The special problem regarding cancer in minorities is how to deliver these advances to them," he said. "How do we guarantee that they receive the special knowledge that can result in better living habits that may prevent cancer? Key to this particular challenge is the expansion of programs to improve the quality of life for the patient and family."

West Charlotte National Alumni To Met June 12

The West Charlotte National Alumni Classes of 1939-70 will meet at the Greenville Center, June 12 at 3 p.m. A spokesperson for the organization pointed out the meeting is to finalize plans for a reunion to be held June 30 - July 3. The reunion will be held at the Sheraton Hotel. All interested people are encouraged to attend the important meeting.

TURTLE-TALK



You can win more friends with your ears than with your mouth.