



Phillip Dunston
Places First In Large
Church Category

Dunston

Charlotte Post Churchworker Contest

**Neil Kennedy Takes
Lead Of Medium Category
With First Report**

See Section B

Bessie Marshall
Holds Lead For
Small Churches



Marshall

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Monique Morrow
.....Sports enthusiast

Monique Morrow Leaves Her Junior High School Days Behind Forever

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

Sixteen-year-old Monique Morrow is graduating from J.T. Williams Junior High School this month and she's very much looking forward to attending Harding High School next fall.

"I'm eager to see what high school is like," says the beauty. "I want to see how much I can accomplish."

Monique enjoyed her years in junior high, noting, "I learned a lot." She participated in volleyball as an extracurricular activity.

A sports enthusiast, this week's beauty claims she loves all sports. In her leisure time she plays tennis, swims, and jogs.

For her future prospects, Monique is looking towards a dual career. First of all, she's interested in the social work profession, specifically working with children. "I like kids," mentions Monique. "And I have an

answer for everything," she smiles, explaining why she chose this career field.

Monique, who's currently an amateur model, is also considering expanding her modeling work into the professional realm. "I'd like to model in my spare time," she has decided. Modeling for her will only be a part-time job because Monique feels it's not a reliable line of work. However, since she's participated on the Belk's Teen Board and in the Pink Dress Pageant at Barber-Scotia College as a model, Monique is still attracted to the work, especially taking pictures.

As a matter of fact, a career in modeling is the primary thought that stays on Monique's mind these days. "I wonder what it will be like to model in a couple of years," comments the attractive, 5'6" tall young lady. Realizing that the ambi-

tion will probably entail hard work, Monique relates, "I can handle it."

She describes herself as "talkative and outgoing." And further portrays herself as a "nice, understanding young lady."

For fun, Monique goes to the movies and out with friends. She loves shopping, music and some dancing. She prefers the sounds of Patti LaBelle, Luther Vandross, Janet Jackson and Stephanie Mills over most recording artists and she doesn't like breakdancing, rather she takes to dancing with slower moves.

The oldest child in her family, this week's beauty has one sister, Mekole Miston, two, and one brother, Furhann, five-years-old. She likes being the oldest and concedes she really didn't have much choice about it. It's not too difficult for her being the one with the most responsibility, Monique claims she doesn't have to babysit too often.

The greatest lesson she feels she has learned in her 16 years is, offers Monique, "always listen to your mother because she's right most of the time." Her mother, Mary, is the person she most admires. "No matter what happens she always stands by me," relates Monique.

Asked her advice to other teenage young ladies, this week's beauty's reply is straight and to the point. "Stay in school and do the right thing," she urges.

Monique attends East Stonewall AME Zion Church.

Why Aren't Black Male Assistant Principals Being Promoted?

By Audrey C. Lodato
Post Staff Writer

Are the school system's black male assistant principals really unqualified to be promoted to principal? That's what former Charlotte-Mecklenburg school superintendent Dr. Jay Robinson would have everyone believe.

Not everyone agrees, obviously. Principals are ostensibly selected from a pool of applicants through a screening process which involves both a written part and two interviews with teams composed of area school superintendents, other school personnel, and parents. Applicants are assigned points based on this screening, a cut-off point is designated, and those above it make up the pool from which principals may be selected.

Sounds fair enough. But somewhere along the line, objectors say, something is amiss.

Spaugh Junior High principal Bob Davis doesn't mince words when he says, "I think it's outright discrimination." Davis has been a principal since before the schools became integrated. As a principal, he has been involved on the screening teams.

"If you're not fit to be a principal, you're not fit to be assistant principal," he states. Under prior administrations, Davis says, the position of assistant principal was the training ground for the top positions in the schools. Dr. Robinson, however, has made it clear that one will not necessarily lead to the other.

Area superintendent Kathleen "Kat" Crosby cautions however, against making a racial issue of the situation, saying it was just a single episode. "Numberwise, we are very highly respectable," she remarks. "I'm not ashamed of our track record, but we can do better."

Crosby thinks some assistant principals who were not promoted are ready for the job. "I think one (black male) could have been included," she says.

Sam Caldwell, assistant principal at West Mecklenburg High School, comments, "There are some very talented black assistant principals



Kathleen Crosby
.....Area superintendent



Bob Davis
.....Spaugh principal

who operate the schools on a day-to-day basis. Surely there ought to be some who ought to be promoted, but Dr. Robinson said he couldn't find any." Many are capable of operating the schools, he says, and if some are as incompetent as Dr. Robinson has implied, then they shouldn't be assistant principals.

Caldwell thinks the screening process itself is a fair one. The problem, he says, is that an applicant gets the impression he has done very well and then learns his score is low. In fact, he adds, an applicant's score seems to get worse over the years, indicating that older applicants are seen as less desirable. Caldwell has been an assistant principal for eight years.

"A lot of us feel the process is a way of choosing whomever they choose," Caldwell states. The superintendent, he says, has not been sensitive to minorities.

But in all fairness, he admits that many white males have experienced the same kind of frustration in not being promoted to principal. "A lot of people want to come to Charlotte-Mecklenburg," he says. "The system can pick and choose. You have to be the very best."

Talmadge McDow Jr., who was recently named Assistant Principal of the Year for North Carolina, says he continues to be amazed that assistant principals can hold the same certification as principals, be given excellent evaluations from year to year, and yet be considered unqualified for the higher level job.

McDow has been an assistant principal a total of 13 years. He presently serves in that capacity at Myers Park High School.

In his view, "it's been a problem all along" but has been heightened in the past several years, he says.

The screening process could be objective, but it comes subjective in the end result, he contends, echoing Caldwell's comment that applicants have gone through the process thinking they've done well, only to receive low scores.

While in some school systems, the assistant principal position is an end in itself, at CMS that is not the case. "It lends itself to being a training ground for principals," he states.

School board member Arthur Griffin, one of four who voted against the principal assignments last week, is concerned about a lack of black male role models. He also says he fears that talented black male assistant principals are turned off by the whole process or become discouraged.

Caldwell states that some become disappointed, hurt, or angry and feel the area superintendents don't help.

Crosby admits those who have advanced could do a better job of acting as mentors for aspiring assistant principals. "I think all of us could do a better job of giving them exposure," she states. She also thinks applicants need honest feedback about what's keeping them from promotion. Some also need practice with their interview skills, she says.

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Griffin Vows To Stay Involved

Although school board candidate Arthur Griffin received more votes on Tuesday's runoff than he did in the May primary, it wasn't enough to make him one of the winners.

Despite the results, Griffin has every reason to hold his head high. He finished very close to second place winner Karen Gaddy.

"It was really close," Griffin stated. "We ran a good campaign in my opinion. We worked really hard. I'm pleased with the effort that went into the campaign."

"I'm going to continue to be involved with public education," he continued. "I'll do whatever I can to advocate for black youngsters in the school system, as well as all children."

Griffin said he doesn't know if he'll run again for school board. He intends to devote a lot of time developing the Charlotte chapter of the National Black Child Development Institute, of which he is president.

Freedom Fighter Spiver Gordon To Speak At Juneteenth Celebration

By Eileen Hanson
Special To The Post

Alabama freedom fighter Spiver Gordon will be the keynote speaker at this year's Juneteenth Freedom Day celebration, June 14, in Revolution Park from 1-5 p.m.

Gordon is one of eight voting rights activists indicted by the U.S. Justice Department last year following a year-long, \$3 million FBI investigation of "vote fraud" in the West Alabama Black Belt.

"The Federal Government has a vested interest in how black people vote in Alabama....the lead state for the civil rights movement, the Voting Rights Act, the Civil Rights Act," according to Gordon, a National Board member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. "All these acts came about as a result of black people mobilizing, and I guess there is a tremendous amount of fear on the part of the Administration. So they see a need to try to crush the movement so all the gains will be eliminated."

"This will be a ninth annual Juneteenth observance in Charlotte sponsored by the Equal Rights Congress.



Spiver Gordon
.....Involved in celebration

"Juneteenth," a day rich in black history, commemorates several

events that happened on June 19th. On June 19, 1862, the U.S. Congress first outlawed slavery in the territories. One June 19, 1865, Union troops landed in Galveston, Texas, and for the first time enforced the end of slavery following the Civil War. Again on June 19, 1964, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act, following 736 hours of heated debate.

For over a century the Juneteenth celebration has been the biggest holiday among blacks in Texas, observed with picnics, rallies and parades, storytelling, ballgames, and singing.

"It's fitting to have Spiver Gordon here to enlighten us about the struggle for political power in the Black Belt," said Thelma McKoy, who recently returned from and ERC-sponsored tour of the Alabama Black Belt in support of the voting rights project. Six Charlotteans spent three days on the project May 23-26.

"Juneteenth marks the end of slavery in the 1860s, but we all know that even then we were not free," said McKoy, a retired history teacher at West Charlotte High School. "When the federal troops pulled out of the South and ended Reconstruction, everything turned back. Now, a century later, after we won the vote and basic civil rights, the Federal government is again trying to turn things back, attacking the freedoms we have won."

Gordon, a former city councilman in Eutaw, Alabama, has worked for 25 years for voting rights. He worked in the movement with the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to secure the Voting Rights Act in 1965.

"We did nothing wrong by helping people to vote absentee ballot," said Gordon.

The federal investigation and trials were aimed at intimidating

especially elderly blacks into not voting. This is a very dangerous thing because it sends a signal that if you are actually involved in the political process, if you're trying to make democracy work, you're subject to be called to court, indicted, fingerprinted and your ballots revealed to the world. It sends a message to people that this could happen in your community, not only in Greene County (Ala.) but all across the United States."

Other Juneteenth activities include a program with choirs, honored workers from the Beverly Nursing Homes in Charlotte, a talent show for all ages, games and relays, a watermelon eating contest, storytelling and refreshments.

"This is a family celebration for all ages," said McKoy. "We want our children to know that freedom is not free, and that there is still a struggle going on."

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