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**If A Man Can Have
An Affair, Why Can't
A Woman?**

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**2,080 Mecklenburg
County Residents
Will Have Cancer**

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**Drunk Drivers Cost
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LOVELY SONJA GRIER

.....Majoring in Criminal Justice

Outgoing Sonja Grier

Is "Beauty Of The Week"

By Teresa Simmons
Post Staff Writer

There is one thing for sure about our outgoing beauty, Sonja Grier. She has planned her time and life so well that each moment is fulfilled. Whether she is providing an audience with an outpour of musical ability, or quietly studying for her college diploma, it is the energy that makes you feel she is someone with a special grace.

There are so many avenues in Grier's life. It would be too lengthy to name all of her accomplishments. Just to name some of her recent honors and awards will have to suffice. A junior at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Grier is now majoring in Criminal Justice.

"I have always wanted to become a judge in juvenile court," Grier admitted. "I feel that there is more hope for the youths. There's more to work with. I feel they can be changed."

After she receives her degree in Criminal Justice at UNC-Charlotte, Grier would like to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Law School.

In addition to being an intellectual individual concerned about the welfare of the younger generation, Grier also has the talent to sing well. Her singing is more than melody and lyrics. Instead, she can move an audience to its feet and

on one occasion, to three standing ovations. She was chosen to be the 1982-83 Miss 49'er, Miss black and Gold 1982-83, and presently she is starring in the UNCC Rowe Arts Theatre production of "She Loves Me." She has the supporting role of Ms. Ritter and performs divinely the character of the glib 40 year-old sexy lady. The musical will appear in the Rowe Arts Theatre February 9-12, 8 p.m. each evening except Sunday, February 12. This will be a matinee production beginning at 3 p.m.

She sings mezzo soprano and is now taking lessons under Jane Dillard at UNCC. She recently appeared in a talent competition in Winston-Salem and

was named the "Most Outstanding Vocalist" in the state. She will compete in the NATS voice competition in March. She has also signed a contract with Spirit Records of Charlotte. Her first 45 release will be out in April.

"I've always wanted my singing and acting to be fun. If I ever start to sing because I need the money, it would take all the fun out of it. Singing and performing is my thing. I've always wanted to be a judge...and that will be my job."

Studying and performing are still not enough for our beauty. She also works as a make-up specialist with Amber Hues Cosmetics and plays the tenor bass with the Steel Drum Symphony. See SONJA On Page 11A

County School Board Candidate

Griffin Expects To Win With Issues

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer

Though Arthur Griffin is well-known in Mecklenburg County, he optimistically pointed out he doesn't expect to win by popularity, but by his issues.

Griffin is a candidate for the Mecklenburg County School Board. The owner and president of A&G Office Supply Company and a business training consultant, identified four key issues which he believes the present school members have neglected too long. Those factors which Griffin spoke about are revamping vocational education; providing after school care; raising teachers' salaries and improving leadership among board members.

"We need to redirect the vocational programs in our school. Gardening and carpentry do not develop marketable skills," Griffin insisted. He advised the community to speak up for instruction in courses such as drafting, electronics and other "highly technical courses which will prove beneficial in the 21st



Arthur Griffin
.....A&G president

century." "The purpose of designing these courses, especially in grades nine through 12, is not to train students in everything they should know about those professions, but to prepare them for the challenge," Griffin continued. "The purpose is to lead up to apprenticeship. Already the Mecklen-

burg School Board feels limited in its efforts because of finances. So, where will they come from for the type of advanced vocational programs which Griffin is fighting for? He stated, "The money can be obtained; it's just a matter of priorities." Another issue which really gets Griffin excited is

Baptists Condemn Meese

The recent statement by Presidential Advisor Edwin Meese, III, that "people go to soup kitchens because the food is free"

has been labeled "down-right silly" by Paul R. Adkins, director of Christian Social Ministries for the Southern Baptist Convention.

Also, condemning the statement were Patricia Ayres, of First Baptist Church of San Antonio, and James M. Dunn, public affairs director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Meanwhile, W. David Lockhart, a Southern Baptist hunger specialist, is urging support for newly-introduced House Bill 4440 which would place a one-year moratorium on increases in U.S. military aid to foreign governments and increase programs to provide food, jobs and health assistance to the world's needy.

The bill, introduced by a bi-partisan group of U.S. representatives, will establish priorities and moral values which seek to reverse "the unparalleled worldwide arms buildup which robs the hungry and needy and works against justice and stability in the world," Lockhart said.

Charlotte Post Story Arouses Community



Harvey Gantt
.....Charlotte mayor



Eddie Knox
.....Gains black support



Bob Walton
.....County Commissioner

Walton: Tickets Going Well

For Eddie Knox Fundraiser

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer
County Commissioner Bob Walton and Mayor Harvey Gantt will be the co-sponsors of a special fundraiser for gubernatorial candidate, Eddie Knox.

The stand-up reception, which the two local politicians are co-sponsoring, will be held at McDonald's Cafeteria, February 15, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. "We are working with the Committee of 100 to raise at least \$10,000 for Eddie Knox's campaign," Walton pointed out. He explained the Committee of 100 is a group of 100 black Charlotteans all working to elect Knox as governor.

The committee decided to host the reception for two primary reasons, according to Walton. "First, we want to show that blacks in Charlotte-Mecklenburg are supporting a

candidate whom we feel is a qualified public servant," Walton stressed. He doesn't believe the fundraiser will encourage more people to vote for Knox in Charlotte-Mecklenburg only, but across the state as well.

"Secondly, the Committee of 100 wants to raise \$10,000 for Eddie Knox. We're optimistic we'll reach our goal. This won't be the only fundraiser, of course, but it will be the major one leading to the May 8 primary," Walton said.

The committee hopes to sell 1,000 of the \$15 tickets. Walton revealed the tickets are selling well; however, an official report in reference to actual numbers

won't be gathered until Saturday. "I can say the tickets which are being sold represent a good cross-section of the city and county," Walton mentioned.

Besides hors d'oeuvres, punch and light wine, the reception, according to Walton, will be a fun-filled evening of entertainment by local performers. Other political candidates for local, state and national offices have already purchased tickets to the event.

McDonald's Cafeteria is located at I-85 and Beatties Ford Road. If you'd like to purchase a ticket to the Eddie Knox fundraiser, telephone Walton at 374-2472 or 392-9352.

Post Readers Respond To Help Masons

By Loretta Manago
Post Staff Writer

Two weeks ago, Nettie Mason had no idea where the help she needed to repair her home would come from.

A mother of six children, barely managing with limited resources, Mrs. Mason had her hands full with the responsibility of keeping her children clothed and fed.

The other things that needed attention at the home: boarded windows, rotting floors, unsealing outlets, a stove that spalls kerosene, lack of lighting in two of the rooms and no hot water, were just too much for her to handle.

After an article appeared in the Charlotte Post on January 26, the darkness of Mrs. Mason's situation began to see some light. Several Charlotte Post readers read the article and decided to lend a hand.

Samuel and Adrienne Spears were two such people. Mrs. Spears stated that her husband would be repairing the windows of the home. Mr. and Mrs. Spears belong to Rockwell AME Zion Church where Rev. Thompson has also solicited an appeal of help to the Masons. The Spears have also been in touch with the West Charlotte Optimist Club which has expressed an interest in the Masons' plight. The Spears have been willing to donate some lumber that remained from a room addition onto their house to the West Charlotte Optimists. With the wood Mrs. Spears stated, the organization intends to repair the floor.

Also with the organization, Frank Wharr, president of the West Charlotte Optimist Club, paid a visit to the Masons' home. Pharr, according to WCOOC member James Yancey has committed the organization, along with the South-west Optimist Club to evaluating the conditions that exist and finding the best way to helping the family.

In a professional capacity, Roger Green, Human services liaison with the County Manager's office has made numerous referrals on behalf of the Masons. "At this point," Green exclaimed, "the office is identifying the services that may be open to Mrs. Mason." Green also noted that three services that could possibly help are Community Development, a program which arranges low interest loans for major home repairs, the 7th Street Wearhouse and Crisis Assistance Ministry. At the Wearhouse Mrs. Mason could obtain See POST On Page 2A

Pepsi-Cola Donates

\$15,000 To NAACP

Special To The Post
New York - The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) kicked off its national membership drive this week with a \$15,000 donation from Pepsi-Cola Company.

The donation represented annual membership dues for more than 5,000 students from more than 100 historically black colleges in the nation.

Pepsi-Cola USA President Roger Enrico, presented the list of new collegiate members and the \$15,000 check to NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Hooks during ceremonies at the SE Regis Hotel. The star-studded gala also featured a preview of a four-part television series celebrating the 75th anniversary of the NAACP.

The series is scheduled for airing over 200 Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) stations during Black History Month in February. It will be featured on "Tony Brown's Journal," the country's leading television program on black affairs.

This marks our ninth year as sponsors of "Tony Brown's Journal," Mr. Enrico said. "We are proud

of our association with Tony Brown, an award-winning journalist whose program provides insight on issues affecting all Americans from a black perspective. We are honored to join with Tony Brown in a celebration of the 75th anniversary of the NAACP."

Mr. Enrico noted that a number of Pepsi-Cola bottlers throughout the country would participate in special local programs in support of "Tony Brown's Journal" and its presentation on the history of the NAACP. In the next three weeks, local Pepsi-Cola

bottlers will host premiere showings in cooperation with local chapters of the NAACP. Local NAACP leaders, along with key government and civic officials, will participate.

The celebration will include the distribution of complimentary copies of "Tony Brown's Journal" magazine, a four-color quarterly publication. The magazine features journalist Tony Brown's commentary on issues affecting all Americans from a black perspective. This special Black History Month edition features an in-depth historical look at the NAACP.

TURTLE-TALK
My interest is in the future because I am going to spend the rest of my life here.