



DIVISION WINNERS in the Martin Luther King Jr. ACT-SO Competition Saturday were, from left, Ebony Grissett, Tania Butler, Anquetette Bownsell and Andrena Evans.

STAFF PHOTOS BY DOUG RUTTER

## South Brunswick Sophomore Wins ACT-SO Title

BY DOUG RUTTER

South Brunswick High School sophomore Marion Evans's oratory questioning society's emphasis on time was a crowd favorite and won the 1990 Martin Luther King Jr. ACT-SO Competition Saturday in Bolivia.

Dressed in outdated clothing and seated at a desk, Miss Evans portrayed a woman who abandoned society at age 58, lived at least 20 years in the woods and came away with the knowledge that modern man places too much emphasis on time.

The 15-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Evans, Miss Evans won a \$500 scholarship and the right to represent Brunswick County at the National ACT-SO Competition July 6-9 in Los Angeles.

ACT-SO is the acronym for Afro-Academic Cultural Technological

Scientific Olympics, a program designed to encourage academic excellence among black youths. It is sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Approximately 100 people attended the 11th annual county contest Saturday night at Bolivia Elementary School, which featured competition among seven black high school students from across the county. The program was sponsored by the local chapter of the ACT-SO Committee and county branches of the NAACP.

In addition to the overall winner, top finishers were named in performing and non-performing arts. The first-place winner in each division received a \$100 savings bond. Trophies went to the top three finishers in each category, and all contestants received certificates.

First place in performing arts

went to Ebony Grissett, a 10th-grader at West Brunswick High School, who presented a dramatic interpretation of *Being The Mother of a Black Child*.

The 15-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norvin Grissett of Supply, Ebony plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and become a pediatrician.

Tania Butler, a senior at West Brunswick High School, took first place in the non-performing arts division for a drawing of an Indian man entitled *The Peaceful Warrior*.

The only competitor in the non-performing arts division, Miss Butler also performed a dance routine as a contestant in performing arts. Tania is the 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Butler of Shalotte and plans to attend North Carolina Central University and become a biology teacher.

Other top finishers in the per-

forming arts division were Anquetette Bownsell and Andrena Evans, both students at South Brunswick High School.

Miss Bownsell, a junior, portrayed Sojourner Truth, a freed slave who preached emancipation and women's rights in the 1800s. Miss Evans, a high school senior who hopes to become a professional singer, performed as a vocal soloist.

Other contestants Saturday were Crystal Eagles and Vickie Randolph, both of whom are sophomores at South Brunswick High School.

The ACT-SO Committee was chaired by Etherine Butler and Irene Hankins. Willie Fullwood Jr., director of Adult Basic Education and General Education Development and affirmative action officer at Brunswick Community College, served as master of ceremonies.

Near the close of the program,



COMPETITION WINNER MARION EVANS portrayed an elderly woman who reached a new understanding of the importance of time.

four local Democratic candidates spoke briefly to the crowd. Seeking voter support in the May 8 primary election were District II Board of Education candidate Polly G. Russ, District II County Commissioner candidate Joseph Stevenson, 14th

District State House candidate Ralph King and District Court Judge candidate Wayne Long. Incumbent State Rep. David Redwine and 13th District Attorney candidate Rex Gore also made appearances.

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