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Tolliver

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Rev. Davis

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Highway Patrol Gearing Up For Fourth Of July

Raleigh - The State Highway Patrol is gearing up to protect North Carolina motorists during the upcoming holiday. The Fourth of July holiday period officially begins at 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 3, and ends at midnight Thursday, July 4.

Last year, four people died in traffic accidents on North Carolina highways. An additional 325 people suffered accident-related injuries.

This holiday, as always, troopers will strictly enforce all traffic laws and will be on the lookout for speeding motorists and those driving while impaired. Colonel Jack Cardwell, commander of the State Highway Patrol, said, "Many of the traffic-related deaths are avoidable; as many as 70 percent of all traffic fatalities might have been avoided if the motorists and passengers had been wearing safety belts."

All highways will be heavily patrolled over the Fourth, and certain highways will receive special attention through Operation "CARE," the Combined Accident Reduction Effort. Operation "CARE" is a multi-state campaign to reduce fatalities during holiday periods.

Motorists are also urged to make sure their cars are safe for travel before they begin their vacations. Colonel Cardwell said, "Motorists should plan for rest stops every 100 miles. A refreshed driver is a more alert driver and one who can practice defensive driving techniques and possibly avoid becoming involved in an accident."

Rhodes: General Assembly Showing Arrogant Disregard

"The General Assembly is once again showing its arrogant disregard for the people of this state." This comment today by Tommy Rhodes, Secretary of Natural Resources and Community Development, as he reviewed legislative action on the Clean Water Act.

"The Democratic leadership in the General Assembly is more interested in tying the hands of Governor Martin than in meeting the water and sewer needs of the people," Rhodes continued. "It's just another example of their being more interested in petty partisan politics and their own exercise of power than they are in the future of North Carolina and its citizens."

Rhodes was referring to the legislative action which would allocate 120 million dollars in Clean Water Funds over the next two years on a per capita basis rather than allowing the funds to be allocated on a basis of comparative need. More than 100 cities are presently unable to add new water and sewer customers because of inadequate facilities.

"This is a big cities bill," said Rhodes. "It will allocate money to people who don't need it at the expense of those who do, and while municipalities who have already received grants get more, smaller cities where growth is at a standstill due to inadequate water and sewer facilities will not receive the help they need."



Sandra Ragin
.....Pretty waitress

Sandra Ragin Majoring In Restaurant Management

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

Sandra Ragin is the pretty waitress who may have served you at Charlotte's Coffee Cup Restaurant; she's been working at the establishment for three years while attending Barber-Scotia College. Her job at the Coffee Cup is beneficial as hands-on experience since Sandra is majoring in restaurant management at college. Her goal is to one day own her own "soul food" restaurant.

Sandra's ambition is fueled by her cousin, Chris Crowder, who is part-owner of the Coffee Cup Restaurant. "She's quite an inspiration to me," tells Sandra. "I'm learning a lot about the restaurant field through my job at Coffee Cup, especially on dealing with the public in a courteous manner and also business management."

The 22-year-old "Scotia" junior says she is putting her best effort into learning the restaurant business through her job and college studies. And she cites her college's motto as reason for her hard work: "Give the world the best you have and the best will come back to you," expresses Sandra.

Sandra relates she chose to go to Barber-Scotia because of the college's atmosphere. "It's a family type of school, small, close-knit and the faculty works closely with you," she describes. She was an Omega Pearl at school and a member of the NAACP but Sandra says most of her time was spent "sticking to the books." "I'm going to participate in more extracurricular activities this year," she plans.

For this week's beauty leisure activities include boat riding and driving; "I was afraid at first to drive a boat but it's easy," she claims. She also enjoys aerobics, bicycling, socializing, and traveling. "I'm planning a trip to the Virgin Islands this summer," Sandra reveals. She's traveled to Miami, New York and other places in the past and says, "it's seeing other places and the change of atmosphere" that she looks forward to in her journeys.

"I'm very energetic," says Sandra, "and independent." The latter quality Sandra reveals she learned from relatives: her sister, Eleanor Holloway, and sister-in-law, Mary Ragin.

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Julius "Dr. J." Erving Will Highlight Optimist Club's 6th Banquet

By Audrey C. Lodato
Post Staff Writer

Philadelphia 76ers player Julius "Dr. J." Erving will highlight the Hidden Valley Optimist Club's Sixth Annual Banquet as keynote speaker on July 20. Remarked Odell Witherspoon, banquet committee chairman, "The Optimist motto is 'Friends of Youth.' Therefore we believe that Julius Erving, being a devoted family man, outstanding athlete, and successful businessman, is the ideal role model for our youth to emulate."

Students with outstanding academic and athletic achievement will be recognized at the banquet, which will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Uptown Charlotte.

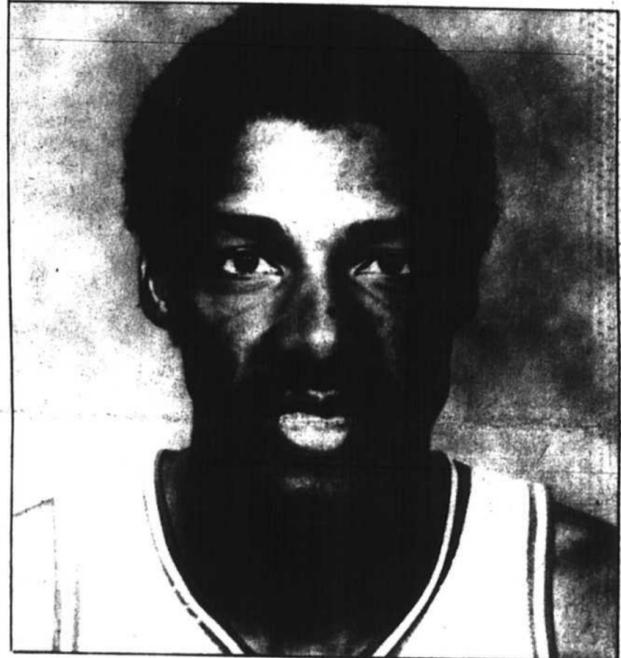
Erving is highly regarded as one of the top speakers among professional athletes today. Coca-Cola, who is sponsoring his visit to Charlotte, has this veteran of more than 10 years in the NBA under contract to do various kinds of promotions and appearances.

The annual banquet is the Optimist Club's major fundraising event of the year. Proceeds support the Club's various activities and programs for youth, including baseball, basketball, an oratorical contest and other special events.

President of the Club, Ed Strait, commented, "Having a well-known personality like Julius Erving as our banquet speaker could make this our biggest and best affair ever in the brief history of our Optimist Club."

Banquet tickets can be purchased through any member of the Optimist Club of Hidden Valley, or by calling 333-6499. They cost \$25 each. Companies, groups or individuals wanting to place ads in the Club's souvenir program should contact Ken Koontz at 372-9941.

Hidden Valley Optimist Club was chartered in November, 1979, and is affiliated with and governed by the bylaws of Optimist International, headquartered in St. Louis, Mo.



Julius "Dr. J." Erving
.....Devoted family man

Each year the Club sponsors a haunted house for the Hidden Valley Elementary PTA halloween carnival. This event provides a safe and exciting halloween for several hundred community youth. The Club also sponsors an oratorical contest, with the winners -- one boy and one girl -- being eligible to compete for a \$1,000 scholarship. Other activities include a yard of the week campaign, bicycle safety, and respect for the law.

Out of 57 Clubs in the North Carolina Central District, Hidden

Valley ranks ninth for club achievement programs. Current membership in the Club is 65.

Does Your Opinion Count?

How important are citizens' opinions to those men and women who represent them at city, state and national levels of government?

"Very important," say several Michigan legislators who were informally polled.

Their comments included the following:

"If people don't contact their legislators, then the voices that the legislator hears will be the ones he follows."

"The political process is a dynamic one and is set up to provide for input from all segments of society. Sometimes we get a dozen calls a day on big issues. The most effective mail we receive is from people who know the subject well and present good arguments."

"Essentially, the entire government is based on an informed electorate. Further, the major role of legislators is to reflect public opinion. The seat belt law is a good example. It passed because of a shift in public opinion in favor of the legislation."

"Legislators are, for the most part, generalists. They may have expertise in some specific areas, but they depend a lot on information and ideas from a variety of sources. If individual citizens have experiences and perspectives that should be reflected in the political decision-making process, they must participate in that process. The decisions will always be made. Ignoring the political process assures that the decisions will be made without your perspective."

"It's very important to get citizen input, especially when the citizen has expertise on a particular issue where there is a pending legislation."

NOTICE
The Charlotte Post will be closed Thursday, July 4, and Friday, July 5, in observance of the holiday.

Has Entrepreneurmania Hit Charlotte?

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

An article in a men's magazine titled, "The Fall and Rise and Ultimate Triumph of the Entrepreneur" reported on how the entrepreneur is today's hero: "...the financial rock stars of the 1980s," stated the article, "...the flamboyant person who 'beats the system.'"

The entrepreneur, it seems, is a phenomenon of the eighties. In this era it has become ultra chic to be an entrepreneur. As quoted in the magazine article, "Merely calling oneself an entrepreneur has become its own recommendation, ... and many do so in the apparent belief that it positions them within a distinct and desirable group."

Has entrepreneurmania hit Charlotte? Indeed so, and in a big way, with new businesses headed by entrepreneurial men and women popping up everyday. Who are these people? What makes them different from the rest? To find the answers to these questions, one must go to the source: the entrepreneur himself.

Omar Leatherman, president of South Boulevard Chrysler Plymouth and of General Rent-A-Car, is a bona-fide member of that exclusive club. An entrepreneur for approximately five years, and a successful one too, Leatherman was persuaded to disclose a few of the secrets about what the entrepreneur is made of, at least, from his personal perspective.

"The number one factor," says



OMAR LEATHERMAN
.....A bonafide member

Leatherman, "was influence from my father who owned a printing shop in Detroit for 40 years. I saw him get work and saw him succeed. The fact that he was proud that

he was his own man made a strong impression on me."

It's interesting to note here, that the article on entrepreneurs did list exposure to entrepreneurial adults-

often a parent or close relative, as a significant characteristic in the personal lives of entrepreneurs.

Leatherman continues, "After college, I took a job with a major corporation. My objective was to learn how to work in a corporate environment so I would know how to run my own corporation. When I was interviewed I told them I would own my own business," states Leatherman. "They advised me not to repeat that to anyone," he laughs. "Wouldn't you know it, the article also states, 'problems with authority' as another significant characteristic of the entrepreneur."

But what really separates the entrepreneurs from the herd of nine-to-fivers is two overriding personality traits: virtually no fear of failure when inspired, combined with the willingness to take moderate risks.

"I'm a gambler," describes Leatherman, "I love to take calculated gambles. And I have a very high degree of belief in myself. I can do anything I want if I try hard enough."

Leatherman tells how he sacrificed for the "personal satisfaction" of self employment. "I went from making \$30,000 a year on a job down to \$8,000 a year as an entrepreneur, in the beginning. I went from working Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. to working Monday through Sunday, 10 to 12 hours a day."

And there were times when failure loomed its ugly head. "After my first year in business," recalls See ENTREPRENEUR On Page 4A

WORLD-TALK



The only person who saves time is the one who spends it wisely.