

The Charlotte Post

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The Charlotte chapter of the National Black Nurses Association took time recently to celebrate nine years of advocacy.

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Charlotte painter Tommie Robinson, no stranger to exhibiting his works, has a new one at Davidson College.

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Yes, it's that time of the year again: Christmas shopping for children. But instead of rushing off to get the latest fad toys, there are some guidelines to gifts that are bound to challenge and entertain kids.

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Mecklenburg's best football players are recognized with the third annual Post All-Stars.

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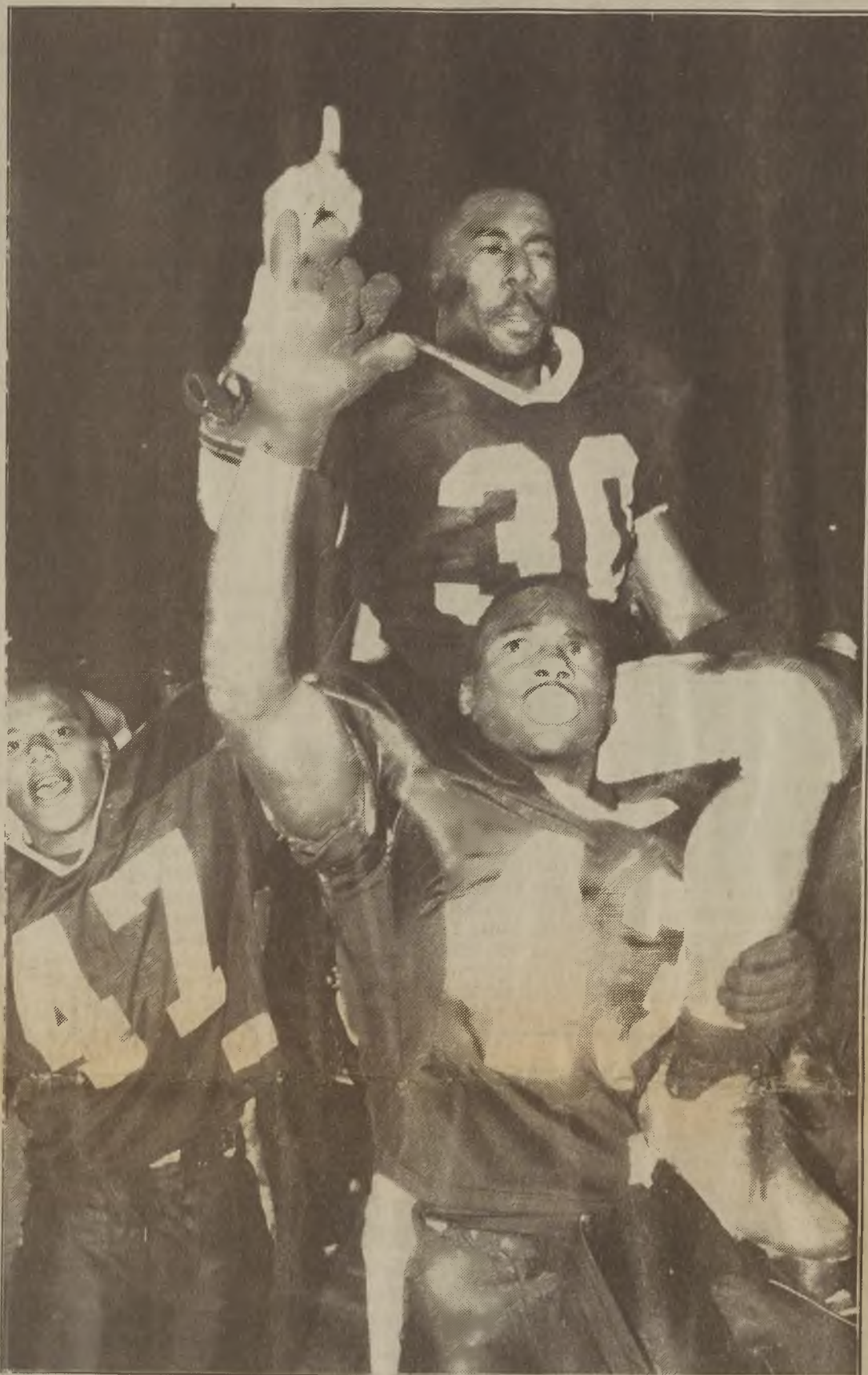
UNC Charlotte hasn't started a basketball season with a 5-0 record since 1988-89. Going into Saturday's game at Davidson, the 49ers see room for improvement.



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On to Chapel Hill



PHOTO/CALVIN FERUGSON

Tony Minter (30) gets a ride from his West Charlotte High School teammates after the Lions beat cross-county rival South Mecklenburg 24-23 in the N.C. 4A football playoffs last week. West Charlotte, which hasn't lost in 14 outings this season plays Northern Durham Saturday at noon in Chapel Hill for the state championship. Minter scored the winning points on a 60-yard pass and two-point conversion in the fourth quarter. See story on Page 7B.

Retirements and redistricting to reshuffle the local political deck

By Winfred B. Cross
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Two retiring state legislators and a new minority county commission district will change some faces in Charlotte's African-American political contingent next year.

N.C. Sen. Jim Richardson and N.C. Rep. Howard Barnhill will not file for re-election in January for their respective positions. Also, Mecklenburg county voters approved a new redistricting plan in November which essentially created another minority county commission district. Mecklenburg County Elections Supervisor Bill Culp says that leaves the political field "wide open."



Richardson

"It's not something that can be put off, how-

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"It's three more opportunities for an additional minority to get involved at this point," Culp said. "The significance in both cases however is the loss of their long terms, especially in Richardson's case. He was rated as being effective and had worked himself into a leadership position. There's no question that Charlotte will lose some of its political clout in regards to its black representation."

Buffalo Soldier recalls Army days

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALINA, Kan. - The big day finally arrived for William Harrington, one of the few surviving Buffalo Soldiers, the Army's all-black, frontier-era cavalry.

Harrington, who turned 99 last month, was in Washington Tuesday to help unveil a postage stamp commemorating the segregated regiments.

"I've been looking forward to this day for a long time," said Harrington, of Salina. "It's something that's been overlooked for the last 25 years."

Harrington participated in the afternoon ceremony at the U.S. Postal Museum in Washington.

Six segregated regiments for black enlisted men, known as Buffalo Soldiers, were organized by the Army in 1866, including the 10th Horse Cavalry stationed at Fort Leavenworth in northeast Kansas.

Military historians believe Plains Indians first applied the name Buffalo Soldiers to the regiments because of the cavalrymen's hair.

A \$500,000 Buffalo Soldier monument was dedicated at Fort Leavenworth in 1992,

and Harrington made several cross-country trips raising money on behalf of that project honoring black Americans.

"We've always been in the corner of society," Harrington said. "But you can't bury the truth."

While in Washington, Harrington also will visit the White House, where his photo will be taken with President Clinton.

"I pray for the president twice a day," he said.

Born in Atlanta in 1894, Harrington's Army career be-

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Logan still seething after DA's decision

Police are cleared of wrongdoing in the July death of Angelo Robinson

By Cassandra Wynn
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Outraged, but calm is how community leaders described the mood in Concord following a decision by the Cabarrus County District Attorney William Kenerly not to indict the officers involved in the death of Angelo Robinson.

"The community is outraged. We don't feel like justice has been served," said Zenobia Nelson, a member of the Logan Community Concerned Citizens Association.

Last July, angry Logan residents rioted in the following the death of Robinson, 24. He had been sprayed with pepper Mace by police and died while in their custody.

Robinson was apprehended in the early in the morning July 11 at the Waffle House in Concord on Highway 29 North, and after a verbal exchange, police began aggressively spraying him.

Witnesses said after police started spraying Robinson, his eyes swelled and he told them he couldn't breathe. Those who knew Robinson said that he suffered from asthma as a child.

The officers involved in the incident have been put on desk duty. A coroner's report released last summer said that Robinson's death was precipitated by the pepper spray. At that time, Concord police ceased using pepper spray.

"We're not at the point of rock throwing, but we're no long at the point where we're going to stand for things to be swept under the rug," said A.J. Clark, president of the Logan Community Concerned Citizens Association.

The N.C. State Conference of the NAACP said it was disappointed in Kenerly's decision not to "have the facts of this case

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Hidden Valley group prepares for a very special holiday meal

By Herbert L. White
THE CHARLOTTE POST

On Dec. 16, residents of Hall House uptown won't have to guess who's coming to dinner.

That's because their friends from Hidden Valley will be there.

Hidden Valley Optimists (HVO) plan to spread some holiday cheer with their 10th annual dinner at Hall House for the elderly and disabled. Era Coleman, the Optimists' public relations director,

said the feast should be bigger than before.

"Last year, we had about 60 people," she said. "This year, we've been told there'll be 92."

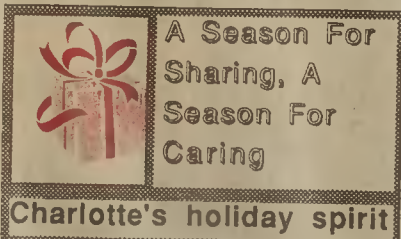
It has definitely increased in the number of people.

"It is a tradition. They've worked with us a long time," said

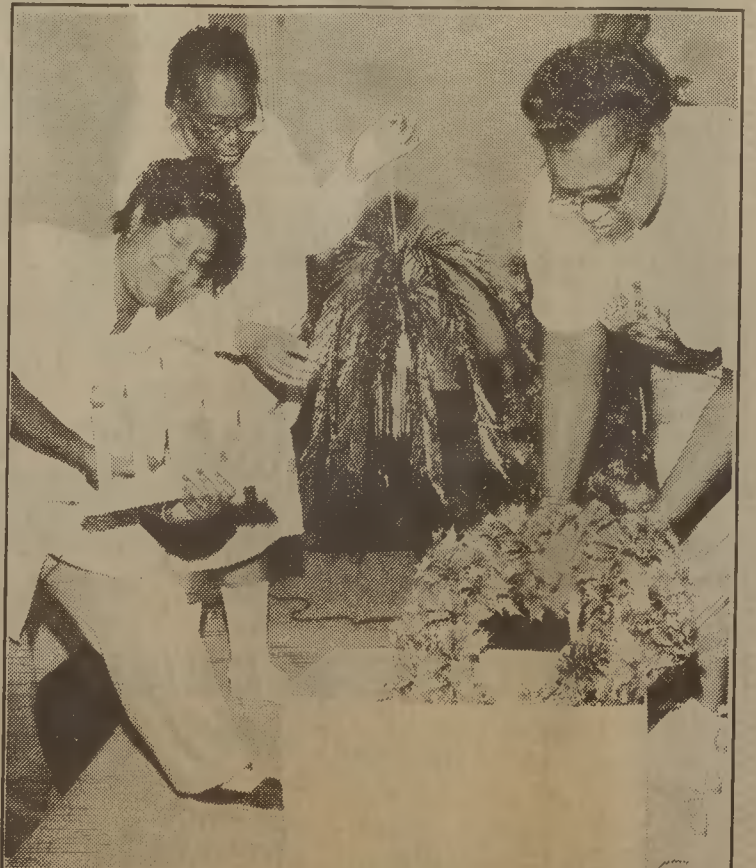
Rosa Dargin, Hall House's resident manager. "They come in and eat with us, fellowship with us and share with us."

In the past, HVO members

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Charlotte's holiday spirit



PHOTO/CALVIN FERUGSON

Bettye Barnes, Goldie Burwell and Rosa Dargins (left to right) prepare Hall House for the annual Christmas dinner Dec. 16.