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Father Bernadine Watson, S. A. Passes

by Eva Stewart

News has been received that Father Bernadine Watson, S.A., formerly of High Point, N.C. died Tuesday evening in Washington, D.C. after a prolonged illness.

In 1940 Father Bernadine founded Christ the King Catholic Parish, 1600 Kivett Drive, and served there until 1946. In 1961, he was again appointed pastor of Christ the King.

He was a native of Philadelphia, Pa. After attending high school in Easton, Pa., he entered St. John's Seminary, Graymoor, Garrison, N.Y. in 1928, where he began his priestly training. Father Bernadine did his philosophical and theological studies at Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Bishop John McNamara of Washington, ordained him to the priesthood on February 10, 1938 at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



FATHER BERNADINE WATSON

church posts in Canada, Paul's Church in Port Chapel serving as Parish Priest of St. in Vancouver and of

Atonement Church in Kingston, Canada. In 1955 he was appointed superior of the Atonement Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C. He held this office until 1961 when he was again appointed pastor of Christ the King, the church he established.

Father Bernadine will long be remembered for his unceasing efforts to establish a church in High Point for black Catholics. He came with little funds and few worldly possessions but with an abounding faith in Divine Providence; and he was able to inspire hundreds of benefactors to contribute financially and spiritually towards to fulfillment of this plan.

Today a modern colonial style brick church, a sturdy rectory, convent and school stand as a monument to his ambition and his priestly work.

Condolenses may be sent to his sister, Mrs. Johr Knoblock, 58 Bayberry Street, St. James, L.I., New York.

Black Woman Promised

Labor Committee Voice

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Secretary of Labor Peter J. Brennan has pledged a nationwide "Partnership with Women" to improve the status of women in all areas of the economy. As a means to that end, he intends to set up a women's advisory committee to the Department of Labor which will have substantial black and other minority representation.

Meeting for the first time

with representatives of seven national women's organizations, Brennan said the U.S. Department of Labor will focus its efforts on expanding opportunities for women in occupations not presently open to them.

"THERE IS no reason qualified women should not be able to work where and when they want, at jobs they want to do," Brennan said following the meeting.

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June Wedding Bells



MRS. JANICE SPENCER DAVIS

Janice LaVern Spencer, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William McKinley Spencer of Henry Place, and Craig Alexander Davis, son of Mr. Harold Davis and the late Jane Alexander Davis, were united in marriage on Saturday afternoon at the home of the bride.

The Reverend James Robertson officiated at the 3:00 p.m. ceremony. Mrs. Audrea Stewart was organist.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride was attired in a formal gown of silk organza, with pearls and lace trimming the bodice and neckline. The gown had long full sleeves with fitted cuffs. The A lined skirt had a full length chapel train. The bride's headpiece was a camelot style cap of sheer silk organza with a bouffant silk tulle veil.

Miss Sharon Bruton was the honor attendant. The bridegroom selected his brother, Mr. Steven Davis to serve as best man.

The new Mrs. Davis is a graduate of T. Wingate Andrews High School, and Guilford Technical Institute. She is secretary to the manager of Foster Brothers Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Davis is a graduate of T. Wingate Andrews High School and is studying at A&T State University.

Mr. & Mrs. Davis are at home in Springfield Town House Apartments.

Mr. & Mrs. William McKinley Spencer entertained at a reception honoring their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. & Mrs. Craig Davis following their marriage on Saturday, June 23.

The reception was held at the Masonic Hall.

Mr. & Mrs. Davis greeted guests from 4 until 6 p.m.

UNC 'Soul Teacher' Has Unique Style

By STEVE ADAMS
The Chapel Hill Newspaper,
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — "In every Negro there is a potential Black Man," reads the caption for a poster hanging in the office of Dr. James Brewer at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The picture shows a virile black man with an afro climbing from the skin of a Steppen-fetchit stereotype Negro. It symbolizes something of the mission Dr. Brewer, a one-time boxer and football player, feels in his position as the first professor in UNC's African and Afro-American studies curriculum.

"Negro" carries the conno-

tation of emulation — the desire to emulate what? ... the white American," he explained. "To call us 'Afro-American' makes us a people just like the Irish-Americans or the Italian-Americans. The only thing the 'Negro' has for a heritage is slavery and oppression. It's a name that was given."

Dr. Brewer's appointment was announced last month. Last year, he served as acting co-director of the black studies program as a visiting professor of history from N.C. Central University in Durham.

Brewer developed his classroom style, a fill-in-the-blanks conversation in 24 years of "soul teaching" at Virginia State College in Petersburg

and N.C. Central.

The black people respond to emotion in learning rather than abstract ideas, he said. "Soul teaching" means getting the students emotionally involved in the subject so they will make the move from the emotional to the abstract on their own, Dr. Brewer said.

"We try to focus to see what's happening and we repeat a lot to get a sense of history — a feel for the meaning of history, a feel of the culture as a device to get the kids to learn history. That's what we call 'soul teaching,'" he said.

The problems of a black student at a predominantly white university are a little different from those on a black campus. "I find one of the unfulfilled

needs of black students that the University is picking up is to provide what? ... ego models in the world of academia," Dr. Brewer said. "This involves hiring competent, highly trained blacks. The worst thing you could do is hire an ass."

"When a black kid comes to this campus, where does he find black adults? Right, with a pick and shovel. These kids need black professors — my office is like the lobby of a hotel at a convention. A lot of kids come to talk to me. It's kind of a catharsis for them."

His course in black history has a salutary effect on a black kid full of hate, he said, but also on a white student steeped in American mytholo-

gy.

"If you look at history with a black focus, the result is what? ... blind hostility. If you look at history with an American focus, it begins to put things in a more reasonable focus," he said.

Blacks were brought to this country for exploitation, Dr. Brewer said, but so were millions of Europeans.

"The most amazing thing happens in my class," Brewer said. "There is a metamorphosis of both black kids and white kids. The black student learns he is not the only victim of exploitation and the white student learns that his heritage is one of exploitation, too."

Dr. Brewer is finishing a

book entitled "The Black Ethos," detailing the change in the black psyche in the 20th century, particularly the decade of the '60s, and the migration of blacks out of the South.

"The migration of the black people is going to Americanize America," Dr. Brewer said. "This nation is going to become a multi-cultural nation — it's a melting pot, right? Black America is moving to America."

The movement of blacks out of the South is a migration, in his interpretation, as important to the history of the United States as the westward movement in the 19th century.

"The Confederate Negro," Dr. Brewer's first book, won

Sergeant Is First In Engineering

She Ranks In Top Half Of 22 'Man' Class

FT. EUSTIS, VA. — "Any objections to having a black, WAC grandmother enrolled in your class?" came the voice over the telephone, direct and to the point.

Such was the marine engineer course instructor's

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High Point Model City Commission Notes

by Wayne S. Pray, Director

As many residents of Southside High Point know by now the much discussed and planned Neighborhood Development Program (NDP) for that neighborhood is at a virtual stand still. The drastic curtailment of Model Cities and Urban Renewal Programs and supportive Federal Housing Programs are the basic cause. The Second Year effort for the Southside Neighborhood Development Program to start in July of this year will do little more than complete the basic work started in the First Year. That work is principally, preparing a two acre site for housing development and a paving adjacent streets, with some small amount of rehabilitation to existing homes. Original estimates to rebuild the entire Southside Neighborhood which undoubtedly would be much more today, called for some fifteen million dollars. So far in the Neighborhood Development Program itself some five hundred thousand

dollars in federal funds has been spent and another one hundred eighty thousand dollars will be spent in year two of this program.

Although the very large sums of money required have never been available, as originally hoped for, a considerable investment has been made in the physical development of that neighborhood. It might be well to list these programs, as they lie the question; how do we now proceed to capitalize on these investments in a manner which will not allow further decay to negate the definite progress that has been made.

Prior to listing these investments, it should be noted that this neighborhood is still far above the most blighted neighborhood in High Point with a very inadequate environment and should be the first priority for any physical development funds from whatever source. During recent years the following investments have

been made in the Southside Neighborhood. The Southside Multi-Purpose Center, which after much bureaucratic delay will be out for construction bids this month; The Southside Park, which has been acquired, cleared and will be partly developed starting late this summer; major improvements to the Hillside recreation area; the replacing of an out-fall sewer line, the Municipal Operation Center Study which pointed the way for the removal of the city garage from the Southside Neighborhood; the City Garage project itself which initiated the move of the City Garage from this Residential Neighborhood; the Rodent Control and Stream Clearance Project which has been well executed in the Southside Neighborhood; Relocation activities which have carried very adequate reimbursements to many Southside families living in mostly sub-standard homes and finally the NDP itself which

started in July of 1972. These investments total a dollar amount of \$1,939,439.00. Further, in recent years, there has been some minor private investment in housing which probably would not have happened without the public investment in this neighborhood.

In addition, a variety of new Social Services and projects have been provided in the Southside Neighborhood. They include: The Demonstration Health Center, which recently closed but only after having paved the way for the City wide out-patient clinic at the Hospital which will open next month; other health projects include, Family Planning Clinic and Sickle Cell Testing and Counseling; the Outreach Office of the Social Services Department has provided timely and constant assistance to the Southside residents; Day Care Centers for working Southside mothers have been provided along with opportunities to

receive credit counseling, assistance in finding a job and free college education for some disadvantaged students.

No one can deny the positive influence of the above mentioned programs in improving the quality of life for the Southside residents. On the other hand it is admitted that little progress has been made in that area in which Southside residents most desire progress; improvements of the physical environment especially paving the streets, the Rehabilitation of homes and the building of new homes.

Admittedly there is presently a lack of resources to accomplish physical development in this neighborhood but it still remains within the power of Southside residents to influence the commitment of future resources for re-building this neighborhood. Most Southside residents feel that there is something less than a complete commitment by

city council to rebuild this neighborhood and until and if such a commitment is reaffirmed, then substantial allotments from next years community development program budget or any other funding sources will not be made. At this point it appears that the community development program will be the vehicle for rebuilding the Southside Neighborhood. If this program is approved by Congress by next spring and started in High Point in July 1974 there will be a Block Grant from the federal government in excess of four million dollars. This community development Program however, is a city wide program, and no one neighborhood could realistically expect to receive all the benefits from this grant. The block grant itself will incorporate the existing categorical, federal programs of Model Cities, Urban Renewal, Neighborhood Facilities, Open Space, and Water and Sewer Programs. If

for some reason this program is not passed by Congress, then it is very likely that Congress will refund the categorical programs mentioned above for another year and these resources could potentially be used in Southside.

The responsibility for continuing the effort to rebuild Southside and capitalizing on previous investments is a responsibility divided between City Councilman, The City Manager, Policy Makers in the Housing Authority and the Model City Commission and finally the Southside Residents themselves. Should the city council set a very high priority for rebuilding the Southside in their goals statements, the allocation of the available and appropriate resources will naturally follow. Many Southside residents are undoubtedly discouraged, disheartened or both, but it will be wasteful indeed not to follow up on the limited progress to date.

Although it is not the most efficient way to plan, the old adage "the squeaky wheel gets the grease" still has a validity in this election year. City Council and other decision makers must be intimate with the problems of Southside residents or they could not possibly and adequately respond to those problems. Although for many residents the process of citizen participation in government decision making is a long and difficult process, it is still a vital process if Southside is to successfully compete for the limited resources available.

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