

She can sing...
 She is pretty...
 She can play the guitar...
 She can compose her own music...
 She even looks the part with her long, straight hair

Carol Davis is the answer to the search for someone to sing a ballad urging the purchase of Pilot Mountain for a state park.

A student at the N. C. School of the Arts, Carol was such a perfect answer she was the only person interviewed for filming a television spot featuring the ballad. Showing of the film will begin later this week on area television stations as part of a fund-raising campaign to buy the mountain and give it to the state for a park.

Carol, 17, will give campaign workers a preview performance tonight at their meeting at Pilot Knob Golf Club at Pilot Mountain.

The recent filming on top of Pilot Mountain required work on three different days because of the weather. Carol got unusual transportation to help her work the filming into her crowded class schedule.

A helicopter landed on the athletic field at the school and flew her the 25 miles, but she had to do her own climbing of the straight-up steps for 275 feet to reach the mountain's cliff-like peak.

Dressed in orange sweater and brown slacks in the film, she sits on the windy peak and sings the ballad of Pilot Mountain:

Down in Carolina there's a big high mountain with a round and rugged peak.

You'll never find another like it no matter where you seek.

Pilot Mountain is her name.

Will 10,000 people give to help preserve her fame?...

The song goes on to tell how Indians and Daniel Boone used it for a landmark and how it was surveyed in 1751 by the father of President Thomas Jefferson. Then the ballad asks for help to buy the mountain and make it a state park.

Tonight's meeting will kick off a campaign to raise \$350,000 from a six-county area to go with \$560,500 in anticipated federal funds. The \$910,500 will buy the 1,066-acre mountain from Mrs. J. W. Beasley, who lives in the nearby town of Pilot Mountain, plus 500 additional acres the state says are needed for adequate state park facilities.

Carol, who is studying classical guitar at the School of the Arts, said yesterday that making the film was "a great opportunity" for her.

She composed the ballad music, working three nights, or actually mornings, about 1 and 2 a.m. Long Haymes & Carr, Inc., public relations firm, wrote the words.

Carol, who enjoys composition, estimates she has written about 25 songs for guitar and voice.

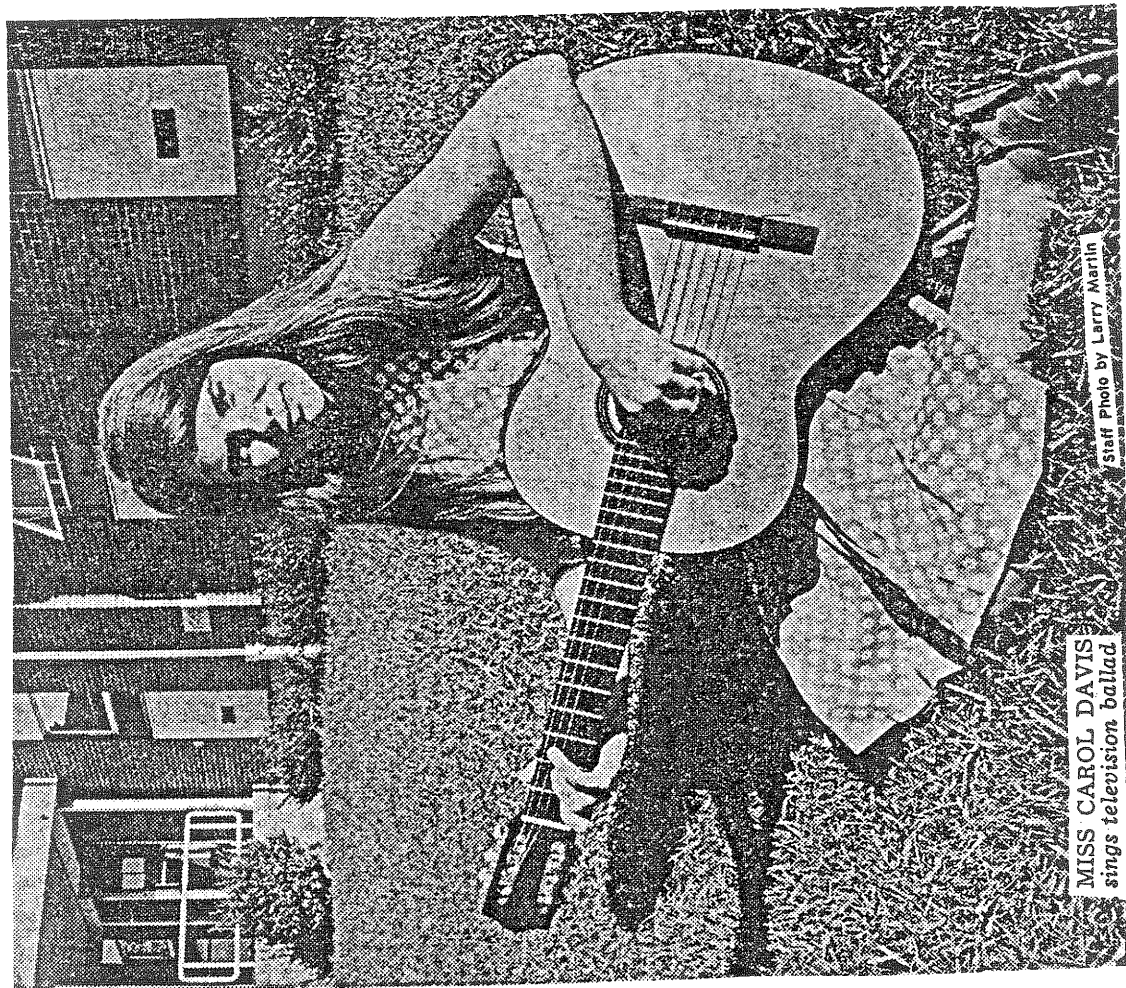
Asked if she had made many public performances, Carol laughed a little and said, "In the fourth grade I had a part in a children's theater production." She has never studied voice.

Carol is the daughter of Mr. Steve Davis, president of Carolina Paper Co., and Mrs. Davis of Charlotte. A high school senior who ranks high academically, Carol has not decided what she wants to do next year.

"I am very much interested in a career," she said, "but I don't know if I want to concentrate on music, which means I would want to stay here, or if I want a stronger academic background."

If she stays with music, it will be with the guitar and composition. If she chooses another field, she said, it probably will be architecture.

Carol sperry



MISS CAROL DAVIS
 sings television ballad

Staff Photo by Larry Martin

By Jeanette Reid
 Staff Reporter

Balladeer Sings for a State Park at Pilot Mountain