

**West Charlotte, Harding High
To Clash Friday Night**

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Minority Achievement

A step toward EQUITY and EXCELLENCE

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DEC - 5 1986
GRANDDAD ON MECHANICAL SOCIETY
CHARLOTTE, N.C.

THE CHARLOTTE POST

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THURSDAY - DECEMBER 4, 1986

Of Government Programs

**Analysis Blames
Increase In Poverty
On Declining Impact**

Thirty percent of the increase in poverty among families with children since 1979 - and half of the increase since 1981 - is due to the declining impact of government programs in removing families from poverty, according to a new analysis issued recently by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

"Based on hard data from recent Census reports, the analysis demonstrates that the failure of most states to keep benefits up with inflation and the budget reductions made during the Reagan Administration have been a major factor in the large increase in poverty since 1979," Center Director Robert Greenstein said.

The analysis finds that in 1979, nearly one of every five families with children who would otherwise have been poor was lifted out of poverty by cash benefits such as Social Security, unemployment insurance, or public assistance. In 1985, however, only one of every nine families with children was lifted out of poverty by these programs.

"Had the program continued to lift out of poverty the same proportion of families with children as in 1979, some 458,000 fewer such families would have been poor in 1985," the analysis finds.

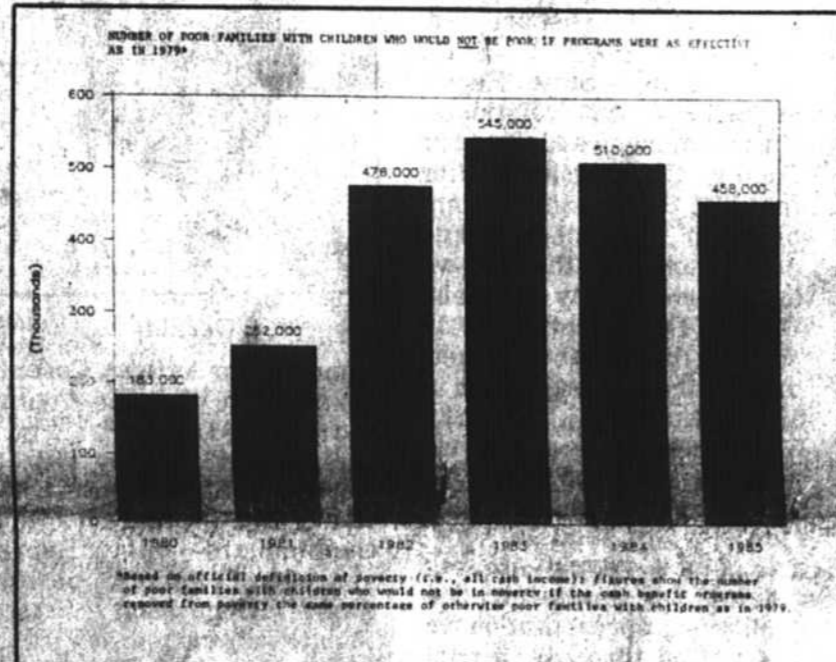
Earlier analyses by researchers at the Urban Institute and the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin have also found reductions in benefit programs to be one of the two principal factors in the large increase in poverty since the late 1970s, with the other major factor being the performance of the economy.

The Center's analysis, the first to use Census data through 1985, finds that if a broader measure of poverty is used that includes non-cash benefits, the impact of the declining anti-poverty effectiveness of government programs is even greater. If non-cash benefits are counted, then half of the increase in poverty since 1979 among families with children results from the declining impact of these programs.

Census data show that under the non-cash measures of poverty, between 580,000 and 669,000 fewer families with children would have been poor last year if government programs had lifted the same proportion of these families out of poverty in 1985 as in 1979.

Thirty-eight percent of families with children who would otherwise have been poor were lifted out of poverty by cash and non-cash programs in 1979. Only 24 percent of these families were lifted out of poverty by the programs in 1985.

"The decline in the anti-poverty impact of government benefits programs is even sharper when non-cash programs are included



primarily because the non-cash programs were among the programs that were cut significantly," the analysis notes.

The decline in the anti-poverty impact of these programs has been especially sharp for female-headed families with children, the Center analysis reported. Nearly 40 percent of the increase in poverty since 1979 in the number of female-headed households in poverty (and more than 60 percent of the increase in poverty if non-cash benefits are counted) results from the declining impact of government benefit programs.

The data show especially marked reductions in the impact of the programs both from 1979 to 1980 -

when inflation substantially out-distanced benefits - and from 1981 to 1982 - following the first round of Reagan budget cuts, when programs for low income families were subject to a disproportionate share of the cuts and when unemployment insurance coverage and Social Security benefits for several categories of families with children were also reduced.

The analysis covers the 1979 to 1985 period since this is the full span of years for which these Census data are available.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities is a non-profit research-and-analysis organization that specializes in public policy issues affecting low income Americans.

Nasif Majeed Named

Minority Enterpriser Of 1986

Nasif Majeed, the community minded owner of the Beatties Ford Road Burger King, has been selected as the Charlotte Chamber's Minority Business Enterpriser of 1986.

At recent ceremonies presided over by Fred Stewart, owner of Stewart Office Supplies, Majeed was presented a plaque and commended "for his ability to manage an outstanding business and provide spirited leadership for community betterment."

Mr. Majeed, a decorated, Vietnam, B-52 bomber pilot, took the podium and expressed his thanks to "almighty God and my wife, Saleema, for enabling me to devote so much time to helping others." His current work with the West Trade Street-Beatties Ford Rd. Merchants Association was specifically mentioned during the award ceremonies.

Also honored was Jack Pentec of Pentec Designs as the Small Business Enterpriser of 1986 and Ms. Jo Griffen of G&L Building Services as the Woman Business Enterpriser of 1986.

Assisting Fred Stewart with the awards were Bobby Lowery (the 1985 Minority Business Enterpriser), Elaine Lyerly (the 1985 Woman Business Enterpriser), Bernie Johnson (1986 chair of Small Business Services), Lucille Moses, Karen Edwards, Jack Hill, and Lawrence Tolliver, vice president of



Nasif Majeed the Charlotte Chamber Small Business Services Division. This was the second year the Charlotte Chamber has chosen the Minority Business Enterpriser; Bobby Lowery of Better Cleaning Janitorial Supplies having been the first chosen in 1985.



Ramona Carpio
.....UNCC student

**To a business career
Ramona Carpio
Streamlines Her Way**

By Russell Clark
Post Staff Writer

How come we frequently hear people say how much they'd like to be successful, and yet these people haven't made it? Is it lack of intelligence? Could it be they don't mean it?

Well, Ramona Carpio is streamlining her way to a career in business and she is determined to make her dream reality. "I love hard work and I don't mind working around the clock," remarked the 20-year-old corporate management student at UNC-Charlotte. "My goal is to graduate on time in 1988 and to land a job with a major corporation. I enjoy dealing with people and business seems to be a career that's challenging," she noted.

Although the self-reliant young lady is continuing her education

full-time, she also finds time to work. "I don't have much time to study because I have a full-time job working at Belk downtown. I thrive on pressure and most of my studying is done the day before an exam," mentioned Carpio, who maintains a 3.1 grade point average.

A native of Puerto Rico, Ramona is a 1984 graduate of Jackson High School in Miami, Florida. After high school, she continued her education at Brevard College for two years where she was active on the school newspaper staff, Spanish Club, Student Government Association, and Who's Who Among College Students.

"I had a lot of friends who transferred from Brevard to UNCC and I wanted to attend school in a city that wasn't too big or too small," she related. "I think Charlotte is a wonderful place to live and raise a family. I don't plan to leave Charlotte because it's growing and it's a clean place to live. The people here seem to be polite and they are cultural, but I think the city will grow faster if the people would be open minded."

The daughter of Luciano and Maria Carpio of the Dominican Republic, Ramona lives with her sister Maria. "My sister and I have a very close relationship, but next year I will be on my own because she will be getting married."

At UNCC she is currently taking 12 hours. Among her courses are business law, accounting, economics, and personal finance. "This semester is challenging because I'm having to get adjusted to a new system. At Brevard, it was easy to adapt because it was small and we got a lot of personal attention from professors."

The hard-driving Gemini describes herself, "I'm not a moody person, but I'm direct and straight forward because my schedule is demanding and my leisure time is very limited. I enjoy staying at home enjoying the company of good friends."

**JCSU Choir Presents
Its Annual Christmas
Vesper Service**

The Johnson C. Smith University Choir will present its annual Christmas vesper service on Sunday, December 7, at 5 p.m. in the university's chapel.

Following the vesper service, an organ recital of Christmas music will be played beginning at 4:30 p.m. by Cassandra E. Shuford, an organist and choir director for Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church. The choir will offer a service of carols, spirituals and choruses reflecting the mood and spirit of Christmas.

Christopher W. Kemp is the director of the choir. Cecelia Stroud is the accompanist and Odessa Roseboro serves as advisor.

The vesper service is an annual event sponsored by Friends of Johnson C. Smith University. The organization is co-chaired by Elizabeth Randolph and Dr. Gerson Stroud.

Governor, Mrs. Martin

Invite All To Mansion

North Carolina's Executive Mansion on Raleigh's Blount Street again welcomes North Carolinians to its Christmas Open House scheduled Thursday, December 11 through Sunday, December 14. Governor and Mrs. Martin invite all citizens to see the beautifully decorated mansion from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, December 11-13; and 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, December 14.

The N.C. Florists Association and the Executive Mansion staff are decorating the rooms with all natural trimmings using native greenery and fruits. Special Christmas music will be heard during tour hours.

For groups of 10 or more, reservations are required. No reservations are necessary for individuals or small groups.

For details and reservations, contact the Capital Area Visitor Center, Department of Cultural Resources, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27611, or call 919-733-3456.



Kathleen Crosby

Educators, Leaders

Join To Roast

Kathleen Crosby

Educators and community leaders will join together to roast Kathleen "Kat" Crosby Wednesday, December 10, at McDonald's Banquet Center at I-85 and Beatties Ford Rd.

There will be a wine and cheese reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by the dinner and roast at 7:30.

Crosby is the area superintendent for the Harding-Myers Park area.

Tickets are \$15 and may be obtained by calling Beverly Mauldin at 379-7010.

TURTLE-TALK

The trouble with some roads is that they don't curve when some motorists do.