

HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
FROM THE POST

# The Charlotte Post

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Area organizations are gearing up for annual Martin Luther King Day observances.

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We'd like to think family members can get along this time of the year. And it can happen if you don't make unrealistic expectations.

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BeBe and CeCe Winans, gospel music's prime-time pair, try their hand at Christmas music on their newly-released CD.

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## Final Four participation full of ifs

By John Minter  
POST CORRESPONDENT

If minorities participate fully in the flow of cash that will be the 1993 Final Four in Charlotte, history will be made. And they might, if...

### Minority vendors waiting

...The Charlotte Organizing Committee's (COC) diversity subcommittee completes its screening this month on a list of over 200 minority-owned businesses capable of providing goods and services

before and during the Final Four, April 2-4.

...The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and dozens of schools, organizations, sports suppliers and media outlets actually

hire minorities from the list.

The final list, expected to be ready by early January, if not sooner, includes as many as 200 florists, meeting planners, caterers, bus owners, entertainers, insu-

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## A CAROLINA CONNECTION

# 'I've changed for the better'



Greg Miller, a junior at Barber-Scotia College in Concord, credits the school with helping him see the world in terms other than what he grew up with in the Belmont community.

### Barber-Scotia: A place to learn and serve community

This is the first in a three-part series on Charlotte-area schools who belong to the United Negro College Fund. The UNCF, which supports 41 private historically-black colleges and universities, celebrates its 50th anniversary in 1994 with the annual UNCF telethon Jan. 8. The program airs from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. on WBTV (channel 3).

By Herbert L. White  
THE CHARLOTTE POST

reg Miller has come too far to disappoint anyone. Miller, a junior at Barber-Scotia College in Concord, is a role model to the folks in the Belmont community in which he lives and the kids at the Johnston YMCA, where he works as a counselor. Life is tough, but at Barber-Scotia, he's getting an opportunity to better himself and his community.

"I know education is the key to the future," he said. "Right now, a lot of people look up to me because I am in college. I wouldn't want to let them down."

Jeannette Goebel is one of them. Program director at the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club in the Belmont neighborhood, she en-

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## Petitions oppose park fee, call for director's resignation

By John Minter  
POST CORRESPONDENT

The still-unresolved Freedom Park cruising controversy has sparked two new petitions, including one calling for the resignation of Mecklenburg County parks director Wayne Weston.

The petitions oppose a recommended \$2 entry fee for the park and contend efforts to impose one are racist.

"What we are hearing on the street is that people are very much opposed

to the \$2 entrance fee," said Terry Belk, a UNC Charlotte criminal justice student who started the latest petition drive.

"Most people feel it is just white people trying to keep blacks out of their neighborhood," said Belk. "They want to control Freedom Park."

An earlier drive was stopped after Mecklenburg County commissioners appointed an ad hoc citizens committee to work out a solution to the controversy.

The committee proposed the \$2 fee as a way to resolve a dispute which

began when county parks officials, bowing to complaints by the mostly white neighbors of Freedom Park, barricaded the park to cruisers, most of whom are African American.

Commissioners didn't like the fee proposal when it considered the matter in November and asked the ad hoc committee to reconsider.

However, a Nov. 30 meeting of the ad hoc committee degenerated into a shouting match and ended with a 7-7 vote on the entry fee.

Mecklenburg commissioners will consider the matter again on Jan. 4.

"People violating the law, urinating in yards or parking on grass, is something the police should handle," Belk said. "That has nothing to do with people who go to the park."

Belk is getting support in his petition drive from two African American members of the ad hoc committee - Wayne Ferguson, a long-time activist and veteran of many civil rights battles, and Dwayne Collins, associate minister at Walls Memorial AME Zion Church.

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## Giving takes on new meaning for students

By Herbert L. White  
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Christmas will be a little brighter for children in war-battered Bosnia.

And a group of kids from the Dalton Village community helped make it possible.

Students in the Cities In Schools program at Steele Creek Elementary School collected toys, clothing, pencils and crayons for distribution to children in Bosnia through Samaritan's Purse, an international program

founded by evangelist Franklin Graham. Their effort is an expression of giving, probably for the first time in their young lives.

"You should've seen my office - people giving our kids gifts," said Trudy Hill, Steele Creek's site coordinator. "In our effort to teach them life is more than taking, we have to teach them at an early age to give."

The 35 CIS students, who are as young as 5 years of age, were split into four groups

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Students in Steele Creek Elementary's Cities In Schools program gathered gifts and essentials to ship to children in war-ravaged Bosnia. The Steele Creek students, who live in Dalton Village, split into four groups to contribute gifts, many of them for the first time, said site coordinator Trudy Hill.

PHOTO/TRUDY HILL