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Mattie’s House of Beauty

Mattie Walker is a native Athenian. She attended Athens High and Industrial School. Upon graduation she attended Fort Valley State College for 3 years. While there she did hair for the students as a means of making money.

After leaving Fort Valley, she went to Connecticut where she went to beauty school. She later became owner and operator of a beauty salon in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1971 she returned to Athens where she took an instructor’s beauty course at the University of Cosmotology here in Athens. She then taught Cosmotology courses at Athens Vocational Technical School for a year.

In 1972 she opened up her present business “MATTIE’S HOUSE OF BEAUTY” on the Dunlap Road.

As to the reason of her opening her own business she states, “As broke as I was money was not the reason, I love to do hair and I love to see what hair could do. I also saw there was a real need for beauty salons so that Black women could look beautiful as they felt.”
CONVERSATIONS WITH JAMES "PETE" FAIR

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Fair is currently Director of Social Services for the Athens Housing Authority. After graduation from Athens High & Industrial in 1964, he has served honorably in the armed forces and earned two college degrees, one a Masters' Degree from the University of Georgia. In recent years the name "Pete" Fair has become synonymous with community involvement from little league football to Senior Citizens.

IMAGE: Exactly how long have you served in the position of Director of Social Services?

FAIR: Well, it's been three years as director, but I also functioned as an assistant for about three years prior to that.

IMAGE: What were you doing before joining the housing authority?

FAIR: I served an 18 month tour of duty in Vietnam before coming here and before service I attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

IMAGE: Undoubtedly your responsibilities of your present position are many. Would you describe them to us?

FAIR: Right now we're responsible for providing services to 1,117 families in the total public housing area. We have more than 4,000 persons that we're working with. In the future we expect even more now that the new high-rise on Dougherty Street has been completed.

IMAGE: What are some of the services offered?

FAIR: Well, we counsel persons having difficulty in meeting their rent deadlines, unemployment, juvenile delinquency and a host of minor services like getting an elderly person to the grocery store, to pay bills and their rent. In recent months, however, there has been a decrease in the number of services available because of some city-wide social service agencies being cut out or their funds being reduced.

IMAGE: Obviously juvenile delinquency is a community problem in general, but tell us about how it is being dealt with in the public housing areas.

FAIR: We've always been concerned about young people. We've worked with the Board of Education on several projects; of course each summer we provide a reading program and camps as well. The department has been fortunate in securing volunteer help mainly from the University of Georgia
students. We also encourage youngsters who are having problems to come by for counseling.

**IMAGE**: That is a very positive approach! Now, certainly you have programs for Senior Citizens as well.

**FAIR**: Sure, in fact we have a staff person directly involved with them and we’re blessed to have other agencies lending their services also.

**IMAGE**: So, these are the two populations being provided for?

**FAIR**: No, there is also the pre-school program which allows single parents to work. In a similar vein, we also work with unwed mothers who, of course, have special problems, too.

**IMAGE**: We’ve found that not only are you deeply involved in social services but you also do a great deal of coaching little league football.

**FAIR**: Yes, I’ve been involved with football since I returned to Athens in 1971. And we’ve done this each year since. I’ve also found that this is a good way to reach many kids. They enjoy it and so do I!

**IMAGE**: Can this be a basis on which other things can be built?

**FAIR**: I think so. We relate to a lot of kids through athletics who we can’t relate to in other ways. So I try to stay involved because athletics was one of the ways that enabled me to get ahead. I also call many games, especially basketball, through my membership in the Georgia High School Association. Softball has also allowed me opportunities to work with the kids. So I’m involved directly year-round.

**IMAGE**: Do you see high school coaching as a future possibility?

**FAIR**: No, I seriously doubt it unless there was a big, big demand. But I enjoy working with the kids because so many need the basics to move from. So I feel that I’d be more helpful in my present position.

**IMAGE**: Well, not only are you involved in the community, but you’re also a professional photographer. How does a man do all of these things?

**FAIR**: All of it keeps me pretty busy but I enjoy taking pictures; I enjoy it as an art. My eight years experience in this field have been very interesting. Actually photography is another means of my relating to people.

**IMAGE**: How is that?

**FAIR**: Well, the kids, adults and families I photograph sit down and talk freely. In many instances the picture-taking session has been the start of many friendships. I feel that we have been fortunate in that many families contact us for pictures. We’re certainly trying to make our work even better and in doing so I attend 7 or 8 workshops each year.

**IMAGE**: Through your experiences in community work you must have a certain perspective on problems affecting Athens.

**FAIR**: Yes I do, but not so much so as most people. However, I do feel that we have a lot of problems and one of them is the dropout. I know that out of the 1,117 families we serve, a high percentage of the kids have difficulty in school work and discipline. There is a great number of young girls becoming unwed mothers. There are also young men trying to move out on their own when there is not really any place for them to go. Few of them have any great skills to offer society. So the dropout is the end result. That’s a very big problem for us to work with here.

Many people feel that it is primarily the parent’s responsibility to help ease these problems but any other person in the entire community could be of some help. I strongly feel that the speed in which solutions to these problems can be made is directly tied to how fast the average individual becomes ACTIVELY involved in community work.
IMAGE: Other problems facing the community are...

FAIR: Other problems facing the community especially are crime and unemployment. We realize that a lot of kids will not be effective if they are hungry and don't have the bare necessities of life. I know we have a lot of people in the housing area like that. But I know also that we have the people and resources in the community who could help. In fact, I'd like to see the church more involved. I'm not saying they're not already, but I'd like to see even more. I can see the church being very strong in it's influence.

IMAGE: Contrary to what some people think there have been over the years a number of high achieving youngsters growing up in public housing communities. You're a perfect example. Another is an 8th grader maintaining the highest math average at her school last year. In light of this, do you think there are many other youngsters who can do as well?

FAIR: I'm sure. I'm positive. We've had many, many people to go on and become productive citizens. Right now, there are a number of persons offering a lot right here in the city. There is a tendency to label an individual from public housing. I'd say we don't have the best kids in the world under all conditions but they do have talents. I think what we need is someone who is willing to sit down and listen to them and find some means of relating. Now I know some of them do not have the background or money others have but in terms of being concerned, warm, having feelings, personally I don't think you can find a better bunch of kids than these here.

IMAGE: That's commendable, and you know many would agree that public housing and the community in general is very lucky because you have set an example in many ways. You show that things can be done.

FAIR: Thanks a lot, but I know that much of what I accomplish is due to the help and support of the social service staff, the Athens Housing Authority and all those other people out there in the community.
Fashions for fall are beautiful and bountiful. Multilayering is in and fashions are created to easily adapt to unpredictable climates. Sweaters are definitely a strong element in this year’s fashions. The season’s fashions are expressed in new lengths and fabrics. Coats and sweaters this fall reflect the wrap and tie principle. Look out Jack Frost, we’re ready!

Ladies’ apparell furnished by ABROMS’ CASUAL SHOP. Gentlemen’s clothing courtesy of SANFORD & SON Ltd. Models (l-r) Ms. Quittis Smith, Mr. Gregory Payne, Ms. Vivian Vaughan, Mr. Willie James Elder.
Fashionable sweaters of varying fabrics, shapes, and colors return to greet Autumn’s chilling air. Pile ‘em on, peel ‘em off sweaters are great for those weekend ball games or romantic mountain ventures to enjoy picturesque views. Sweaters are pulling this together this fall!
Smartly tailored suits in carefully coordinated colors and patterns give the wearer that sophisticated attitude that let’s the viewers know “how together we really are”...

Lavishly layered, so elegantly tailored, yet oh so feminine. This fall’s outfits are easily adaptable for sudden changes in temperature. New skirt lengths made to gracefully adorn sporty shoes or boots pull together the multi-layered look.
TO WIN, YOU MUST DO IT BETTER! Men, to capture those admiring glances, lapels are up, caps return and sporty leathers are daringly hooded. New winter coats for males will tease more than Winter's frost!
"Home ownership is no longer possible for me," says a frustrated home shopper, "but I'll not give up hope." This is the cry heard daily from young and old, after months of searching the classifieds and Sundays of riding and touring model homes and finding that the cost of home ownership is far above their incomes. The National average for a single family site built home is passing through the $50,000 mark and according to a recent study by Harvard and M.I.T., "if inflation continues at the same rate for the next four years, that by 1981, the average cost of an on site constructed home will exceed $78,000, and only the most wealthy will be able to afford it." Inflation is the cause and no one seems to have an answer for this economic cancer.

However, we Americans have always held the concept that there is no problem unsolvable, no question unanswerable. In the 1800's when increased populations demanded low cost thread and cloth for clothing, the time honored method of hand turning each garment fell to the mechanized practicalities of mass production and an industrial revolution, which we all recognize as the basis of American standard of living, followed. One of the few industries of our times, which has yet to be freed from the "hand crafted" methodology of the 1800's is the housing industry. Today, bank presidents down to Mr. and Mrs. Average American, cling to a symbol and tradition as outmoded as hand churning butter and spinning yarn...that being, "If a house isn't built on the site, it just ain't no good." If one studies this concept and carries it to the ultimate conclusion in other areas, such as transportation, we should not go down to the local automotive parts sales center and purchase our fenders, transmission, pistons, and the like, and then commission our local mechanic to come to our own garage and "site build" our method of transportation. Probably, we would wind up with a device would get us about in some form or fashion, yet there would be little doubt even in the mind of the creating mechanic, that his "hand crafted" product is no match for the luxury filled Detroit marvels.

Not even would the price be remotely competitive, for according to a recent study by a northern economist, a 1977 Chevrolet purchased one part at a time would exceed $37,000 unassembled. Factory built housing is a concept whose time has come and many value-conscious home buyers have discovered the joy, satisfaction, and pride of home ownership made possible by this innovative method of home building. Energy efficient and affordable are the keys words heard in most all home manufacturing facilities. With insulation up to 12" and R factors of 28 to 36, the anticipated high cost of heating and cooling one's home is appropriately dealt with. As with all new ideas and change, there is expected resistance in the minds of those who cling to the "good old ways". Time, demand, and good quality, affordable housing, however, will bridge the gap of acceptance. Future years will prove the case for manufactured housing.

As a home buyer, one should carefully consider all alternatives from the standpoint of quality, beauty, as well as economy. The manufactured home, like the manufactured automobile, is here to stay.
STAR SIGNS

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You may be inclined to take a trip, be it for pleasure or business. Anyone in line for a promotion should have no trouble accepting. Your key word for this month is "Loyalty," especially toward the ones you’re most near.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Getting emotionally involved maybe disruptive at this time. If you must, proceed with caution. Be careful of signing any documents until you have read them thoroughly. Key word is "caution".

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
This is a time of becoming acquainted with some new surroundings (new house, car, job etc.) There may be problems from this but you will find a peaceful solution. Patching up your marriage is also advisable. Before making any decisions weigh all sides. Key word "peace".

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Physical exercise should play a great part in your life. If you’ve gained extra pounds, get it off. If you’re looking for a new job, don’t delay, go out and look. Don’t leave the old one until definite plans have been made. Key word “achievement”.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Wisdom acquired through past ages should be most beneficial at this time. Some past experiences will help you to cope with a present day one. Problems created rashly can hit the pocketbook hard. Affectionate interests may be looking up. Key word “discipline”.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Concentrate most of your attention on your family and job. You may have to open your pocketbook a little wider so you might as well open your heart some too. If your love remains a well kept secret how can the one you love respond?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Expect changes to occur. Whatever changes take place in your life maybe beneficial. You may also expect travel to be in your future. Gainful occupations should be accomplished in the afternoons to help you avoid distractions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Financial interests seems to be a great concern for you. Avoid lavish entertainment. Your inner voice backed by experience should be most helpful in decision making. Considering training courses or travel maybe helpful in your financial future. Patch up any differences with any acquaintance, it might be helpful.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Unusual talents may be your hidden treasure. Confidence is your biggest trait. You should start pushing yourself forward to let others know of your hidden talents. By believing in yourself others will. Financial matters should be kept in the strictest confidence.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)
Description is your key word, especially when love and money are encountered. There are individuals who are waiting for bits of gossip. There is plenty of mental activity in sight for you this month.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
Hopes and friendship are in the limelight. Sometimes you may be given orders that you prefer not to agree with but do them because you might be in that position also. When overhead exceeds the returns taken in, it is time to take action. Spend time with your love ones. Love requires much more than spending money.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Rivalry may be obstruction. Much of it maybe lurking behind the scenes. Talking things over with friends and relatives may be advantageous.
Dear Editor:

I have intended to write to your for sometime concerning the monthly article of law. The article in September "77" "What are Police Officers Really Like" was very informative. It really gave me an idea as to what it means to be a police officer.
The police officer's position is one that I don't envy. They have such a variety of people to deal with everyday.
I hope Lt. Freeman continues to supply the staff of IMAGE with the everyday aspects of police work.

Thank you again,
Denita Farrow

Dear Editor:

It was very nice to hear that Atty. Vernon Neely has opened a law office in Augusta. I remember him and his wife Bonnie Hampton Neely from their stay here in Athens.
It's good to know that they are doing well. Keep up the good informing us about the work of former Athenians.

J. Johnson

Dear Editor:

I'm recently new in Athens and as I was browsing through the newstand I saw Image Magazine. One thing I noticed that was not listed was where a person could go to get some night life here. I would like to see a listing of places that one might could go and enjoy themselves.

Thank you,
K.C. Evans

Dear Editor:

I really enjoyed the article on Mr. Michael Thurmond. We've read so many history books on different people and different places, it's really refreshing and encouraging to see one of Athens' very own writing about the contributions of other Athenians.

J. Wilder

Dear Editor:

You've heard the song "I'm A Girl Watcher"? That was sure a fine young lady worth watching in your last issue.
Keep putting pictures like that and you'll have me watching every month.

Yours truly,
Edward Griffith
A few months ago hundreds turned out to hear what Smith had to say. Young and old, friends and acquaintances had received notice of his first message to be presented at the Burney-Harris Gymnasium. Curiosity typified the mood of the crowd. Indeed many were his associates in more "worldly" aspects. Many more were suddenly taken by surprise when he took this new direction in life. The puzzled faces spoke for themselves, "Frank Smith preaching?"

Since that time a number of persons have juggled his past and present in an effort to find acceptance of Smith's change. But, perhaps in many of us there exists a certain kind of personality that should be in the ministry, or corporation, etc. And when one does come along that may not fit our ideal then understanding is difficult, to say the least. Yet the change in this man may eventually bring about a change in the ways we see others. His message is not the "unless-you-repent-you'll-enter-the-gates-of-hell" kind, but is a very pure and simple concept of people helping, loving and trusting one another.

"I'm trying to create an image that we can all feel a part of."

Frank sees himself as "a minister of God wanting to see all people come together," and feels that "religion should be available to all people and there are two ways to do it; have them come to religion or take it to them. I'm working toward taking it to those who may not go to church. I'm trying to create an image that we can all feel a part of."

"We need organization. We need to help individually and collectively."

Many of his ideas and concerns are about present day problems that affect us socially and economically as well. "God called me to work on his behalf, but I've got to make it on my own. I've got to figure out the right ways to go."

He continues, "As I go around each day, I realize that religion is something that exists in a lot of different ways. Religion is helping each other. It's helping to create jobs for the unemployed. It's helping the alcoholic on the street and it's showing young people a way out from drugs, robbing, fighting, killing each other. So in essence, I'm saying that religion should be seen as both a means to an end and a base for better living. But we need organization. We need to help individually and collectively.

"I've associated with all kinds of people and so I'm very aware of the different lifestyles in this world. By being in a company of a broad range of people I've drawn a major conclusion: people often go astray because they have no way of using their talents. That's why I believe organization is the key. When we have that among people then a great many can be helped, to use their talents, which in turn will help many, many more to use theirs, and so on."

Smith sums it up, "This is what I'm all about. This is my message. I know bringing this about won't be easy, but I believe getting out there and encouraging people to simply come together and learn to help, love and trust each other is a step in the right direction."
These policies should be presented at face value as measures for making good the promise of American life. These policies are consonant with the traditions of the Democratic party, and they need not divide the races. The poor need help. We are a rich nation. We can and should give that help.

No doubt a party promoting these income policies might lose an election or two. But when it did get into power it would have goals worth achieving. The difficulty with existing policies is that even when properly pursued they do not help enough people immediately in direct ways. The usual mode of alleviating difficult problems by incremental attack along diverse fronts does not work because there is no solid base on which to rest these efforts. We will never know what long-run contributions anti-poverty programs can make if we continue to insist that secondary programs substitute for primary ones, that supporting programs be adopted in place of the basic efforts they are intended to assist.

Democratic divisions over these issues also provide extraordinary opportunities for Republicans to recover from decades of declining support. The danger is that an anti-Negro stance will appear to offer hope of detaching white voters from the Democratic party. The resistance of these voters to conservative economic policies would be submerged under a tide of racial anger. There is another stance, however, that would be productive at the polls and fit comfortably with Republican principles. A massive employment program could be expected to win over some Negroes and poor whites while not alienating existing Republican support. Such a program would hold out greater long-run hope of alleviating rebellious conditions than would suppression.

Republicans would presumably not support federal subsidies for radical community action. But a program that stressed local autonomy through neighborhood governments should prove attractive to conservatives. Indeed, Republicans are much less weighed down than are Democrats with commitments to existing welfare and education policies that Negroes find so disagreeable.
BLACK STUDENTS AWARDED IN WHO’S WHO
BY FAYE JACKSON

To the school classes of the future years, I say to you, “Don’t throw school books down for your education is rewarding.” How is this true? Because education rewarded several high school students with a national honorary award recognition in the Annual Edition of WHO’S WHO AMONG AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, 1976-77.

The Who’s Who is the largest publication series in America dedicated to the national recognition of student achievement. It is displayed in over 15,000 colleges, universities, libraries, youth organizations and high schools. Less than 4% of the junior and senior class students are featured in Who’s Who each year. Students honored also benefit from ECI Scholarships, college and employment referral services, personal achievement document, local publicity and “cash for college” programs.

Among the Black students honored were Wilhemenia Harris, Faye Jackson, Herschel Smith and Bobby Stallings.

To these four Clarke Central Seniors, the Award means personal references for the future an honor to look back on and the key to greater goals.

SINGERS ON THE ROAD

The Source of Inspiration, a singing group from Ebenezer West Baptist Church was featured in concert in Birmingham, Ala., on September 25. Under the leadership of Mr. Weaver the group consists of Ms. Linda Fair, Johnnie Hancock, Catherine Hancock, Ethelene Hancock, Johnnie Mathis, Jenny Jones, Barbara Martin, Paulette Scotland and Constance Woodall.

WILKER ASSUMES NEW POSITION AT GEORGIA

W.E. Wilker, a native of Athens and previously Coordinator of the 4-C program has for the past 2½ years served as classification and pay analyst in personnel at the University of Georgia. As of September 1, Wilker moved to the school’s Minority Affairs Program as a Minority Affairs Officer. His new position will provide continued contact with the Federal Government.
(COURTESY STOVALL'S RECORDS)

1. STRAWBERRY LETTER 23 ........................................ Brothers Johnson
2. DO YOU WANNA GET FUNKY WITH ME .................. Peter Brown
3. FLOAT ON ......................................................... Floaters
4. BRICK HOUSE ................................................ Commodores
5. THE GREATEST LOVE OF ALL ............................. George Benson
6. WHEN I THINK ABOUT YOU .................................... Aretha Franklin
7. L.A. SUNSHINE ................................................ War
8. O-H-I-O .......................................................... Ohio Players
9. WORK ON ME .................................................. O'Jays
10. WE NEVER DANCED TO A LOVE SONG .............. Manhattans
11. I BELIEVE YOU ............................................... Dorothy Moore
12. DUSIC ............................................................ Brick
13. BACK IN LOVE AGAIN ...................................... LTD
14. JUST LET ME HOLD YOU FOR A NIGHT .......... David Ruffin
15. KEEP IT COMIN' LOVE ....................................... K.C. & Sunshine Band
16. I FEEL LOVE ................................................... Donna Summers
17. BEST OF MY LOVE ............................................ Emotions
18. BOOGIE NIGHTS ............................................... Heatwave
19. IT'S ECSTASY ................................................. Barry White
        (When You Lay Down Next To Me)
   20. BETCHA NEVER BEEN LOVED ......................... Del's

LP SATISFACTION

1. COMMODORES ............................................... Commodores
2. REJOICE ....................................................... Emotions
3. FLOATERS ...................................................... Floaters
4. IN FULL BLOOM ............................................... Rose Royce
5. SHAKE IT WELL ............................................... Dramatics
6. BARRY WHITE SINGS FOR SOMEONE YOU LOVE .... Barry White
7. SOMETHING TO LOVE ....................................... LTD
8. PATTI LABELLE ................................................ Patti LaBelle
9. TOO HOT TO HANDLE ....................................... Heatwave
10. THE GREATEST ............................................... George Benson

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