

# THE BETTER WE KNOW US ...

by Miller Carter, Jr.

For one to study history as a major in college and to make his career in banking is an interesting story as told by Mr. William Pickens, Vice President of the Greensboro National Bank. But what makes the story really interesting is that Mr. Pickens got into banking by "accident".

Mr. Pickens is a native of New York, but came to Greensboro in 1971 to take his position as Vice President of the Greensboro National Bank. After attending public schools in New York, Mr. Pickens continued his education at the State University of New York in the field of history. Upon completion of college, he went into the Army where he got his start towards a banking career. From information obtained through a friend, Mr. Pickens got into the Junior Executive Program (J.E.T. Program) at Bankers Trust Company in New York. Being stationed in Staten Island, New

York, and living in New York, Mr. Pickens realized where the economic power was and felt that getting into banking would be a worthy career to pursue.

After his term in the Army, Mr. Pickens returned to civilian life and found work in the credit department of the Freedom National Bank of New York. Mr. Pickens was also one of the first, few Blacks on New York's famous Wall Street. He got into commercial credit while working at still another New York bank, Chemical Bank.

When a Black man gets a good job or high position, he is often hassled, talked about and even hated because of his position. To this, Mr. Pickens remembers the year 1962 and the problems he encountered while at Freedom National Bank. According to Mr. Pickens there was one lady who made things particularly rough for him. She would

find fault in many of the things he did in order to discredit his name. The reason, Mr. Pickens reveals, is because he was placed in the position that she had been working very long to get. But in this case as in many others, it was a simple case of who could do the best job or who was more qualified.

Mr. Pickens has been with Greensboro National Bank since 1971. He was asked to work for the bank by the Hon. Henry Frye. Mr. Pickens feels that his age is not very important but that his 13 years of banking experience are important. The things he feels most important is that he is known in the community as one who can help. He looks upon himself as a problem-solver. Not in the sense of a social problem-solver but in financial problems. He gets pleasure out of seeing people come to him for help, and in some instances, his customers cannot get help financially, from anyone else.

Mr. Pickens views his job as a great challenge in trying to accomplish unity among Blacks. He would also like to see more Blacks get into the job areas of finance because this is where many Blacks are failing. His services are not limited to Blacks but those of all races in need of financial security or aid.

Some plans have been made for expansion in the bank but none have been actually put in effect. So far the Greensboro National Bank is profiting and has been every year since its existence.

Mr. Pickens enjoys tennis and a large variety of music. He and his wife, Tullulah Pickens have one son, William, Jr., who will be one-year old on January 30, 1976. Happy Birthday William, Jr.

Mr. Pickens presently resides in the Young's Acre subdivision of Greensboro. Mr. Pickens is one who we all should know and go to for financial aid for the better we know him, **THE BETTER WE KNOW US.**



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## Notes & Reminders

**GREENSBORO** - The Torchbearers Pledge Club of TAU GAMMA DELTA SORORITY, INC. will sponsor a night of BINGO at the Hayes Taylor YMCA, E. Market Street, Greensboro on January 9 beginning at 7:30 p.m. Lots of prizes to be won including a skillet and a blender as "black-out" prizes. Bring your friends and join us for a night of fun.

**WINSTON-SALEM** - Reynolds Memorial Cafeteria, operated by the CITIZENS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL, INCORPORATED, is now open to the public and is serving

meals two times a day (breakfast, 7:30 a.m. until 10 a.m. and lunch from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.). In addition to the regular, daily meals, facilities and services are available for private accommodations as well as outside catering. All food is prepared on the premises in the Class "A" rated, spacious and modern kitchen. A wide choice of menus is at the disposal of customers, such as: The choice of "The Elite", "Southern Cuisine", "The People's Choice", "Chef's Speciality", "The Gourmet's Delight", a favorite

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## Students Learn About Free Enterprise

**RALEIGH** - Many citizens across the nation, particularly those in business, have recently expressed concern that young people are graduating from public schools with what seems to be a lack of knowledge of the American economic system.

In the spring of 1975, the North Carolina General Assembly underscored this feeling by enacting legislation requiring that the free enterprise system be a part of every Tarheel child's education.

The General Assembly's emphasis was on the high schools of the State, according to John Ellington, director of the Department of Public Instruction's Division of Social Studies. State agency consultants are suggesting however, that the program be extended to

include children at all grade levels.

In a pamphlet titled "Free Enterprise" the State agency recommends several alternatives that a school system may use for incorporating the free enterprise program. One alternative is a spiral curriculum in which economic institutions, principals, concepts, and analyses are dealt with as they arise in content area designated for the various grade levels. Another alternative is that of an entirely separate course that would provide an in-depth study of economics and free enterprise.

A third approach for incorporating free enterprise is the use of blocks of time which means teaching specific units on economics and free enterprise within the context of United States

and World Studies at the junior and senior high level. There is also the possibility of pattern combinations, incorporating two or more of these approaches.

"Free Enterprise" outlines specific results which

educators can expect if students are provided adequate instruction on free enterprise during their school years. The publication points out eight major areas in which educators can expect changes in students.

-Students will recognize that one of the benefits of our economic system is that we have one of the highest standards of living in the world.

-Students will recognize that they live in an economic world and will be

aware that there are economic factors they must consider if they are to cope with contemporary challenges.

-Students will better understand the rapid and

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## Blacks Named

## Governor Makes Appointments

**RALEIGH** - Governor Jim Holshouser announced the appointment of Dr. George C. Simkins, Jr., a Greensboro dentist, to the North Carolina Human Relations Council.

Dr. Simkins will serve at the pleasure of the Governor rather than for a fixed term.

A Greensboro native, Dr. Simkins graduated from Herzl Junior College and Talladega College and received his D.D.S. degree from Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry. He is president of the Greensboro Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. and holds memberships in the Greensboro Medical Socie-

ty, Greensboro Citizen's Association, Greensboro Men's Club and the St. James Presbyterian Church.

In 1960 he was named "Man of the Year" by the Greensboro Men's Club. He also received the "Dentist of the Year" award in 1964 from the Old North State Dental Society. He and his wife, Anna, have two children.

Among those members are James F. Hansley, of Winston-Salem; Marion Rex Harris of Fayetteville; and Kenneth Lee of Greensboro.

The appointees will serve at the pleasure of the Governor rather than for fixed terms.

Harris is owner and president of two firms, the A&H Coin-Op Laundramat and A&H Cleaners. He served in the U.S. Army. Harris received the award of excellence in business from the U.S. Department

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## Record Indicated

## MEAC Ticket Sales Jump

**GREENSBORO** - The exciting MEAC Tournament is being billed as "everybody's Homecoming," and the flurry of early season-ticket buying for the event indicates that a record may be on hand for the event which opens in the 16,000-seat Greensboro Coliseum Feb. 26.

Area hotel and motel operators reported here this week that many of the fans are already reserving their rooms for the

three-day tournament.

As an added feature, alumni of the seven colleges have already established their headquarters hotels for the tournament and organizations in the city are also promoting a variety of social events for the weekend.

The fact that the hometown A&T basketball team is threatening to run away with the visitation title, and the fact that the

hot shooting Aggies are

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## Loans Fight Shortages

programs, according to State Superintendent of Public Instruction A. Craig Phillips.

For the past several years, state education officials have used a scholarship loan program funded by the state as one method of tackling the specialized shortage problem. The Scholarship Loan Fund for Prospective Teachers was set up by the General Assembly in 1957 to encourage qualified students to enter the teaching profession.

This year about 325 prospective teachers were awarded scholarship loans to attend universities and colleges in the state through the Department of Public Instruction. A total of more than 1,600 students in North Carolina are now attending college with the help of a state scholarship loan, according to Jim Speight, coordinator of scholarships in the department's Division of Staff Development.

Between 1972 and 1975 the highest percentage of awards was made to students interested in early childhood education and exceptional children.

Speight noted. Those two areas have experienced acute shortage of certified teachers. This year two awards in reading were made for the first time.

Exceptional children includes teachers interested in working with the hearing impaired, crippled, learning disabled, emotionally disturbed, mentally retarded and gifted. Other areas of shortage include industrial arts, health, agriculture, distributive education, science, mathematics and media personnel.

The state scholarship loans are made to outstanding students who have a financial need and indicate a desire to teach in areas where there are teacher shortages. The awards are \$900 for each year of college study. Most applications

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The real McKov for '76 -- It may be the Centennial year for 1976 but Black Beauty Pam McCoy is the real thing for the New Year. The curvy [34-24-34] Junior coed from Fayetteville State

University [N.C.] wishes to good health and happiness to all for the brand New Year ahead.

[FSU Photo by John B. Henderson]

## Counties To Study Juvenile Needs

**RALEIGH** -- Responding to the pressing need for community programs for juvenile delinquents, 51 North Carolina counties have indicated they have authorized studies of juvenile needs in their areas.

Judge A. Lincoln Sherk, chairman of the Technical Advisory Committee on Delinquency Prevention and Youth Services, said that the committee is pleased with the response.

"Apathy has been the problem," he said. "Part of the difficulty in the past has been getting communities

to believe that local children ought to be handled on a local basis. It's tragic that too many communities find it easier to ship their children out of sight."

In just a year and a half, Sherk said, it will become illegal for status offenders (truants, runaways or children adjudicated "undisciplined") to be committed to state training schools. In the meantime, counties participating in the state program to establish community-based alternatives will be study-

ing their needs.

Rep. Lura Tally of Cumberland County, chairman of the eastern subcommittee of the Technical Advisory Committee, reported that 24 eastern counties have announced their intention of participating in the program which will entitle them to state aid in both program planning and advice on funding. Ken Foster, chairman of the western subcommittee, reported that 27 western counties had responded affirmatively. The chair-

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