



The Broncos' Voice



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** FSU Celebrates Black History Month **

Air Force ROTC leaves FSU

The Air Force has decided to remove AFOTC from the curriculum at FSU. The decision comes as part of a move to cut the officer corps of the Air Force. Even though the detachment is not accepting new cadets, those cadets currently enrolled in the POC program will be commissioned. The last class will be in May of 1989.

In a move to produce a budget that will help reduce the national debt, the Department of Defense was instructed by Congress, through the Secretary of Defense, Frank Carlucci, to reduce the officer corps of both the Army and the Air Force. The individual armed services were given leeway as to the method of force reduction. The Air Force chose to limit the avenues of entry into the officer corps. Air Force ROTC happens to be the largest avenue available. The Air Force then decided to close 30 ROTC detachments across the nation.

The UNC system was particularly affected by the closing of the detachments. East Carolina, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Charlotte and Fayetteville State lost their detachments, while NC State and NC A&T State will remain open. The detachment at Duke, a private university, will also remain open.

The Air Force ROTC program is divided into two parts. During the

freshman and sophomore years, a cadet is enrolled in the GMC (General Military Course) program. Then the cadet will attend field training prior to entering the POC (Professional Officer Course) program during his junior and senior year. Once a cadet enters the POC, he is on contract and, upon graduation from college, he is basically guaranteed a job in the Air Force as an officer.

Those cadets currently on contract at FSU will be allowed to finish the program. The last cadets from FSU will be commissioned in May of 1989. The ROTC program at FSU is no longer accepting new cadets. In fact, those cadets currently enrolled in the GMC are being encouraged to transfer to other schools which still have an Air Force ROTC program.

Air Force ROTC came to FSU in 1972. The closure of detachment 607 will also affect those cadets at Pembroke State University. Since the program at PSU is a satellite of the program at FSU, Pembroke will also be losing its ROTC program.

Those students still interested in using ROTC as an avenue for entry into the officer corps of the Air Force should contact the AFOTC Cadre, located in the Women's Gym, to find out exactly which schools still have an Air Force ROTC program.



Lt. Col. Howland and ROTC Cadets being enlisted.

Progress of Black History

By Judy Allen

For nearly ten to fifteen years only a few Americans thought in terms of a separate history for Black Americans. The importance of Black American contributions to our nation has become a great concern to the American people. Black American history has become a serious matter that concerns the teachers and students of all races. Black Americans are demanding their place in our history which all of us must understand. No society can suppress history indefinitely because historical figures like Martin Luther King, Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver are all recognized by the American people as contributors to our history.

February is the month we pay tribute to our black historical figures. It is dedicated in the hopes that all races will acquire knowledge of the black people's contributions to our country. The course of American history has been greatly affected by Black American contributions to American people. The purpose of declaring February as Black History Month was to give consideration and to show the process by which the Black Americans have sought to cast their ideas on a growing American civilization.

Hackley and others examine plight of Black colleges and universities

Dr. Lloyd V. Hackley, Chancellor of Fayetteville State University and former Vice President for Student Development and Special Programs at the University of North Carolina General Administration, served with a distinguished group of panelists on Friday, January 15, 1988, at a "Black Issues Forum" produced by the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television. The forum was videotaped at 7:30 p.m. on the campus of Elizabeth City State University before a live interactive audience.

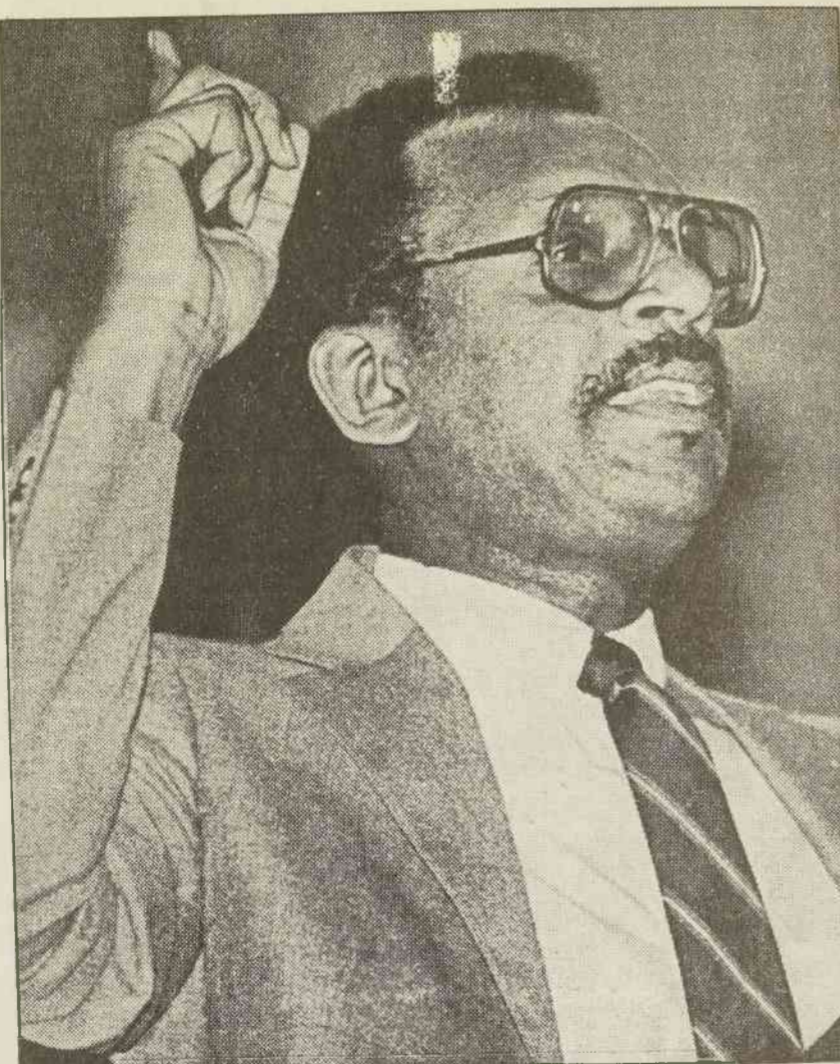
The forum, titled *The Role of Black Colleges and Universities Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*,

is the third in a series of Black Issues Forums produced by the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television. Forums one and two addressed the black youth and the strategy for economic development respectively. This forum addressed the origin of black schools and their contribution to society and what difficulties they must overcome.

Joining Dr. Hackley on the forum panel were Dr. Edward B. Fort, Chancellor of North Carolina A & T State University; Senator William N. Martin, North Carolina's General Assembly; Dr. Lee Monroe, State Senior Educative Advisor; Dr. Gloria

Scott, President of Bennett College; Dr. Cleon F. Thompson, Jr., Chancellor of Winston-Salem State University; and Dr. Joyce L. Perry, Superintendent, Halifax County Public Schools. Mrs. Valeria L. Lee, vice chairperson of the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television Board of Trustees and program officer of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, Inc., Winston-Salem, North Carolina, served as the moderator.

The one hour special is one of the Black History Month programs to be broadcast in February over the 10 channels of statewide public television network. It will air on Friday, February 19, at 9:00 p.m.



Dr. Lloyd V. Hackley, chancellor of FSU, speaks during Black History observance.

Anthropologist debunks remarks by 'Jimmy the Greek' Snyder

Debunking Jimmy "The Greek" Snyder's recent public remarks that blacks were bred to be superior athletes, a Howard University physical anthropologist says. "There is no evidence of an Afro-American type that has characteristics for superior athletic performance."

Instead, he indicates that black athletes have gained their athletic abilities the old-fashioned way -- by earning it through training.

"Afro-Americans are one of the most genetically diverse people in the world," stresses Dr. Michael L. Blakey, a professor in Howard's department of sociology and anthropology.

He points out in an interview that black Americans have "an African mixture, European mixture and a Native-American mixture, derived ultimately from Asia. We are a distinctly diverse people."

Although Snyder said in a WRC-TV interview in the nation's capital that "the black...practices to be the better athlete," he ran into a storm of controversy over other statements, which caused him to lose his long time job as a CBS Sports commentator.

Blakey takes issue with Snyder's remarks that the black is a better athlete "because of his high thighs that go up into his back," which he said makes black athletes "jump higher and run faster because of their bigger thighs."

Says the anthropologist, who recently became president of the Association of Black Anthropologists, "Some blacks have large thighs. Some don't. Some whites have large thighs. Some don't."

In fact, Blakey notes that Dr. W. Montague Cobb, professor emeritus of anatomy at Howard, had already debunked the anatomical superiority issue of black athletes when track star Jesse Owens won a world record in the 1936 Olympics. "Dr. Cobb settled this matter in the '30s with (his anatomical research on) race and runners."

Although many whites believed Owens won a world record because of his long heel bone, Cobb found that Owens had a shorter heel bone than the average white man.

Cobb also debunked the notion that blacks have a short-bellied calf and a long Achilles tendon. He and a team of scientists compared Owens with Frank Wykoff, a white world-record runner in the '36 Olympics. The short-bellied calf was on Wykoff and the long calf on Owens.

Blakey believes that Snyder's statements in the recent television interview were generally based on "broadly held beliefs and stereotypes" that blacks are more physically aggressive than whites, while whites are more intellectually prone.

This is an argument that has prevailed for more than 100 years with the development of the modern concept of race and biological determination, he emphasizes. "This is definitive of racism."

Before issuing an apology, Snyder got into trouble on still another statement. He commented that blacks are bred to be better athletes because "this goes all the way back to the Civil War when, during the slave trading, the slave owner would breed his big black to his big woman so that he could have a big black kid. That's where it all started."

Says Blakey, "I haven't seen any evidence for the breeding of specific characteristics. (But) there is evidence for breeding large numbers of blacks."

The professor points out that breeding in America became prominent in only a few states in the 1830s. Some five "breeding states," including Virginia and North Carolina, "tried to compensate for the decline of the slave trade and for epidemics of cholera and yellow fever (that killed a number of blacks). The breeding was not for the purpose of physical

characteristics," he emphasizes. The breeding continued up to the emancipation of slaves. "The 35 years of intensive breeding wouldn't be sufficient to create a physically superior being, especially since they were not being bred for characteristics," stresses Blakey.

The anthropologist does agree with Snyder on one score: "Black athletes have trained to achieve the important physical characteristics that they have relative to their sport. It's the training that makes the football player," he maintains.

"Whatever racial differences there are regarding athletics is irrelevant," stresses Blakey.

As an example, he notes that many whites assume that tall, thin black men can play basketball. A thin black man himself, at an above-average height of 6'2", Blakey says, "I am completely inept as a basketball player."

"This reinforces a real misunderstanding about the diversity of Afro-American abilities, and it follows with stereotypes that blacks are more intellectually inferior and physically superior," he laments.

"(The question) of race, therefore, obscures our diversity."



Snyder