

# FIELD AND HERALD, CONWAY SC JUNE 1980

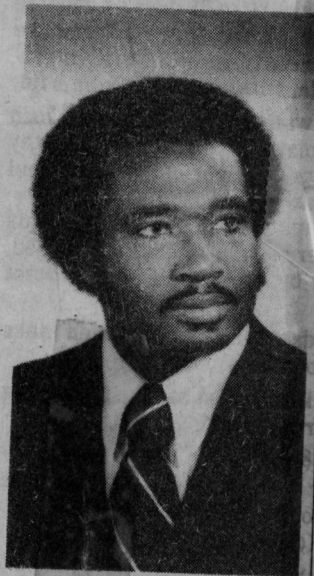
## Wilson Earns Master's

David C. Wilson, son of the late Willie Wilson Sr. and Mrs. Rosa Wilson of the Red Bluff section of Horry County, earned a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Manhattan College, Bronx, New York on May 18, 1980. He earned his baccalaureate degree from The City College of New York in June, 1976. Wilson is a graduate of Chestnut Consolidated High School, which is now North Myrtle Beach High School.

Prior to receiving his baccalaureate degree, Wilson was employed as an electronics technician. After receiving the baccalaureate degree, Wilson has been a practicing engineer and has worked on such projects as the Space Shuttle program, the Trident Missile program and other navigational systems.

He is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Society of American Military Engineers. Wilson has been employed by Sperry Gyroscope Division for the past three years but will assume a new engineering position at the Research Triangle Park in North Carolina.

Wilson is a Viet Nam veteran and is married and has two sons.



WILSON

Field and Herald, Conway, S.C., May 22, 1985

# Horry County People In The News—

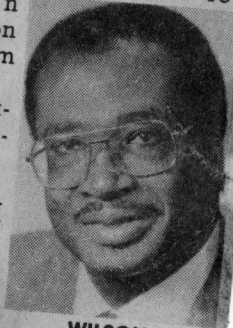
## IBM Award

POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. — David Carson Wilson has received an IBM Division Award from International Business Machines Corporation.

Wilson joined IBM Poughkeepsie as an associate engineer in 1981.

After an assignment as senior associate engineer, Power Quality Engineering, he was promoted to his present position of staff engineer.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engi-



WILSON

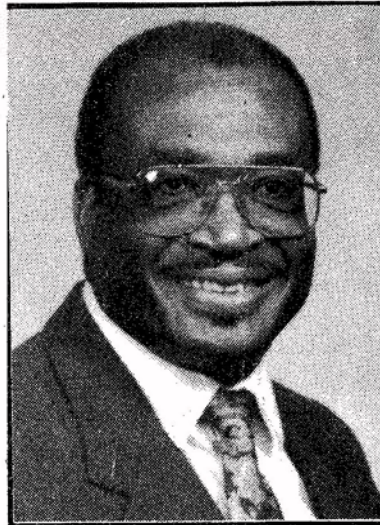
neering from The City College of the City University of New York and a Master of Science degree in electrical engineering from Manhattan College.

Wilson is the son of Mrs. Rosa Wilson, Loris, South Carolina.

He lives in Poughkeepsie with his wife, Beverly, and their two sons.

THE HORRY INDEPENDENT OCT. 17, 1990

12-B The Horry Independent, Conway, S.C., 29526, October 17, 1990



## ***Outstanding Engineer***

David C. Wilson, an Horry County native, recently received an award from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers for successfully organizing engineers for a teach-in during National Engineers Week. He is employed by the IBM Corporation in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

His teach-in reached 1,800 students in 12 schools.

# Wilson Encourages Pursuit of Science

*Editor's Note: David C. Wilson, a native of Horry County, recently spoke to the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Mid-Hudson Section on "Turning Ideas Into Reality."*

*In the following article involving National Engineers' Week, he discusses the celebration, his history and his thoughts that may be of interest to local residents.*

*Wilson is an advisory engineer at IBM Poughkeepsie, N.Y. and is founder of the Poughkeepsie Regional Effort for Minority Introduction to Science and Engineering (PREMISE).*

*He is the son of Mrs. Rosa Wilson of Loris and the late Mr. Willie Wilson, Sr. Excerpts of his speech are printed here.*

The National Society of Professional Engineers (NPSE) first sponsored National Engineers Week in February 1951. Now, Engineers Week is supported by a number of national engineering organizations. The purpose of the week is to bring visibility to the profession.

...Given the problem with pre-college math and science in American high schools, I feel that engineers and scientists have an obligation to

## Editor's Mailbag

become involved in the education process. In my opinion, this will help bring our students up to parity with students from other industrialized nations. To further foster my belief, I seized the opportunity of National Engineers' Week celebration to get engineers and scientists into the classroom.

...People often ask me why I am so driven towards education, even though I have a master's degree in electrical engineering. Two basic answers come to mind, as a youth growing up in Horry County, during the fifties and sixties, teaching was one of two options talked about for a black youth in high school. Secondly, my father was a big influence on me in his encouragement to get an education.

He was of the belief that an education would liberate one from poverty regardless of race, creed or color. My father thoroughly understood the value of a good education, even though he had only a third grade

education.

His thoughtful guidance and insight along with teachers like Mr. and Mrs. Henry, Mr. James Fitts and Mr. W.C. Richardson has stayed with me through the years. My concern about today's youths is a product of yesterday's guidance from these people.

My mother was and still is a very courageous woman who put seven children through high school after my father's death in 1959. I am very happy she has lived to see that some

of her effort has paid off.

...Even though a large portion of my volunteer work is with minority students, my total effort is towards the improvement of all American students. It is my hope that we would focus more on what we, as Americans, have in common and less on what differences we may have. Competition is global and if we are to maintain our economic base, all Americans must be included in the process so we can compete as a nation of one people.





# viewpoint

## Are Four-Year Degrees Being Oversold?

As we listen to parents, teachers and administrators discuss the need for a four-year college degree, one may wonder: Who will repair the automobiles, televisions and VCRs, and manage the workstations in tomorrow's high-tech manufacturing plants? The list of technical skills needed is extensive.

I overheard a person with a doctorate tell youths that the only way that one can make it in tomorrow's world is to have a minimum of a master's degree.

This kind of misinformation gives me the jitters.

Of course, we need a much better educated workforce because of stiff global competition. However, I think many of our professionals are confusing a better educated workforce with a college degree. Nothing could be further from the truth. I

do agree that some form of higher education or apprenticeship training beyond the high school level is a must if America is to stay competitive in a global marketplace. We need to ensure that every high school graduate masters education basics regardless of whether that student plans to go to a four-year college, two-year college, the armed forces or an apprenticeship program. Counselors and teachers in our high schools need to stop ignoring non-college bound students. This group makes up about half of the high

school population. Respect for this group is paramount, and it is necessary for our survival in an ever-increasing global marketplace.

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The spectrum of every field is large enough to encompass a multitude of skills, from manufacturing a product to providing services. As an example, the scientist generally requires a doctoral degree and is concerned with extending knowledge of how and why things occur. The engineer generally requires a master's degree and is concerned with making things happen. This is accomplished by using tools, machines, materials and applied techniques. The technician, or skilled craftsperson, generally requires an associate degree or completion of an apprenticeship program. The technician or craftsperson uses the tools and machinery provided by the engineer to build and test a product.

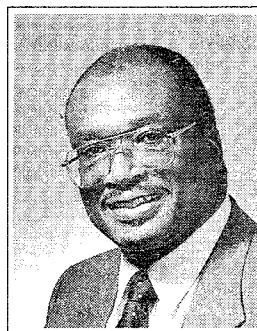
These simplified examples show how various skills interact in the technological spectrum.

The Clinton administration plans to focus much of its education program on what it calls "the forgotten half," the huge population of high school students who do not go to college. I was

thrilled to see this kind of emphasis coming from the very top. The focus on non-college-bound students from the highest level of government increases the chance of a better-skilled and educated workforce. It is my understanding that the Clinton plan tentatively calls for an apprenticeship program during the final two years of high school and extends for two more years into a community or technical college.

There is a possibility that African Americans will be disproportionately channeled into these programs and not be given the chance to aim for a four-year college. The program must be watched closely to ensure that this does not happen. It should also be acknowledged that many African Americans have completed bachelor's degrees but are unemployed or underemployed. These youths were told to work hard, get a college education — and a good job would be waiting for them. Unfortunately, this is not necessarily true. These young people now feel bitter and disappointed.

The intent of this commentary is not to criticize the selling of four-year degrees, but to point out that all of our students are important. Any student can fit into the work spectrum without attending a four-year college as long as the person acquires marketable skills. It is my hope that students planning to enter a community or technical college (or enroll in an apprenticeship program) will be accorded the same respect and encouragement as students who will enroll in a four-year college or university. All will play a vital role in our workforce. ▲



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Adjunct Faculty Member,  
Dutchess Community College  
Poughkeepsie, NY

THE HORRY INDEPENDENT/CONWAY, S.C.

# People in the News

## Wilson Aids Evaluating Team

David C. Wilson, a native of Horry County who is employed by the General Electric Company in Plainville, Conn., recently visited Dekalb Tech-



Wilson

Technical Institute in Clarkston, Ga., as a program evaluator along with an engineering team from academe and private industry for the Technology Accreditation Commission of Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (TAC of ABET).

The purposes of ABET are: 1) Organize and carry out a comprehensive program of accreditation of pertinent curricula leading to degrees, and assist academic institutions in planning their educational programs and; 2) promote the intellectual development of those interested in engineering and engineering-related professions, and provide technical assistance to agencies having engineering-related regulatory authority applicable to accreditation. ABET is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the sole agency responsible for accreditation of educational programs leading to associate and baccalaureate degrees in engineering technology.

Wilson is a graduate of the former Chestnut Consolidated High School, North Myrtle Beach; senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and holds a bachelor's degree from The City College of New York and a master's degree in electrical engineering from Manhattan College. He has taught electronics and statistics part-time at Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Wilson is the son of Rosa Wilson and the late Mr. Willie Wilson, Sr. of Longs.

He lives in Hamden, Conn. with his wife Beverly, and they have two sons.