

# A teacher's teacher

## Retirement hasn't ended Queen Davis' involvement in education

By **Bobb Hane**

*Staff Writer*

Some things don't change. Queen Davis was, is and will probably always be a teacher.

Although she is no longer employed by the Fairfield County School District, where she was a teacher and administrator for 30 years, she finds opportunities wherever she can to teach and to learn.

"Don't be proud of your ignorance," Davis told her students. She still lives by that philosophy.

Davis, who was born in Ridgeway and is married to Willie Wade Davis, taught English and French for 18 years, primarily on the high school level.

She received an undergraduate degree from Johnson C. Smith

University and earned both a masters in English and a masters in educational administration from Winthrop University. She has attended classes at the University of South Carolina and has 30 hours beyond the masters level.

After leaving the classroom, Davis became Director of Secondary Education in the Fairfield County School District Office. She ended her career after three years as principal of Fairfield Central High School.

Retirement does not mean that she sits at home doing nothing.

In addition to working part-time as an educational consultant, she is chairperson-elect of the South Carolina State Board of Education. Davis will begin

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**Queen Davis**

# Davis

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her term of office in January.

"I try to speak for the teacher," Davis said. "I remember what it is like in the classroom."

She is also involved with the Leadership Academy of Professional Development. In this capacity, she travels to such places as Chester and Great Falls to assist in their development as educational administrators new principals and those seeking to be principals.

Davis is planning to conduct a workshop for parents at her church concerning school accountability

"I think every teacher will tell you, once a teacher always a teacher," Davis said. "I am teaching all the time. Teaching is the most rewarding thing you can do with your life."

Davis passed her love of

teaching on to the next generation. Two of her three children are teachers.

"For me, teaching is probably an extension of motherhood," Davis said.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the occupation for Davis is helping a student grasp an idea.

"And then I love to see them figure it out in their own head the next time," she said. "You forget the bad sides. Students will sometimes come back years later and tell you, 'You really helped me.'"

Seeing former students as successful, contributing and happy members of their communities strengthens her commitment to continued involvement in education.

"There is still a lot to do," Davis said. "I feel very committed to