

Black Colleges May Get Capacity Building Aid

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There are a few black Americans alive today who cannot testify to the importance of black colleges. The majority of college educated blacks spent their undergraduate days on the campuses of schools like Tuskegee Institute, Howard University, Hampton Institute or Tennessee A&M. None of these institutions are listed among the so-called "Big Ten" or rated with the "Ivy League." Nevertheless, these black colleges and universities comprise one of the most vital and valuable institutional resources in the black community. Yet, despite their durable role and outstanding contributions, the capacity of our educational institutions continues to lag behind that of their white counterparts.

Historically, white colleges and universities have been systematically funded and supported by the state and federal government. Yet, despite the law of the land, our black colleges and universities have been historically and often purposefully underfunded and unsupported by the same state and federal agencies. Black educational institutions rarely have had access to a primary source of financial support routinely doled out by the government to white institutions, and that source is research and development funds.

Research and development funds, along with procurement dollars,

have changed the course of many white educational institutions. A high-level bureaucrat once flatly declared that "MIT would still be a cow college if it hadn't been for research and development funds." Led by HEW, federal agencies annually inject massive amounts of research and development dollars into white institutions. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), for example, is the sixth largest contractor with the Department of Defense. MIT long ago shed the image of a "cow college" and stands today as a bastion of academic excellence and political prestige.

It required massive amounts of money, flowing continuously, to transform MIT; and it is just this kind of continuous capacity building that has been denied so long to black institutions. For some time now we have been talking about capacity building in the minority private sector. Last June, during our annual Washington Briefing, our National Council for Policy Review (NCPRI) met with top Administration officials and called for a more equitable distribution of federal resources to the minority private sector. Of particular concern was the evident disparity in the level of resources being channeled to our black colleges and universities. Of the billions of dollars flowing from the federal government to educational institutions, only a tiny fraction reaches our black school.

Since our public outcry, the Ad-

ministration now indicates that it will deliver a much needed impetus to our movement to strengthen and expand black colleges. Recently the President issued a memorandum suggesting that all federal agencies take affirmative action to increase the share of federal procurement and research and development dollars going to black colleges and universities. But, while this memorandum goes beyond the traditional HEW Title III funding source, an equitable allocation of federal resources will require a much stronger directive.

Stronger measures are required if we are to change the operation of an economic system that denies full minority participation on the one hand, while collecting the hard earned taxpaying dollars from blacks with the other. An equitable share of federal resources must begin to flow back to the minority private sector, particularly the black educational institutions. The proposed budget for fiscal 1980 calls for the expenditure of more than \$90 billion by the federal government for procurement activities and research and development projects. Access to this vast pool of federal resources would allow our black colleges to expand their facilities, compete for top flight faculties, and produce a more competitive graduate. Such access would mean more than a few short-term, stop-gap contracts; rather it would mean the continuous flow of capacity building funds, in the form of procurement activities or

research and development dollars.

These capacity building funds would serve to strengthen and expand some of the most vital and unique institutions in the black community. Moreover, with an

equitable share of research and development dollars, our black colleges and universities can get down to the business of education in a more competitive manner.



Howard Honors Woolworth Executive

WASHINGTON — Aubrey C. Lewis, vice president for administrative services of the F.W. Woolworth Co., has been honored by Howard University for assistance to student athletes and future business leaders.

During Howard's annual "All Sports Banquet" here Tuesday (April 24) evening, Lewis received a plaque described as "an achievement award for outstanding contributions to athletes and other students at Howard."

In presenting the plaque, Sondra Norrell-Thomas, associate director of athletics, said Lewis has been especially helpful in broadening athletic opportunities for Howard students.

She emphasized his contributions since being ap-

pointed a commissioner of the New Jersey Sports Authority. Lewis not only arranged for Howard athletic teams to play at Meadowlands, the New Jersey stadium used by collegiate and professional football and soccer teams, but also worked out a program under which Howard students receive orientation training with major business firms.

Lewis also was the evening's principal speaker. In her introduction Ms. Norrell-Thomas cited such Lewis achievements as being the first black to receive full training and status as an FBI agent, a member of both track and football All-American teams while a student at Notre Dame and a player for the Chicago Bears professional football team.

Lewis congratulated the gathering of students and faculty on the excellence of Howard's athletic training and academic distinction.

"In my home town of Montclair, N.J.," Lewis said, "many of the doctors, lawyers and other professionals were educated at Howard."

He urged the students to emphasize planning in their college and career

development by keeping a year-by-year personal record book.

Illustrating his inspirational message with parables and moral examples, Lewis warned against a "thirst for power" but challenged the audience of student athletes to keep their standards high.

"Don't be afraid to set lofty goals for yourself and stick to them," he concluded.

MINI-DAY CAMP

A mini day camp for girls age 6-14 will be sponsored by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Chapter Las Amigas, Inc. On Saturdays, May 5, 12, and 19, at the Amay James Human Resource Center, 2415 Lester Street, Charlotte.

Las Amigas' mini day camp seeks to enrich the cultural environment of its participants, develop wholesome outlook toward gracious living, and to help young ladies develop a healthy attitude toward educational attainment.

Thomas Appointed V.P. of Allstate

The appointment of Isaac D. Thomas Jr. as assistant vice-president has been announced by Archie R. Boe, Chairman of the Allstate Group of Companies, a wholly owned subsidiary of Sears, Roebuck and Company.

Thomas joined Allstate as a claims adjuster in August of 1964 in the Pasadena, Calif. region. Since that time he served as claims supervisor, personnel assistant and division manager, and manager of corporate human resources.

Thomas had been director of urban affairs in corporate relations "where he performed with distinction in this role, firmly establishing Allstate as a national leader in countless inner-city projects," Boe said.

His new assignments will cover personnel administration, employee relations, manpower development and equal employment opportunity. He will also serve on the chairman's affirmative action committee.

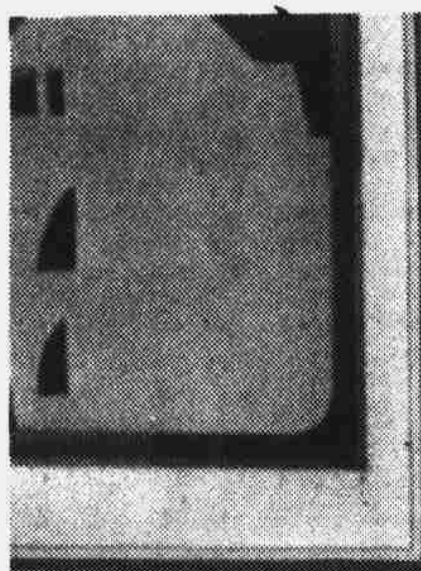
Thomas is a native of Ecorse, Mich., where he attended public schools and is a graduate in sociology from Wayne State University. He is a recent nominee for "Who's Who in America" and holds memberships in a series of national and Chicago based organizations, including: The National Urban Affairs Council, The National Urban League, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry. He is a member of the board of directors of Dusable Museum of African American History and the Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce.

He and his wife, Mary, are residents of Buffalo, Ill. They have two sons, Peter and Daniel.

C. Eric Lincoln At FMC Finals

Dr. Robinson, President of the historic Florida Memorial College announced that the noted author and lecturer, C. Eric Lincoln will be Baccalaureate speaker. The services will be held Sunday May 6, at 10:00 a.m. in the College Gymnasium.

Dr. Lincoln is professor of religion at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.



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