



On stage at Williamson Central High School, in the fashions they made, [l-r] Pat Motley of Williamson High, Barbara Givens of North Rose-Wolcott High, Joyce Fisher of Williamson and Sharon Leonard of North Rose-Wolcott.

Black Awareness

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

I am a woman, young, black, having a gift all my own, is the theme that runs through statements to be made by 24 contestants in Wayne County's second annual Miss Black Awareness Contest Saturday night.

Williamson has celebrated the blossoming of the apple trees with an Apple Blossom Festival every spring since 1959.

Migrant farmers, most of them black families, have been traveling north to pick the apples since the 1920s and many have settled in Wayne County.

But not until last year did the festival show any evidence of those blacks who are an integral part of the apple industry it celebrates, according to Father George Wiant, Wayne County office of Human Development director.

Wendy Lane of Program Funding, Inc., grew up in Williamson and attended the school system there through sixth grade.

She left Williamson after sixth grade, in 1960, and returned four years ago, married, with a baby.

Upon her return she found the town, the school, the attitudes, unchanged. "It was like it stood still," is how she put it recently.

"Now my son is in kindergarten," she continued, ex-

Right to Life Petition Drive Not Finalized

Results of the Right to Life petition drive conducted in churches throughout Monroe County have not been finalized. Though many churches distributed the petitions on Easter, others didn't join the effort until last Sunday.

"It will be a week and a half before we can get a count and judge the drive's success," said William Polito, Right to Life Committee chairman, who added that preliminary results are encouraging.

The committee distributed petitions to houses of worship throughout Monroe County supporting an amendment to the Constitution which would overturn the Supreme Court decision approving abortion on demand.

plaining why, upon seeing an advertisement to enter a float in the festival parade last year, she decided there should be a black people's float.

"I wanted to see some changes made before my son gets in to school. I had to start somewhere," said young Mrs. Lane.

The float was the somewhere she started. Joined in her organizing by a friend, Ruby Mitchell, who works for Xerox and also lives in Williamson, they agreed the float had to have meaning.

After a lot of brainstorming, the idea for a Miss Black Awareness Contest for girls 14-18, was arrived at as the way to give meaning to black participation.

Last year's contest was a success and will be repeated this year with the help of money from many sources, including the Diocesan Office of Human Development.

It is not a beauty contest. The purpose behind the Miss Black Awareness competition is twofold:

It selects a black festival queen and others to ride on a float, and it "helps the teenage girls realize the dignity of being black women," explained Father Wiant.

According to two who participated in the contest last year, and will again this year, the contest is a success on both counts.

Pat Motley, a sophomore at Williamson Central High School said, "The contest made me know myself better. I didn't think much about myself before the contest, but the contest made me think of myself and what I want to do."

And, according to Debra Hines, a sophomore at Marion High School, "It doesn't matter if you win the contest, you still win if you have the courage to go before all those people."

Each contestant must make an outfit of some sort, and model it before an auditorium full of friends and family and judges. Each also must answer this question — in the past year what way have you developed yourself as a black woman?

This year's judges of craftsmanship and black awareness will be Wyoma Best of WHEC-TV, Lou Paris of WHEC-TV, Mr. and Mrs. Reecy Davis of FIGHT, and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Creel of the Mobil Chemical Co., Macedon.

Reporter Caldwell: A 'Spy' Who Stayed Out in Cold

By CARMEN VIGLUCCI

"I know you're a cop and you know you're a cop. But that's okay. We like you and you can keep coming around. But let's keep it all out front, okay?"

That's what an official of the Black Panther party told reporter Earl Caldwell when the newsman was trying to break the ice with the Panthers to reveal their activities via the New York Times.

He was wrong, said Caldwell, who quickly adds, "Or, was he?"

Caldwell is the black reporter who was subpoenaed by the Justice Department to reveal the sources of his stories written about the Panthers in the San Francisco area at a time when the party was suspected of plotting revolution and assassinations. Caldwell's refusal to appear before a grand jury led to a series of court cases, culminating in a landmark 5-4 Supreme Court decision that reporters cannot protect confidential news sources.

"If it were an open court hearing, I'd have gone," said Caldwell, "but even appearing, much less testifying, before a secret grand jury would ruin my contacts. Nobody could really know what I did or did not say."

Caldwell feels that in essence the government expected him to be a spy and tried to make him into one, thus his quip about the Panther official's remark.

Caldwell said there are far

more policemen in the country than reporters and that if they did their job there should be no need to coerce reporters into being "government investigators."

This same point was made by Ramsey Clark, former U.S. attorney general, who also spoke at a recent East High meeting on the First Amendment, sponsored by the Genesee Valley Civil Liberties Union.

If they must use reporters to do their investigating "what does that say about them?" Clark asked.

Caldwell raised another question.

"I had probably established the best relationship ever between a reporter and the Black Panther party. When they finally accepted me as a reporter they gave me open access to things at hand, even showed me weapons stored in the back of a couch, really gave me the opportunity to see what they were doing, who did what, and why. I reported all of this.

"My relationship was on the highest professional level. I kept an elaborate filing system to support all I wrote. I kept thinking some Panther would claim he was misquoted and I thought my files would be an asset and not a liability.

"Certainly the government knew its action meant destruction of my capability as a reporter. Maybe that's what they wanted to do — maybe they don't want people to know."

Caldwell told of other confrontations — but with FBI agents. Once, before he was assigned to the Black Panther beat, he covered a meeting in Harlem and the next day found an FBI agent sitting at the desk next to his in the New York Times office.

"He wanted to see my notes," said Caldwell. "I told him that it was an open meeting that I covered and that I thought some radio station had taped the whole proceeding. But he persisted that he wanted to see my notes. I was new at the Times then and I handed them over.

"The next time was during the Black Panther thing and two talked to me in a reception room at the Times. They wanted my notes and tapes and this time I refused. I told them I had no information.

"Back in San Francisco they called me almost daily for a month and a half and finally said, if I didn't cooperate I would be telling it to the court. Shortly after that I was subpoenaed."

(Local FBI officials said they could not comment on Caldwell's remarks.)

Caldwell reiterated a point as far as the Black Panthers are concerned.

The public should know, he said, "who are these people, what are they doing. Entertaining reporters can find out — if the government would let us. The way things are going, the press will be restricted to printing government handouts."

Convents Fill Bill

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

Three years ago St. Ann's convent was bought by the State Department of Mental Hygiene. Eight months ago, Our Lady of Good Counsel's convent also was bought by the state unit and the department now is negotiating to buy a third convent in the northwest part of Rochester.

What is the mental hygiene department doing with all these convents? Reforming the care given to the mentally retarded, according to John Regan, executive director of the county Association for Retard Children, Inc.

The plan is to bring all of Monroe County's 700 mentally retarded children and adults now at Newark State School back to the county to live in "hostels" by 1975.

St. Ann's Convent, now known as the Green Door by the 15 mentally retarded who live there, offers work training and workshop programs enabling the retarded to become employed, and pay their own rent and live in their own community as self-supporting citizens.

"Newark State School offers little or no training programs and the retarded live in a dormitory situation with 60 living in one ward," explained Regan, in his office at the Al Sigl Center. "You can't possibly meet individualized needs" in such situations, he said.

The point of the "hostels," with about 15 male and female residents, house parents and a family atmosphere, is individualized care with the hope that the retarded person can take care of his own needs quicker," Regan said.

"The trend today is to get the mentally retarded out of institutions and back into the community, for two reasons," the former staff member of Catholic Family Center, explained.

"First, it is more humane and, second, it is cheaper."

Cost to the state per year for one resident of Newark State School is approximately \$10,000, according to the Office of Patient Resources in Newark, with the parent of the resident paying according to his ability, usually about \$20 a month.

Cost for each resident at the Green Door is \$4,000 which is split between the state and the employed, mentally retarded resident who pays his own rent.

But why convents?

Convents are perfect for this program, according to Regan. "Each room has a sink and can accommodate one person.

Convents are ideal for group living."

A civil rights bill for the retarded was passed recently that made it possible for anyone over 18 to sign himself out of an institution. This is good and bad, according to the social worker. The retarded must have work or activity programs to go to, he explained.

To insure good results when the retarded in institutions use their new right, Regan explained, "we have an agreement with Newark to encourage those who want to leave to wait until a plan is developed for their future."

The Christian Institute of Man Workshop

1973

SAT., MAY 5th.,

Our Lady of Lourdes School

Elmira, N.Y.

Registration Fee \$1.50

Speaker — Rev. Thomas Berry, C.P.

Agenda:

- 9 AM Registration
- 9:30 Lecture
- 10:30 Coffee Break
- 10:45 Lecture
- 12-1 PM Lunch (Bring Your Own)
- 1 PM Lecture
- 2 PM Eucharist
- 3 PM Conclusion