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THE CHARLOTTE POST

"The Voice Of The Black Community

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...West Charlotte junior

itha Funderburk Has Already ed Out A Career in Psychology



to help raise money for-

new people. says she's the "quiet" type mid, "If I see there needs to be a change, I'll make it," she points out: "I like to think of myself as very creative," she adds. "I love to be different from everyone else."

And she has no problem standing out from the crowd. Not only is Seritha good looking and stylish but she is also quite intelligent. Re-cently she was selected as an honorary member of the AABWE (American Association of Black Women Entrepreneurs) for main-taining a grade point average of over 3.5. Seritha says it's her

"attitude" about school and studies that makes her an achiever.

"I'm self motivated," she maintains. "I concentrate in class and if I'm having a problem in any particular subject I take it upon myself to ask somone for help." Seritha also visits the library every Monday and Wednesday and will stay after school to study.

She maintains that her parents, and Jacqueline Funderburk, give her the needed encouragement to grow. Seritha also says, "They give me room to breath too."

This week's beauty, additionally, greatly admires one of her teachers, Mrs. Williams, whom she says helps her prepare for college. "She tells me, 'You can do it," relates Seritha. "To know that an adult believes in you helps a lot."

Growing Trend Towards Child Care May Spell Disaster For Blacks

Special To The Post Washington - The widespread trend toward housing child care in our nation's public schools is based primarily on expediency, and may well perpetuate the inequalities that penalize blacks in our society, a report released recently by the National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI) concludes. The report, "Child Care in the Public Schools: Incubator for Inequality? advocates immediate Congressional hearings and intensified study to determine whether lodging preschool child care in public schools means consigning minority children, the most vulnerable members

of our society, to what are, in effect,

'diaper ghettos."

NBCDI, a nonprofit organization with affiliates in 33 major urban areas, indedicated to improving the quality of life for black children nationwide. NBCDI Executive Director Evelyn K. Moore said, "In our nation's cities, blacks have inherited the failures of public policy: decrepit housing, inadequate public services and empty municipal coffers. Here blacks stand to once again inherit institutions abandoned by the mainstream: urban public schools. Rapid implementation of considered policy is dangerously and unforgivably irresponsible."

"Public schools have clear and explicit drawbacks as early child care providers, not the least of which are a history of discrimination and a stunning failure to fulfill their primary goal of preparing all their students to compete for jobs and be productive members of society," Moore said. "Until the impact of lodging child care in these facilities is better understood and a real effort to counter the drawbacks



John Quincy Stacks, age three, thought he'd help his mom with her car problems. Mama had about run out of oil and stopped to buy some. 'Quincy' is the son of Joy and John Stacks of Roddy Avenue. (Photo by Audrey Lodato)

made, NBCDI must oppose further placement of child care in public schools

"The discussion and debate that should have preceded implementation of child care in public schools is long overdue. NBCDI's report may still serve to catalyze that debate," Moore added.

There can be little doubt that the critical shortage of child care facilities constitutes a growing national crisis, and that finding additional facilities is a pressing need. It is projected that women will constitute two-thirds of our labor force growth in the 1980s. A 1982 Census Bureau survey found that more than one in four mothers (26

percent) not in the workforce said they would look for work if satisfactory, affordable child care were available; nearly half (46 percent) of single mothers said the same. The need for child care is not a

new phenomenon in the black community, since black women have historically worked outside the home. But events have conspired in recent years to make it more difficult for black parents to find quality child care:

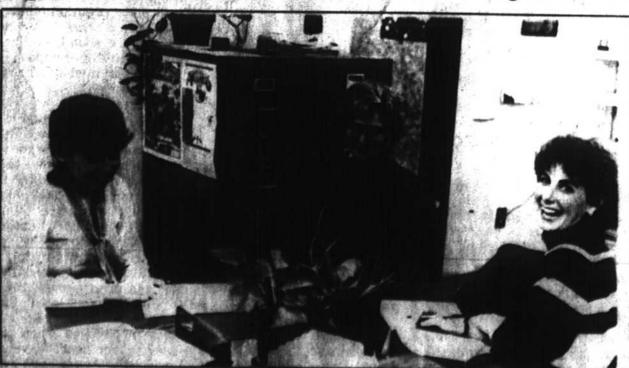
-Young black women are losing their traditional family support system as mothers and grandmothers enter or remain longer in the work-

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Katherine Harper Calls Herself "A Thomas Jefferson Democrat"

By Audrey C. Lodato Post Staff Writer

Calling for unity in the state, senatorial candidate Katherine Harper stated in a recent interview, "The people of the state have got to come together to face common concerns in the light of the (federal) deficit. We're all dependent on one another."



Katherine Harper, center, converses with Post write Audrey Lodato, left, while Harper's press secretar Deborah Hampton, listens in. This is Harper's fir

collitical race as a candidate. She faces five chal-engers for the Democratic Party senatorial nomina-tion as this goes to press.

On the subject of small busine deral law that it's getting more ad more difficult for anyone to even ant to be an entrepreneur. Yet that

us is our own fault. Now everyone is begining to say, "There's something wrong here." Democrat rather than a Republican,
Harper stated, "I'm a Thomas
Jefferson Democrat. We have
strayed so far from our basic
principles of the Democratic Party.
The Republicans have taken the flag
and waved it better than we have. We as a party need to clean up

Her response to the claim by some black leaders that the Democratic Party is abandoning its principles to woo the votes of white males was that equality, not more, should be the basis for judgment.

Harper reminded those who are dissatisfied that "The biggest voice we have is our vote. People need to begin to demand accountability."

She stated that she is sacrificing to campaign "because I care." According to the candidate, her campaign will be "streamlined."

'Our campaign workers are going to be the people of North Carolina who care," she said.

Harper commented that "The majority of people we do business with are national and international and they have said to us, 'What in the world are you doing in North Carolina?' I said, and I believe, that we're a great state and we're great people, and we need to be balanced in our representation in the Senate. And I believe I can be that balance. God willing, I will."

Harper is co-founder and presi-dent of Harper Companies Interna-tional and has a variety of other business interests. She co-chaired the finance committee for Mayor Harvey Gantt's reelection cam-paign, was Mecklenburg County finance director for Jim Hunt when he ran for the U.S. Senate, and is a member of the Democratic Women's Club, She belongs to various other civic organizations, including the Council for Children and Friends of Johnson C. Smith University.

She and her husband Ron have five children and six grandchildren.