



Charlotte Post
Black Attorney
Review
 Story On Pages 7A-8A-9A

Silver Mount's Homecoming
Opens With Concert,
Talent Parade
 Story On Page 4A

"Basketball Jamboree"
Sneak Preview
 Story On Page 13A



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Volume 12, Number 20

THE CHARLOTTE POST- Thursday, October 16, 1986

Price: 50 Cents



Neely Blackmon
 ...UNCC freshman

Neely Blackmon Takes Advantage Of Opportunities

Russell Clark
 Post Staff Writer

Doesn't she look familiar? Haven't you seen these baby dimples before? If you have, it might have been this past summer as you zipped through Skip's Mimi Mart to grab a cold one to fight the blistering heat.

Neely Renee Blackmon, 18, has been a cashier at the northwest convenience store for more than two years, but now has her sights on a bright future. "My goal is to earn a business administration degree and help out with my family businesses," she projected. "I believe the skills that I will get from a four year university will enable me to get along better with people and it will help me prepare for a real estate career," added Renee, a freshman at UNC-Charlotte.

A 1986 graduate of Olympic High School, Blackmon is making the

transition from high school to college. "College requires a lot more studying than high school," she related. "It teaches you to set priorities and to use your time wisely," she mentioned.

Since beginning her first year in college, the profit-conscious beauty has already begun taking advantage of opportunities. "I've joined the N.A.A.C.P. Club, Black Student Union and the Children of the Sun Gospel Choir."

The UNC-Charlotte Chapter of the N.A.A.C.P. Club recently went to Washington, D.C. to protest apartheid in South Africa. "We marched back and forth for about two hours in front of the White House with nearly a hundred other schools," informed Blackmon, a charter member of the organization.

As a member of the gospel choir, she also gets to travel. "We sung at a gospel workshop at Johnson C. Smith, and we are also planning a trip to Houston, Texas this Spring," she announced.

In high school, she was a 1986 Delta Sigma Theta Debutant Queen, a member of the French Club, Media Club, Vogue Club while still holding a job at the store.

At UNC-Charlotte, she is currently taking 13 hours. Among her basic courses are Psychology, Sociology, and Afro-American-African Studies, which is one of her favorites. "I really enjoy the course because I can relate to what it's about. It's black people writing about black people and I find it very interesting."

She is the daughter of Delores Blackmon Miller, who owns Skip's and the granddaughter of Otis Blackmon who owns the 1100 block of Beatties Ford Rd.

"I have a special relationship with my mom because she tries to let me make my own decisions. I'm the first person in my family to attend a four year university, but I'm determined to do my best in school."

She has her priorities in order," mentioned her room-mate, Palecia Cook, a freshmen from Salisbury. "She has very high expectations of herself, and I believe that if a person aims high they will always finish near the top."

Charles Rangel To Speak Sunday

Charles Rangel, the most powerful black congressman from New York City will be in Charlotte to campaign on behalf of DG. Martin, Sunday, October 19 at Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church, during the 11 a.m. worship service.

Elected to congress in 1970, Rangel is a member of the House's Ways and Means Committee.



Happiness is a place between too little and too much.

Carl Rowan To Address Charlotte Business League

The Charlotte Business League will hold its Ninth Annual Awards Banquet at 7:30 pm, Saturday, October 25, at McDonald's Cafeteria located on Beatties Ford Road at Interstate-85 in Charlotte.

CBL announces that nationally syndicated columnist Carl Rowan will be the keynote speaker for the banquet. Rowan is one of the nation's most sought-after lecturers, considered one of American journalism's loudest and strongest voices in behalf of the nation's poor, its blacks, its Hispanics and other minorities.

Millions of Americans listen to Carl Rowan five days a week through his series of national affairs commentaries called "The Rowan Report," carried on 55 radio stations throughout the nation. It is sponsored by Chrysler Corporation and K-Mart Stores.

"We are very fortunate to have a speaker of Carl Rowan's stature and celebrity for our banquet," says Omar Leatherman, banquet committee chairman and owner of South Boulevard Chrysler-Plymouth. "CBL owes a debt of gratitude to Chrysler Corporation which is sponsoring Mr. Rowan's trip to Charlotte," adds Leatherman.

Rowan is the only journalist ever to win the coveted Sigma Delta Chi Medallion in three successive years for newspaper reporting. He also received the George Foster Peabody Award for his television special "Race War in Rhodesia." The Peabody Award is the most prestigious in American Broadcasting. His credits also include an Emmy for his documentary, "Drug Abuse: America's 64 Billion Dollar Curse." Washington's



Carl Rowan
 ...Nationally syndicated columnist

Capital Press Club voted him "Journalist of the Year" in 1978 and Ebony Magazine presented him with its first annual "American Black A-

chievement Award" as the "Most Outstanding Contributor in the Field of Communications."

"With Carl Rowan we have one of

the most outstanding black Americans of any era," says Clayton Lovell, CBL President. "Having him with us assures that this will be our most successful banquet ever," Lovell adds.

Tickets for the banquet are available through any CBL member at \$35 per person. For more information and tickets, call Willie Smith at 376-3185.

CBL's Banquet will also feature presentations of its 1986 Business Hall of Fame inductees, Business of the Year and Rookie Business of the Year.

Past award recipients have included the late Bill Johnson, publisher of the Charlotte Post, Vincent James, president of Petro Limited, former pro football star Pettis Norman of Charlotte and now a millionaire Dallas Businessman, public relations consultant Ken Koontz and new car dealer Omar Leatherman.

A posthumous award was presented to the late Bishop George Leake of the AME Zion Church and civil rights leader. Convenience store chain operator Cicero Grier of the Bounty Corporation, Lem Long of Long and Son's Mortuary, late civil rights leader and NAACP Board Chairman Kelly Alexander Sr., former computer card manufacturer Jean Webber, architect and now Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt, restaurateur John McDonald, and late founder-owner of the historic Excelsior Club, Jimmie McKee.

SCSC To Host Conference On Drug Abuse On Black Campuses

Orangeburg, SC - America's historically black colleges have an obligation to address the issue of alcohol and drug abuse as it affects the college campus and the community, says the vice president for student affairs at South Carolina State College (SCSC).

Dr. Oscar Butler recently announced that is response to problems of substance abuse on black campuses, SCSC will host the conference, "Alcohol and Drugs on the Black Campus: Challenges and Choices" on October 19-22. The purpose of the conference is to bring together administrators from historically black colleges and professionals in the alcohol and drug field to discuss and develop strategies for the prevention of substance abuse.

Butler says, "The conference is being sponsored because black colleges are responsible, to a large degree, for the development of our future leadership. As we work to develop these leaders, we cannot deny that the presence of chemical abuse is affecting us just as it is invading the whole society. It is time for us to address this issue and to take action."

Information about the trends and effects of substance abuse and ideas for programming will be shared with participants by renowned speakers and workshop presentors.

Conference coordinator Sharon Reed says, "Our participants can provide a wealth of information and ideas to those who attend the conference. Some are well known in this field and have been featured in national publications."

Among the speakers are Dr. Henry Braddock of the Hillside International Truth Center in Atlanta and Peter Bell of the Minnesota Institute on Black

Chemical Abuse. The college was conceived over three years ago.

This conference is a direct result of an effort that began at the college in 1983. That year, the college was awarded a grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety Programs for the development of an alcohol education program to reduce incidences of drinking and driving among students of historically black colleges.

Through its Targeted Education Program, the college has developed a comprehensive program in alcohol and drug education for its students. Key features of the program include the use of students as implementors and the development of audio-visual and printed materials that take into account cultural differences.

The college program is a based program. Students are trained to educate their peers about the effects of chemical use and about self awareness, values clarification and responsible decision-making as these relate to the use or non-use of alcohol and other drugs. When program materials were developed such as the video, "Not Me. I'm Cool" which provides a

scenario about drinking and driving, input from students was sought. They know best what goes on in their circles and what will impact their peers. Thus, the video, posters, and other materials used are all written and produced by students.

As part of the registration for the upcoming conference, participants will receive copies of the video and program guide developed by the Targeted Education Program at SCSC.

"It is our hope that other colleges and community agencies will be able to replicate aspects of the Targeted Education Program for use with similar groups," said Butler. "With these tools and an action agenda developed from the conference, black colleges should be able to make a significant difference in the fight against alcohol and drug abuse."

Representatives from churches, community agencies, treatment facilities, and school districts are invited to participate in the conference.

For further information, call the Targeted Education Program at South Carolina State College.

Two Named To GOP Security Program

Raleigh - North Carolina Republican Party Chairman Bob Bradshaw announced the appointment of Randy Doub of Greenville, and Alex Williams of Hickory, as state co-chairmen of the Republican Party's statewide Ballot Security Program for the November 4 election.

Doub, a Greenville attorney, is currently a member of the North Carolina Board of Transportation,

while Williams, a former member of the Catawba County Board of Elections, is an attorney from Hickory.

"It is important that the integrity of the electoral process is preserved," Bradshaw said.

The primary responsibility of the statewide Ballot Security Co-Chairmen is to aid in coordinating the program at the local level by being available to assist county ballot security chairmen.

NAACP Files Suit Against Forsyth County

Ms. Carolyn Coleman, Field Director of the North Carolina State Conference of NAACP Branches announced that the NAACP, its affiliate the Winston-Salem Branch and three citizens, H.B. Goodson, Patrick Hairston, and R. Lewis Ray filed a lawsuit against the Forsyth County Board of County Commissioners seeking to change the at large method of election to single member districts.

The present method of election is partisan, at large, staggered four year terms with runoff and majority vote requirements. Three Commissioners are elected in even numbered years and two Commissioners are elected the following even numbered years.

Only one black on two occasions has been elected to the Board of County Commissioners.

Ms. Coleman, Kelly Alexander Jr., State NAACP President and Mr. Walter Marshall, President of the Winston-Salem Branch in a joint statement said, "It is of utmost importance that black citizens have the opportunity to elect representatives of their choice. The present system is designed to dilute black voting strength and it has resulted in the under-representation of black citizens." Local Branch President Marshall stated that under a fair and equitable system

which does not cancel out the black vote, blacks could elect representatives of their choosing comparable to the black voting strength. Blacks are approximately 25 percent of the County's population. Ms. Coleman indicated that the National Office

and North Carolina State Conference of Branches and its affiliates are firmly committed to establishing fair voting procedures to guarantee the opportunity for the election of minorities and-or representatives of their choice.