

Continued Need For Black Colleges Says Former Harvard College Dean

Birmingham, Ala. Phasing out the black college, an organized institution which can effectively further black interests would be idiotic, if not suicidal, declares former Harvard College Dean John Usher Monroe.

"Seen from inside the black community, our country, for all its creed of equal opportunity is still, very deeply, a racist and oppressive society," he stated, "and the blacks have pitifully few organizational arrangements for confronting it."

Monro, who left his Harvard post of nine years in 1967 to become director of freshman studies at Miles College, a black college in Birmingham, made a strong case against a New York Times assertion that there is unchecked "an apparently spreading conviction, shared by both believers in integration and segregationists resigned to a new order, that black colleges have lost their chief reason for being and all but the strongest should be allowed to die."

"I would consider it foolish to think of dropping such institutions as the black community possesses on some theory

that the white power structure institutions are going to do the necessary job for Black America. Our history as a society runs to the contrary."

The percentage of blacks attending black colleges has decreased, Monro said. In 1950, 80% were enrolled in black colleges. In 1967-68, this had decreased to 50%, and in 1970, of 450,000 black students in college, about 35% were in predominantly black schools, he stated.

"But if you're concerned not with percentages but numbers of individual people, you see that we had 90,000 students in black colleges 10 years ago, 150,000 last year, and we face a projected 250,000 by 1978. The fact is, we need many more colleges, black and white, not fewer."

"To those who would suggest phasing out the black college as an anachronism, I would say I'm ready to do that when they will also phase out white colleges as an anachronism, and lily-white churches, and white corporations and white communities."

"Black colleges face an internal dilemma over their own

priorities. Harshly put it is, 'do we teach our students to fight the surrounding power structure or to participate in it?'"

"I think we must do both things," Monro said. "We must teach our students how to survive, how to participate and get ahead in the general society and how to position themselves so they can manipulate the levels of power on behalf of the black community. As I see it, this is no more than General Motors does every day on behalf of its stockholders, or the United Auto Workers for its members."

"We now have great university centers teaching labor union officials how to negotiate effectively. Why is it we get so uptight about this old-fashioned American idea just when the black community starts putting it to work?"

Although the black schools need money, like all colleges, they also need great manpower. "Something like one-seventh to one-tenth of the professors in our great universities go on sabbatical leave every year. If only a fraction of them would lend their

talent for a year or two, it would help us enormously and the cost would be manageable. We must change very rapidly our old patterns of training our young people as teachers and preachers, and prepare them for all professions. We need teachers of sociology, psychology, business, economics, and truly Afro-American studies."

"We need a special breed of teachers who are as much interested in teaching students as

in teaching a subject. Its the next five years which will count the most, time for us to get our strongest undergraduates through graduate study and back.

"What's in it for the white university? A chance for its professors to work directly on problems of enormous consequences to our society, to live in a black community with black colleagues and students, and find out for themselves what America is really all about."

-Spearman Speaks-

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dates from a number of foreign countries. He will be paid \$106 a week, while in the program.

Ken Baldwin, personnel manager of the company, was impressed with McPherson's writing ability after having received samples, and called the Voice a "well laid out paper."

The internship was arranged with the help of Voice adviser

Douglas McAdoo. McPherson who plans to make journalism a career says, "I feel I will gain quite a bit of experience this summer, and I'm really looking forward to it." While in service he spent six months working on the Sars & Stripes European Edition and works weekends now at the Fayetteville Observer. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McPherson, Fayetteville.

Broncos Reminisce

By TERECIA MELVIN

The 1971-72 school year has been one of change and excitement at Fayetteville State, with quite a few improvements made. The "Best Little Band in the Land" was doing its thing, the basketball team made it to the CIAA Tournament for the first time in 14 years, the football team had its first winning record in 15, and the Rudolph Jones Student Center was finally completed, just to name a few.

Student reaction varied. Janet Lynch of Enfield, her roommate Eva Carpenter of Raeford, both freshmen, and Wayne Gainey, a sophomore from Four Oaks, all feel that the Student Center has made the biggest difference.

Janet and Eva "enjoy" the unlimited cuts policy, while Wayne says "we still have a few interesting instructors" here, citing Mr. Nathaniel as being one of them.

A senior, Jerry Covington of Birmingham, Ala., thinks that the biggest improvement has been in the records of the athletic teams. But he had some unkind thoughts about the athletic committee. He feels that the baseball team would have won the CIAA championship if the boys doing practice teaching had been able to make the road trips. "We lost three straight games on the Northern trip, he said. "And that kept us from winning." He also feels that some black teachers show favoritism towards veterans and white students, a view showed by several others.

Another senior, Benjamin Chaplin, feels that the biggest improvement is that the student body is getting more academically minded. "There is much more studying going on, and the students are more aware," he said. Duane Shepherd, a freshman

from Washington, D.C., says the biggest improvement is the cleaning up of the dope problem. "There aren't any real junkies on this campus, he said. "And if there are, they aren't able to support themselves any longer." He would also like to see the Union stay open longer, and thinks the food prices are too high in the dining hall for the "quality and quantity of food we get."

"People are using the tracks quite often now," Calvin Pope, a junior physical education major from Fayetteville said. "That means that there is a cut down on the use of dope, and an increase in wine drinking."

Brenda Truitt, a sophomore English major, compliments The Voice by saying FSU's newspaper has made the biggest improvement. She is delighted that more issues have been published this year than last.

Cheryl Eaglin, a junior physical education major, speaks for many when she says the Student Union is the biggest improvement and the most appreciated.

Unlike the majority of the students, however, Linda Taylor, a junior English major doesn't care for the Student Center. She doesn't know what she expected, but says, "the Student Union isn't it."

Another who thinks in a similar vein is Sandra Saunders, a freshman from Elizabeth City. She says, "everything seems the same. Nothing is exceptionally good, but nothing is exceptionally bad either. Changes and improvements have been gradual, therefore, not noticeable."

Richard Brown, a Wilmington senior, feels that his life improved because "I now know what a real woman is." He dislikes the tendency of some people to be phony, and the problem of communications between students.



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