

The Yankees Are Coming

More Blacks Migrate South

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

There was a time when blacks could not leave the South fast enough. Segregation laws, unequal opportunity and education with whites, and terrorism perpetrated by southern white supremacist groups incited many black southerners to relocate to northern cities, where they felt more opportunity awaited them.

Then the South began to change. Desegregation opened up more favorable circumstances for blacks in the South. While, at the same time, circumstances in the North did not always measure up to the perceived notions of migrating southern blacks.

What happened is a phenomenon no one expected. Migration trends changed drastically beginning in the 1970s. More blacks than ever began to return South from northern cities.

So it's true, the southerners exclaim, "The Yankees are coming!"

Not only are southern-born blacks returning South at an increased rate but blacks born in the North who have never lived South are coming to discover a new land. As these displaced northerners explore the new terrain and culture they're finding many things pleasurable and others not so. Take for example these four New Yorkers



Eleanor Campbell
.....Loves Charlotte



Mark Niles
.....Tired of fast pace

who now live in Charlotte.

Eleanor Campbell, Franklin Collins, Wayne Fulcher, and Mark Niles are all born and bred New Yorkers currently making a home in Charlotte. Interestingly, the three young men all came South to Charlotte to attend college and once here decided to say—for awhile at least. Campbell, who lived in New York for 40 years, came to Charlotte for a change of pace.

"I heard a lot about Charlotte before I came," Campbell tells. She had previously been South often

visiting relatives in South Carolina. "I was told Charlotte was a growing metropolis."

The first thing Campbell noticed upon relocating was the difference in pace, comparing Charlotte to New York. "It took about a year to adjust from the fast pace to the slower one. But once I became adjusted," she notes, "I became more acclimated to Charlotte's pace."

Frank Collins also noticed variation in the movement of Charlotte. "It's more laid back," he contends.

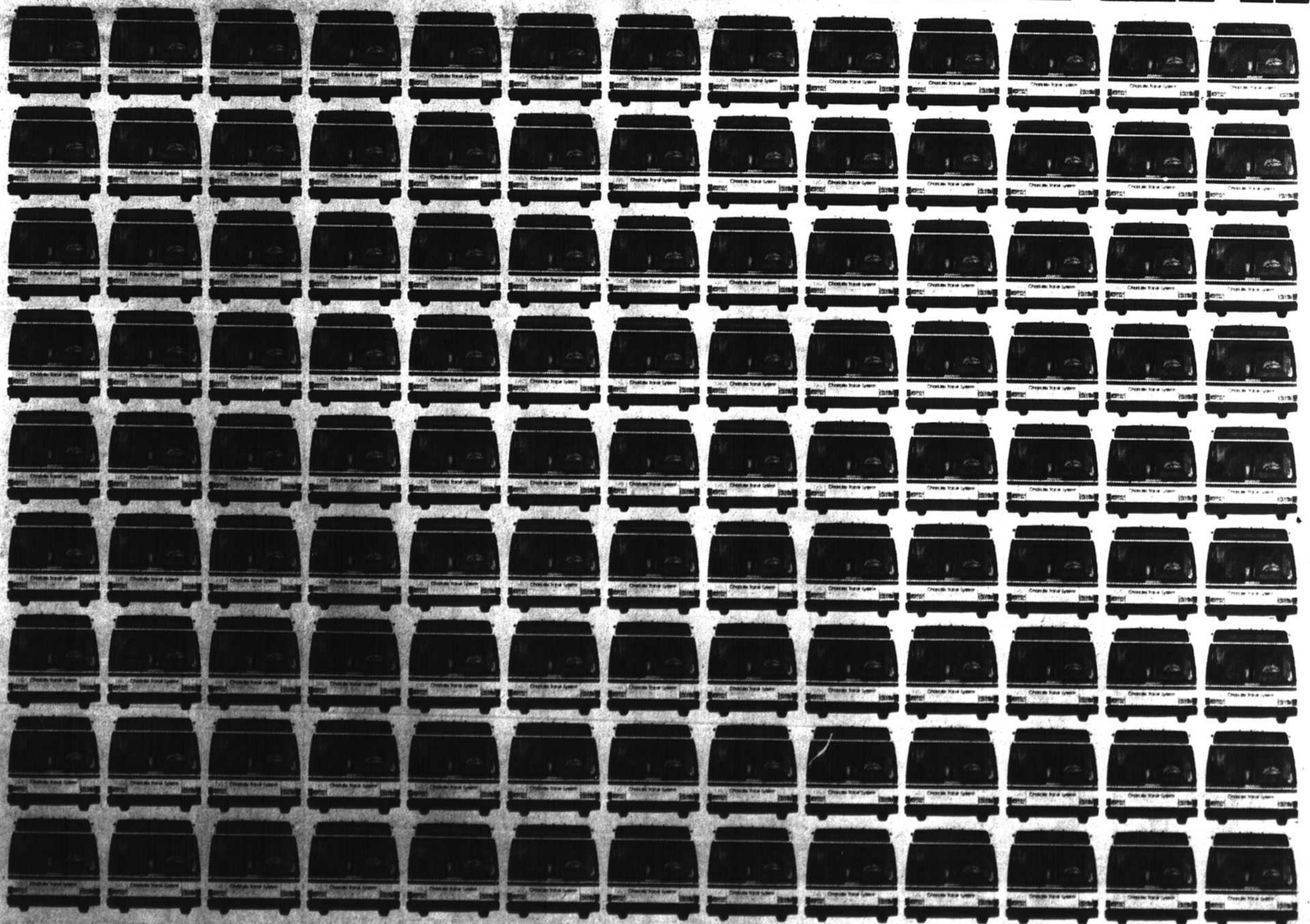
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Dennis Gray and Kevin Frazier, both 12-year-olds, are enjoying one of summer's greatest pastimes at their age—catching a crayfish

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