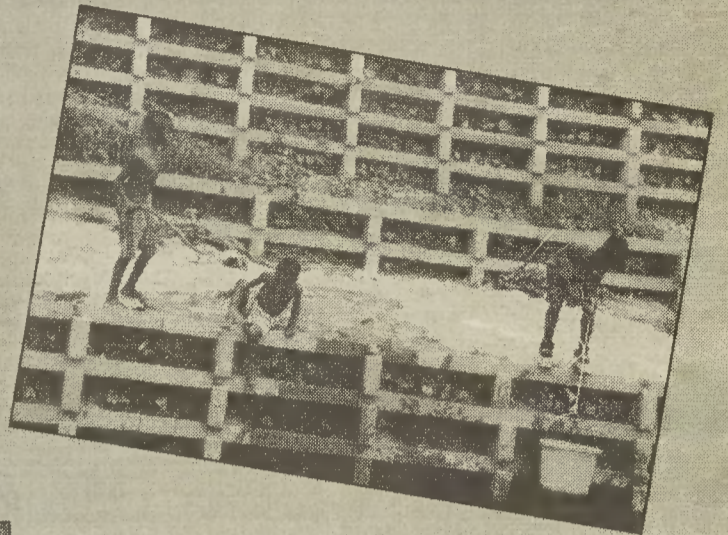


KIDS PAGE

Creek provides summer playground



Photos/Sue Ann Johnson

These youngsters found that old creek behind Piedmont Courts just keeps rolling along, so they decided to keep it company one day, as summer ended. Above left, Sherrmale Adams, 9, Tyrelle Brown, 7 and Lachelle Brown, 7, cools their heels, while above, Sherrmale and Tyrelle are joined by Joseph Little, 7, on the creekbank. At left, (from left to right) are Reshandra Nast, 8, Tyrelle Brown, 7, Sherrmale Adams, 9, Lachelle Brown, 7, Joseph Little, 7 and Te'Quilla Bennnett, 7



PHOTO/SUE ANN JOHNSON

Israel Harvin, 5, takes a moment from some heavy pollicking to down a grape soda, after all, shaking hands and eating barbecue can make a man thirsty. Israel was at a rally for Republican gubernatorial candidate Robin Hayes sponsored by black Republicans in Charlotte. Israel is the son of Tom and Geri Harvin.

Urban League honors kids "Doing The Right Thing"

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Urban League honored 10 young people for "Doing the Right Thing" at a youth reception Sept. 21 at the Grady Cole Center.

Honored were: Jerona Thomas, 17, North Mecklenburg High School; Shanel Cordew, 16, Garinger High; Greg Pearson, 14, Kennedy Middle School; Dorette Burwell, 16, Providence High; Etienne Harris, 16, Northwest School of the Arts; Jason Gill, 17, Fighting Back; Saeed Gaither, 14, Communities in Schools; Joi Kennedy, 17, YWCA (Cedar Knoll); Brian Rogers, 15, Friendship Baptist Church; and Tameka Stafford, 16, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

The "Doing the Right Thing" celebration is an annual event by the National Urban League and is designed to recognize

ordinary African American youth, age 14-18, who go to school everyday and make positive contributions to their schools and communities.

Each of the National Urban League's 114 chapters sponsors a local event.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg celebration was from 3:30-5:30 and included music and dancing, food, free T-shirts and free tickets to the Eddie McGirt Football Classic later that day at nearby Memorial Stadium. The game featured Johnson C. Smith University versus Elizabeth City State University.

Gil McGregor, sports commentator for the Charlotte Hornets, spoke to the young people. Entertainment included appearances by Devonna Gray of Christ Sent Fellowship Choir and youth dance group Pandemonium,

Hurricane misses fishing outing



PHOTO/DAVID SCHEPPEGRELL

By Chris Gray
SPECIAL TO THE POST

Isn't it funny, the difference a day can make.

For the youngsters involved in the Right Moves For Youth mentoring program, Hurricane Fran was of utmost importance as it approached the Carolina coast.

Not because they were owners of beach property, nor were they worried about trees crashing through their houses. Their eyes was on Fran for a different reason.

The 1996 Right Moves For Youth fishing tournament was scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 7, and postponement or cancellation of the event loomed in the air, if Fran hit us, like

Hugo.

Much to the delight youngsters, however, Hurricane Fran turned to the east, and doused Charlotte only with rain. More importantly, the fishing tournament was on as scheduled.

On the big day, Jason Thompson woke up to the sound of his mentor, John Guagliano, honking his car

horn. As he scrambled to get dressed, brush his teeth, and run to the car, John met him with a smile and said, "We've got a fishing tournament to win today."

As they rode together towards Stillwater Farms, home of the second annual tournament, they planned their strategy.

"John told me that we needed to keep one pole in the water at all times," Jason said. "John said he would bait the hooks, and told me just to fish."

The strategy worked out well.

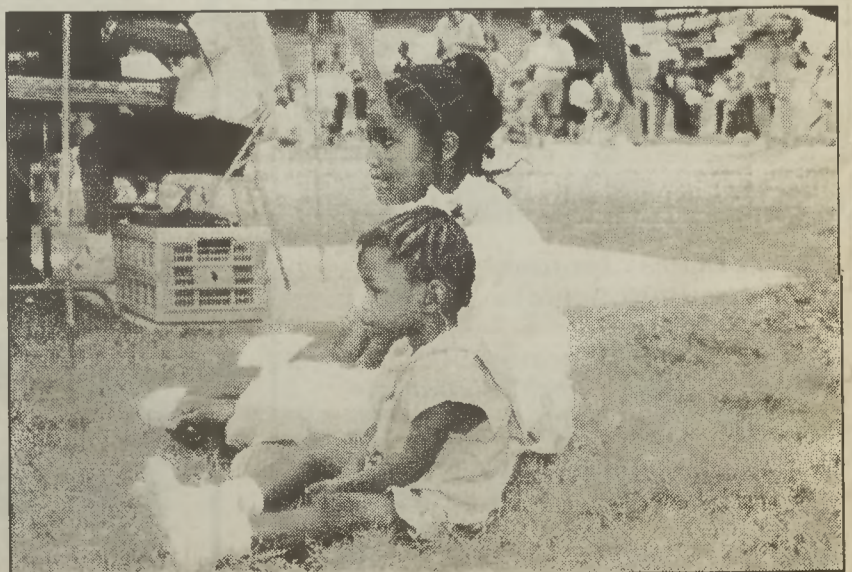
Competing against other Right Moves One-On-One matches, John and Jason caught 12 fish and won the men's division.

Ann Fleming and her mentee, Ebony Otis, won the women's division. Together they caught six fish and narrowly beat the other female matches.

"When we started fishing, I didn't know how to fish or put a worm on the hook," Ebony said. "My mentor showed me how and we won."

The Right Moves For Youth One-On-One mentoring program.

Michelle Tims, 11, and Jeniece Tims, 3, get lost in the magic of dance at Festival in the Park in Freedom Park last month. The two were among hundreds who enjoyed a wide range of music, dance, art and sunshine in the annual event.



PHOTO/SUE ANN JOHNSON