

INSPIRATION

The Spirit of Joy and Competition

The morning dawned bright and sunny for the Special Olympics athletes. Chasing away the chill in the air, the sunlight made the weather ideal for a day of competition. The participants and volunteers lined up for the opening procession. After filing onto the field, the games were officially opened by the lighting of the torch and the opening invocation by Father Victor Sidell of St. Anthony Catholic Church.

Volunteers from Walterboro High and Ruffin High did a commendable job of helping the day to run more smoothly for the Civitans, the local sponsors of the Olympics. Student volunteers worked on a one-on-one basis with participants that required more attention. They also came dressed, as did Kim McNeil

and Joan Johnson, as clowns; Katrina Avant painted faces of supervisors and volunteers, as well as participants. Huggers, standing at the finish lines of the various events, lent a personal touch to the competitions.

Kenny Savage, Special Olympics chairman, was pleased with the results. "The beautiful day," began Mr. Savage, "combined with the high spirit of competition, helped the Olympics to be a huge success."

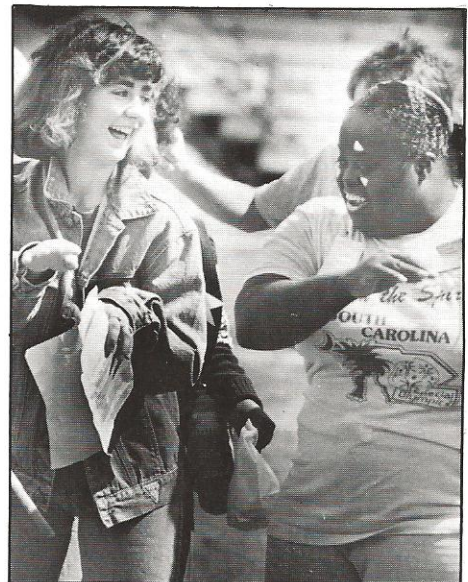
Special Education teacher Cynthia Sarvis was happy because the "kids were happy."

Not only the kids were involved, but adults from the Walterboro centers for the handicapped also had the opportunity to enjoy the Olym-

pics. Excited expressions and glowing faces were abundant as various colorful ribbons were distributed for achievement.

Shawn Brown, a Walterboro High volunteer, found it truly touching when he asked a child participant in which competition had he won his ribbon and received the reply, "I didn't win it. They gave it to me just for running."

A sense of achievement was shared by volunteers as well as participants. The day of games was brought to a close with ice cream being served while some words of parting were spoken by the chairman. Thus ended the day; participants and volunteers alike went to their separate homes with dreams of another year. by Katrina Avant



With her face decorated with hearts, Willimae Pringle shows Jennifer Chipukites the proper way to walk like an Egyptian.

Volunteers Joan Johnson and Grant Rollings take a well deserved rest with a few participants. Joan and Kim McNeil added extra spirit to the day dressed as clowns.