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The Voice of the Black Community

The Charlotte Post

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New political direction?

Black Caucus to pick new chair

By John Minter
THE CHARLOTTE POST

The schism in the African American community between Democrats and Republicans will be highlighted Sunday when the Black Political

Caucus picks a new chairman.

Current caucus chair Anna Hood, who replaced long-time chair Bob Davis two years ago, is stepping down, leaving the position open.

Hood appointed Darryl Broome, a Republican, to head this year's nominating committee and Broome has

included several Republicans on the committee's slate, including the Rev. Jewett Walker, a fellow Republican who wants to chair the caucus.

Broome said Troy Watson, another Republican and president of Charlotte Metro Minority Chamber, will be among the nominees for second vice-president.

But, with several prominent Democrats threatening to

break away from the Black Caucus to form another more friendly to Democratic candidates, Davis announced at the Tuesday Morning Breakfast Club that he's again seeking the chairmanship.

Davis said he has heard that "some Democrats planned to form a new caucus."

"They were concerned that the Republicans are trying to

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PHOTO/CALVIN FERGUSON ©

Benita Dillard (center) graduated from Johnson C. Smith University Saturday.

Class of 1996 ready to step into future

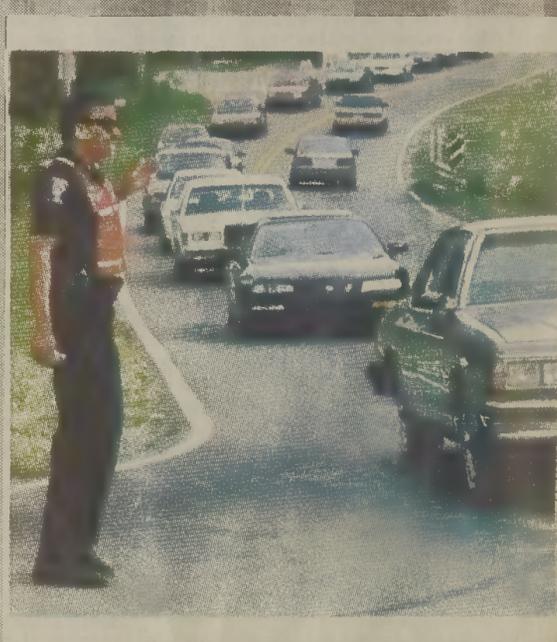
By Tammie Tolbert
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Benita Dillard is leaving the safe and familiar surroundings of college to venture out into the real working world.

"I know that it is going to be a struggle, but I was very active in school and I have prepared myself for the challenges that I face ahead," said Dillard, a 21-year-old Johnson C. Smith University graduate. Dillard said that she started sending copies of her resume out early and that she has already been interviewed for a job in her area of study.

"I majored in English because I knew I could use

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PHOTO/PAUL WILLIAMS III

Possible solutions to cruising on Beatties Ford Road have been numerous, but so far, nothing has won broad-based support.

Cruising on and on

By Tammie Tolbert
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Depending on who's asked, cruising Beatties Ford Road is a headache while or a source of fun and entertainment. The Beatties Ford Road com-

munity and the cruisers came together last week at the McCrorey YMCA to find answers to the spring ritual. Cruisers say they are taxpayers too and should be able to drive wherever they like. Residence argue that they are

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Anchor Samantha Thompson leaves WSOC-TV news

By John Minter
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Weekend anchor and reporter Samantha Thompson has resigned from WSOC-TV news, according to a memo sent to station employees Wednesday.

The memo said Thompson resigned to "pursue other career interests," but followed a dispute with her bosses over story assignments, one station source said.

"Nobody knows what's going on," the source said.

Thompson, who is married to attorney Charles Holland, is a Johnson C. Smith University graduate. She worked for a time at WPEG radio as news reporter before moving to WSOC.

She joined WSOC's news team about five years ago, according to news director Mike Kronley.

Kronley wouldn't discuss the reasons for Thompson's depart-



THOMPSON

ture because "it's a personnel issue," he said.

He said the resignation was effective immediately.

Sources said the resignation followed a one-day suspension last week, after Thompson missed a morning news meeting. That followed a dispute over an assignment Thompson refused, sources said.

"She was asked to do something," one source said. "She didn't think it

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Charlotte will stand for U.S. children

By John Minter
THE CHARLOTTE POST

The planned Charlotte contingent to the June 1 Stand of Children at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington is growing, with more than a dozen local organizations and groups participating.

As many as 500 people from Charlotte and Mecklenburg County will make the trip to Washington, including five buses and dozens of cars and vans, said Diane Wright of the United Way of the Central Carolinas.

According to Theresa Williams Bethea, president and founder of Class Project 2000, "Participation in the National Day of Commitment for our children will give us an opportunity to celebrate children and those who struggle every day to raise them well."

"By standing together, we can show our commitment to making children

Stand For Children
will gather support
for America's
young people

STAND FOR CHILDREN

June 1, 1996
Lincoln Memorial
Washington, DC

first in our local communities and nation," Bethea said.

Class Project 2000, a community-based mentoring program for African American adolescent females, is sharing a bus, which is already filled with Grier Heights community, Bethea said.

"They are bringing a lot of youth," she said. "We wanted to make sure we brought a lot of youth with us to experience the excitement of the day and what it is all about."

"A lot of people are calling, wanting

to be involved," Bethea said.

Class Project 2000 is one of the groups coordinating plans to take a busload of students, parents and child advocates to the demonstration, sponsored by the Children's Defense Fund.

Other organizations joined in the Charlotte Children's Action Team are the United Way of Central Carolinas, Cities in Schools, Youth Homes, Inc., A Child's Place, Hornets Nest Girl

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