

FEBRUARY 6, 1979

NSF First Minority Institutions Curriculum Exchange Conference

By JAN PARKMAN

The first national MICEC conference was held January 19-21, 1979 in Washington, D.C. The conference was sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Indian, Puerto Rican and Mexican students were present at the conference.

Dr. Robert Harvey, President of Talledega College, was keynote speaker. He stressed in his speech the importance to support black colleges. He also stated "Minority institutions are those with a majority of minority students and a substantial minority faculty and administration. The maintenance of minority status depends upon the ability to stick together. It is our unique mission to serve minority students. Though only 43 percent of black college students attend minority institutions, 69 percent of all black college graduates come from black colleges. Black students at white schools have a 37 percent dropout rate. Minority institutions produce more black graduates in pure sciences than do white institutions . . ."

Jackson State, Bennett College, and Atlanta University are among the leading black colleges using computers for the teaching of science and social science. JSU, is the largest educational computer network in Mississippi.

Several federal agencies presented overviews of their research and grant programs. A presidential memo ordered all agencies to increase fundings and contract opportunities for traditionally black institutions.

TSU's, Dr. Helen Barrett presented an informative paper concerning TSU's use of MISIP grant to purchase and construct equipment for teaching in the Biology Department. Dr. Frederick Smith also attended the conference.

Any fact!!y member interested in applications, synopsis, address list, etc., contact Dr. Bobby L. Lovett in the Graduate Building, Room 101.

NAACP Hosts Freedom Banquet

The Nashville Branch NAACP is hosting its 8th Annual Freedom Fund Banquet February 9, at 7:30 in the Student Union, Centennial Room. This year the banquet speaker is Joseph Madison, Director of NAACP Voter Education.

The price of this year's ticket is \$15.00. A table may be purchased for \$120.00 which seats eight people.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please call Dr. Charles Kimbrough 226-3397., Rhea Tarleton 244-0894 or Harold J. Smith 327-6271.

"The Truck" is Traded

When the Phoenix Suns pulled off a trade in mid-January for the New Orleans Saints's 6'7", 225 pound NBA's leading rebounding champion, Leonard "Truck" Robinson, the whole league took notice.

The Suns swapped two reserves, Guard Ron Lee and rookie Forward Marty Byrne, two first round draft picks and some \$500,000 to get the 27 year old ex-tiger basketball star.

Last year, Robinson, averaging 22.7 points and 15.7 rebounds went on to become the third forward in history to lead the NBA in rebounding.

Also grabbed by the Suns, was Ted "Hound" McClain, another former Tiger and Philadelphia 76'er.

Dr. Arie Halachmi Receives Appointment

Dr. Arie Halachmi, Associate Professor in the Department of Government and Public Affairs at the University has been appointed Regional Correspondent for the Network of Evaluators for Tennessee and the South.

The Network is a professional organization for all individuals actively involved in systematic evaluation efforts. The aims of the network are to improve the understanding of the evaluative process and develop the professional capabilities of evaluators. There are more than 1000 members in the network representing diverse affiliations and fields of interest.

Dr. Halachmi has published several professional papers on policy analysis and policy evaluation. He designed, and was the director of project "K-Steer" that evaluated the practices of drivers licensing in Kansas for the Highway Safety Administration.

Dr. Bobby Lovett, of the University's History department, will speak at the Confederate Historical Institute, April 21, at the Holiday Inn in Montgomery Alabama. His topic is "Confederate Negroes in Tennessee, 1861-62.

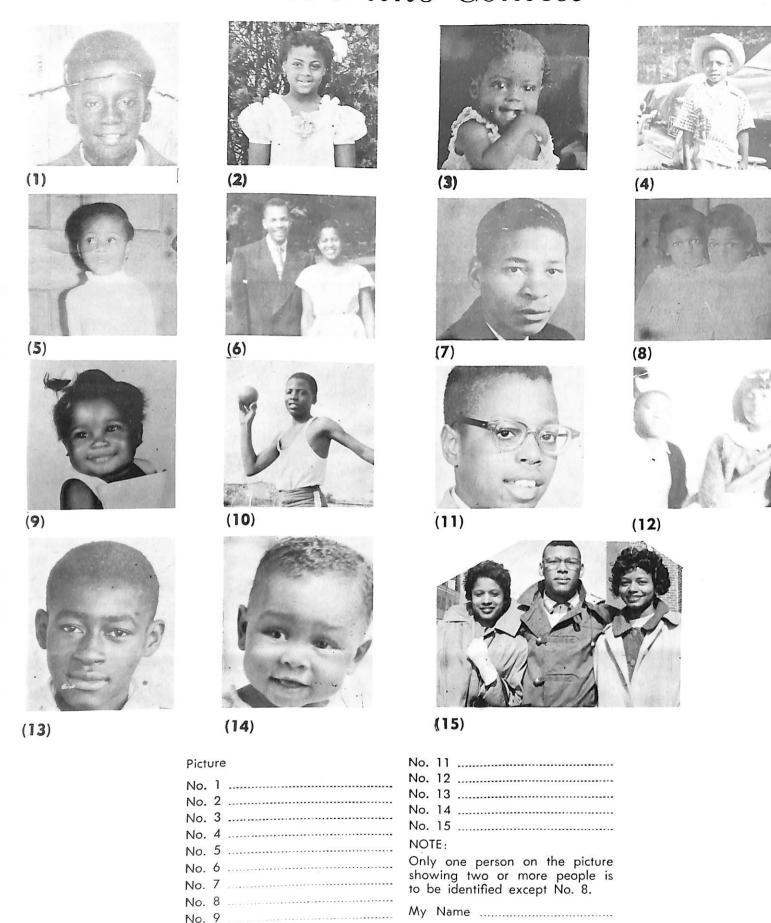
Charles Turner, Health Planning Consultant for the California Rural Health Federation, will be the lecturer at a rap session, February 6, at the Meharry Medical College, Learning Resources Center, Lecture Hall No. 2. Sponsored by the Health Care Administration & Planning department, the session begins at 9:00 a.m.

Six members of the University's Cooperative Agricultural Research Program (CARP) are among those attending this week's, February 4-7 annual meeting of the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists in New Orleans. Those attending include (CARP) Director Dr. Handy Williamson, Jr., and researchers Dr. Sammy Comer, Dr. Constantine Fenderson, and Dr. Neal McAlpin, Sr. Robert Boone, of the University's Extension & Continuing Education Department will chair a session on small farms at the meeting. His assistant, Gloria Griffith, will present a paper.

Don't Let Your House Go Up in Smoke!

The Criminal Justice Department will be selling Honeywell Home Fire Detectors during the week of February 12-16. The detector will be sold for \$14.95 and is guaranteed for a life time by Honeywell. Operating on two Duracell batteries, they may be picked up at the Physics and Mathematics building, Criminal Justice Department,

Who's who Contest



Department

Merger Update

JAMES E. HANEY, Coordinator of Merger

The merger of Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee at Nashville is significant from several points of view. It will represent an increase in size and enrollment at TSU with the addition of more than 5,000 students currently enrolled at UTN. The merger will represent an increased budget for educational experiences from the State of Tennessee and allow for a more comprehensive administrative organization for the delivery of educational services.

While all of these are important developments, one of the most significant aspects of the merger will be to challenge the traditionally black University, faculty, and staff in dealing with the large number of white students who will continue their educational experiences at the expanded TSU after the merger.

This, of course, is not to imply that desegregation has not occurred at TSU. A casual survey of the sister institutions of the SUCCST would indicate that TSU far surpasses all other schools in the system in the percentage of "other race" students enrolled (717 whites out of enrollment of 5,121); white administrators (one V.P., one Academic Dean, and 6 Department Heads, and 33 white faculty members).

Nevertheless, the addition of more than 4,500 white students from UTN could create problems of misunderstanding, apprehension, and general uncertainty among black and white at both institutions. That is why it is important to examine the attitudes of many of these students toward the historical black university. This question has been examined in some detail in a pamphlet released by the Southern Regional Education Board last year, authored by Nancy V. Standley and entitled, "White Students Enrolled in Black Colleges and Universities: Their Attitudes and Perceptions."

The purpose of the study was to ascertain from white students enrolled in black institutions their perceptions of educational and personal experiences at these institutions, to determine their feelings about their impact, and provide data that may be helpful to institutions. Twenty historically black institutions were involved, including Tennessee State University.

The study provided important data in terms of general trends, educational climate, teacher competence, overall satisfaction of educational experiences and extracurricular activities. There are several important implications of the study that are especially important to TSU and the merger process.

Data

There "appears to be a trend toward increased

numbers of lower division students" on black campus, a trend away from high concentration of whites in graduate programs in schools of colleges of education (38 percent classified as graduate students at present and 72 percent listed education as their major.) Black institutions are attracting a larger proportion of full-time white students who are making a serious educational commitment rather than just attending an educational institution on a part-time basis because the class schedules are convenient to their job schedules. Almost 70 percent of the white students felt satisfied with their educational experiences; while 78 percent agreed that they had developed a keener appreciation of different ways of life as a result of being at a black institution.

Finally, the studies pointed out the financial assistance given by black institutions to attract white students, 83 percent were on some type of financial assistance, although many do not qualify for assistance based upon financial need.

Educational Climate

In the classroom there is a strong agreement among respondents that they relate to their black instructors as readily as to their white instructors.

Teacher Competence

White students strongly believe that "competent teaching is occuring at their institutions and ranks high in their perceptions concerning the overall quality of their educational activities." "Over 80 percent perceive that their educational experiences do indicate that most of their teachers are committed to good teaching."

Overall Satisfaction

76.8 percent agree that a degree from a black institution has great value in getting a satisfying "good," job.

What are the implications of this study?

- Black institutions "need to incorporate educational and social experiences which provide nonblack students opportunities to identify not only with the institution but also with other students.
- "Many white students on the black campuses indicate that there is still a need to defend themselves; many who want to identify with the institutions and students still feel rebuffed, excluded, or isolated."
- 3. "... the need to increase white student participation in the institution's governance; this type of involvement can provide educational enrichment for the entire campus."

Tennessee State University

and

The T. E. Poag Players Guild

present

Moliere's

THE IMAGINARY INVALID

A Three Act Farce

Adapted by Miles Malleson

FEBRUARY 12, 13, 1979 8:15 p.m.

University Auditorium

The Student Union Board of Governors

presents

SPRING CONCERT

Featuring

"DEXTER WANSEL"

and

THE PUZZLE PEOPLE & MANDINGO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1979 8:00 p.m.

KEAN HALL