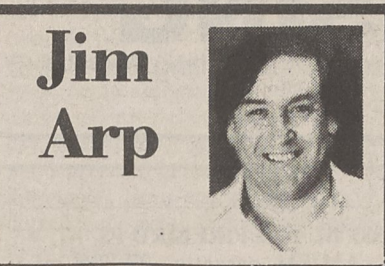


Meet The Girls Next Door

You'd think four pretty ladies wouldn't have any trouble getting good jobs at the better clubs. That's half true. The Girls Next Door have played some of the better dates. They have also had to work some of the poverty circuit and not have the security of a recording contract. However, determination, independence, and performance are traits the girls have that have helped them overcome the lows in their career.

There are four distinctive individuals in the group, but they are all working for a common goal. That is to be one of the best groups in country music and produce their own sound. All the girls have paid their dues, having sung at Nashville's Opryland USA theme park. They have also overcome



most of the problems of being an all girl group in a mostly male-dominated business.

Doris King, who was a session singer in Nashville and a record executive, suggested she put together an all-girl group. Cindy Nixon, Tammy Stevens, and Diane Williams got together with King and formed the group. They worked on a style for a long time,

then landed a contract with the now-defunct MTM Records. They hit the road playing honky tonks and clubs.

The Girls Next Door had 15 chart singles in 1986. "Love Will Get You Through" and "Slow Boat to China" were on their way to bringing them international fame. Their career was cut short a couple years later when the record label folded.

The group didn't let the bad times get them down. They went back on the road working as many as 200 shows a year. The response they got from the clubs and concerts was enough to get Atlantic Records interested in them. In 1989 they signed with the label. The direction of their careers are on the rise again. The girls are happy with Atlantic. The session produced a more hard-edged sound than their early records, and it also will help them get away from the good girl image. They say it's more like what the Girls Next Door are

really like. After all, they have been in the business for a long time and encountered just about everything that can come up with an all female group. Seven years is a long time in show biz.

Doris King was born in Nashville and raised by her grandparents. They encouraged her interest in music. She wanted to be a veterinarian. During her final year in high school she auditioned for Opryland USA.

Cindy Nixon grew up in a house full of music. Her father had hosted a weekly radio show. She had always wanted to be in music. She made her first solo appearance at age six.

Diane Williams was born on a US Air Force base in Germany. She fell in love with music at a very early age and won a talent contest at age seven.

Tammy Stephens was born in Texas. She grew up singing gospel music. Her grandfather was related to the legendary Bob Wills. Her ambition was always to be a singer.

County Jaycees Organized

Cleveland County Chapter of the North Carolina Jaycees has been organized and membership is open to anyone 21-39.

The North Carolina Jaycees organized the new chapter recently to include both the Shelby and Kings Mountain Jaycee organizations which folded.

In addition to providing assistance to the community through fund raising events, this group will offer greater awareness of local, state and national concerns, says Darleen Ruff, secretary.

"The Jaycees, also known as the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, is the best young people's leadership training organization in the world," said President Rick Hurt who said that members have the opportunity to participate in activities relating to leadership, public speaking, organization and numerous other topics.

For more information about the program call Hurt at 484-5022 during the day or 481-0358 evenings.

The new officers will be installed at an installation banquet in May.

It's A Girl For Bivens'

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Bivins of Shelby announce the arrival of their daughter, Heather Marie, March 25, Cleveland Memorial Hospital. She weighed five pounds, 11 ounces.

She has two brothers, Mark, 15,

and Nathan, 9.

Grandparents are Mrs. Thelma Weaver of Kings Mountain and the late R. E. Weaver and Mrs. Blanche Bivins of Lawndale.

Great-grandparents are Mrs. Lona Williams of Kings Mountain and the late Rev. and Mrs. N. S. Hardin of Kings Mountain.

Mrs. Bivins is the former Robin Weaver of Kings Mountain.

Support Group Meeting Set

A support group for parents of learning disabled children meets Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. at Ascension Lutheran Church in Shelby.

The program topic is "Vent Your Frustrations." The public is invited.

Ken Burns of Kings Mountain, publicity chairman, said the group is for parents, grandparents, and teachers of learning disabled children and meets third Tuesdays of each month.

Adam Bridges Four Years Old

Adam Bridges celebrated his fourth birthday April 8.

Adam is the son of Dean and Christine Bridges and grandson of Dan and Frances Bridges and the late Theodore and Maggie Huffman.

ELECT COLEMAN W. GOFORTH County Board of Commissioners

I have twenty (20) years of experience on the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners. There is no substitute for experience.

I am a retired dairy farmer after forty (40) years. I served in World War II in the Pacific area. I am married to Vernell Beam, employed as a teacher's assistant at Dover School. We have two children; Elizabeth (Bess) Goforth, a telecommunicator employed by Gaston County, and John Goforth, employed by Dilling Paper in Charlotte.

IN OFFERING MY SERVICES TO CLEVELAND COUNTY, I WILL EVALUATE ALL ISSUES BEFORE MAKING A DECISION. With your help I will build on the foundation that has been built by the past commissioners. I ask for your support.

THANK YOU---GO FORTH WITH GOFORTH!!

4:12,19,26, 5:3

Banquet

From Page 1-A

pioneer in remedial education for deprived children, has taken this message all over the country this year in speeches before school groups. "You shouldn't sell a child short because of the house he or she lives in. Don't blame failing performances on young people because they are black or poor or from single parents. If the superintendent and the teachers feel that way, the students and their parents will also. We don't only focus on A or failing students. There's lot to be said for a C student who works hard."

Dr. Wilsford credits South Carolina's 1984 Education Improvements Act as the catalyst for the dramatic turnaround in his schools. The EIA provided funding for innovative literacy and math skills, as well as enrichment programs for gifted students. Adding a penny to the sales tax and earmarking it for education increased the state's 1989-90 school budget by \$283 million. Pay raises and incentives have boosted teacher morale and computer technology has been introduced into the classrooms. Orangeburg now has a ratio of about one computer for every six students. Doing math, reading or science exercises at computer terminals individually or in teams, students are becoming familiar not only with the technology but also with the teamwork required in today's hi-tech workplaces. He talks about the Orangeburg Story every where he goes. With 2,000 kids in the high school today, the school has only 38 drop outs, a reduced drop out rate of two percent in a 80% minority school district where 82% of the study body is on free or reduced price lunches. Under Wilsford's leadership, Orangeburg School District Five has risen to national prominence for its reform efforts: results with "at risk" children and use of technology and he and the school have been featured in "Newsweek" and "Good Morning America." In 1989, Orangeburg District Five received the Computerworld Smithsonian Award for first place in the education category from among 22 finalists for innovative and heroic use of information technology. President Bush recognized Orangeburg's achievements as the 77th 'point of light' in his 1,000 'point of light' program. Wilsford's many articles and speeches around the country focus on the restructuring of teaching, learning and schooling and the role of technology. He has worked with Governors Riley and Campbell in initiating reform in South Carolina.

"We have to catch kids up as soon as they are behind, not wait until they get to high school to expect them to read," said the educator, who predicted that by the year 2058 the majority in this country will be Hispanics and Orientals because the white population is getting older and smaller. By the year 2020 the baby boom will be retired

and by 1993 there will be only three workers for each retiree. By the year 2020 one of three people will be in the minority. Asian Americans account for 44% of immigrants today and they come to this country with college degrees. "This means we have to be competitive," he said.

"Our present youth are the only workers we have and our future is tied to them. That's why it's important we train good workers in our vocational departments. We can't rely on the expanding American population to fuel the economy," he said. "The answer to opening the traditional American way of life to the poor and minorities is education," he said. "The markets of the future are not in our own back yards"

How can teachers help? Stop the cycle of carrying students over from one grade to the next. Orangeburg's strict grade level promotion policy begins in the first grade. Below-standard students go to summer school or repeat the grade. The board of education pays the tuition for summer classes. Students who are behind in math and reading get 180 hours of extra computer-assisted reading and math in PALS Labs in grades 9-12 and extra hours of remediation are given by adding an hour to the school day. School ends at 4 p.m., instead of 3 p.m. "We guarantee our high school diploma. If a student graduated from our vocational programs, gets job and can't produce, we bring him back to school for remedial classes," he said.

Parents are involved in the schools, achievement scores are up and drop-outs are down because of the positive-type program in the school. In 1985, Orangeburg schools had no volunteers. Today, the volunteer program tops 4,000, one for every two students. In 1984, the drop out rate was 35%. Today, it is 8%. If volunteers were paid the minimum wage for their service to the school system, they would be contributing \$100,000 each year to the school program or a total of a 25,284 hours. Senior citizens operate a day care center for kids born of teenage mothers so the mothers can attend school. Forty-six business partners in the 10 schools give support and hire students from the vocational program. Ninety percent of the parents attend the PTA conferences.

"When the teacher is manager, the student is the worker and the products are the student responses you can succeed," he said. The Orangeburg program, heavy on technology, can work in every school system, he said, because it's both practical and theoretical.

"We can no longer pass kids to a higher grade level whether or not they know anything," says Dr. Wilsford. "Our success in drop-out prevention is partly due to remedial labs and multimedia classroom technology we've introduced. But the main reason is that we've developed comprehensive programs geared to building kids' self-image, beginning in preschool and kindergarten. Through teachers caring and expanding their relationship with parents, we've developed a positive attitude toward learning."

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Now That's A Power Bill!

Linda Webb, of 121 Deal Street, couldn't believe her eyes when she got her power bill from the mailbox last week.

The computer card from the City of Kings Mountain said her bill was due April 15 and the amount

was \$2,942 for the month of March.

"I knew it had to be a computer error, so I went to City Hall and they promptly straightened it out. My bill was actually \$16.30," she said.

Blood Give-In Set In Shelby

The first annual "Easter Miracle Give-In" by the American Red Cross bloodmobile will be held at Shelby High School gymnasium on Friday, April 13.

Cleveland County Mothers Against Drunk Drivers and Radio

Station WADA will sponsor the give-in. Donors will be processed from 2-7 p.m.

Donors will receive free passes to Cinema 4 Theatre and Chic-Fil-A coupons.

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SUNDAYS, 1:00-5:00 PM

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