

D.C. Demonstration Not Affected by Travel Cuts

With sudden changes in normal patterns of mass transportation as a result of the air controllers' strike, demonstrators preparing to march on Solidarity Day in Washington, D.C. September 19 are finding alternative means of travel, Benjamin L. Hooks, executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) announced.

The massive demonstration on September 19, attracting members of the sponsoring organizations, the NAACP, the AFL-CIO, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the National League, Operation PUSH, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and other concerned Americans opposed to the Reagan Administration's budget cuts, will represent a cross section of the voting population,

Hooks said. Buses donated by church groups in St. Louis, Missouri; Dayton, Ohio; Durham, North Carolina and many other areas will be transporting march participants throughout Middle America, the South and the Northeast.

In some areas, such as New York, where there are few chartered buses available, other strategies are being developed, Hooks said. Reserving extra cars on commercial train lines and instituting automobile caravans — a throwback to the days when the price of gasoline allowed citizens to enjoy highway travelling — are some of the more viable options under consideration.

"As one of our regional directors so appropriately described the transportation dilemma, 'It doesn't matter how you get there, even if it's a horse and wagon'."

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St. Aug.'s Deltas Win Award For Excellence

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., presented the Minerva Award for Excellence to the Gamma Rho Chapter of St. Augustine's College. From left, Sorors Thelma Ross, Mable Matthews, assistant professor of business, Pamela Twitty, and Darlene Wright, students. Gamma Rho Chapter was presented this award at the 36th National Convention held in Washington, D.C., recently for its outstanding academic and community service record.

Hooks wryly observed. "This attitude reflects the spirit and dedication of our volunteers, many of whom participated in the historic March On

Washington in 1963 and understand the important role of direct action in preserving our tottering civil rights gains."

Ten NCCU Students Admitted To Law School

Ten students who participated in North Carolina Central University's Pre-Law Program, conducted by the Department of Political Science, were admitted to law schools for the 1981-82 academic year.

Dr. J.R. Aicher, Jr., director of the Pre-Law Program, said the list included seven students admitted to the North Carolina Central University School of Law. They were Christopher Watkins, Claude Cole, Ms. Deidre Whitted, Ms. Barbara Newton, Ms. Phillis Plummer, Ms. Alice Jones, and Eric Tillman.

Ms. Deidre Whitted was accepted by two law schools: The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Emory University.

Ms. Brenda Page was accepted by both Wake Forest University and American University.

Duff Tinnen was accepted at the Tulsa University School of Law.

Financial awards made to the students for

ment projects that represent a new thrust at the end of the first ten years.

Rev. Sullivan said "This Ghana OIC is one of the most exciting in Africa because it has now developed the structure to train the first female plumbers, bricklayers and automobile repair technicians. I am so proud of the work of your Board Members and the Chairman, Mr. John Moses, as well as the Director. We have crossed the river, now the ocean lies ahead. There is so much more that must be done."

After reviewing the program in Ghana, Rev. Sullivan charged his International OIC Director, Gary Robinson, with the task of making the next ten years in Ghana "history-making" vocational training and agricultural economic development in Kumasi — Takoradi and Kpan-

du.

their law school totaled \$23,000. Ms. Deidre Whitted, Ms. Brenda Page, and Duff Tinnen each received scholarship awards from at least one school, Dr. Aicher reported.

Boston NAACP Victorious

The Boston Branch of the NAACP scored a major victory in joining with black and Hispanic police and firefighters against a major round of scheduled layoffs.

Judge Andrew A. Caffrey ruled in two separate cases that the percentage of minority police officers must be maintained at its current level of 11.7% and the fire department minority firefighters must constitute at least 14.7%. These figures reflect the percentages of minorities that existed July 6 when Mayor Kevin H. White instituted a new series of cutbacks in both departments. The city claimed the action was prompted by a loss in revenues resulting from the tax cutting referendum, Proposition 2½.

NAACP General Counsel Thomas L. Atkins, said he was extremely pleased with the judge's decision, citing the court's commitment to uphold the principles of affirmative action in the midst of disturbing signals from the U.S. government as "highly encouraging." He further commented that "on other occasions in the past when neither the legislative nor executive branch of government were writing to protect the rights of minorities, we went to the federal courts. Once again, the federal courts have shown their ability to withstand the shifting tides of mob opinion."

Judge Caffrey also ordered the city to maintain separate seniority lists for whites and non-whites to guide any further cutbacks in the work force. He further explained in his written opinion that layoffs in the police department would have reduced minority representation by nearly one-half to 6.2% from its existing level of 11.7%. The court's action means that some 83 minority police officers will not be laid off this month. Similar reductions in the fire department would have resulted in a substantial decrease to 9.1% from the existing level of 14.7%.



WILLIAMS
Williams Heads First Army

In a colorful ceremony at Fort Meade, Md., last month, Major General Harvey D. Williams of Durham assumed temporary command of the First Army.

The First Army commands Army Reserve units in a 20-state region east of the Mississippi, including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. It also supervises and evaluates the training of the Army National Guard in the same area.

The First Army's primary mission is to ensure that the Army Reserve forces are ready and able to fight when and where they are needed.

Major Williams is the son of Mrs. Addie H. Williams of 1603 Fayetteville Street, and the late Matthew D. Williams. He is married to the former Miss Mary E. Glenn.

Sears Bought From 441 N.C. Suppliers

Sears, Roebuck and Co., the retailer, bought \$943,091,000 of merchandise from 441 suppliers in North Carolina last year, according to statistics released. The retailer purchased 92% of its goods from domestic suppliers last year, according to F.R. Haselton, general manager of the Sears stores in the Greensboro Group.

"This contribution to North Carolina's economy demonstrates our traditional commitment to buying from sources located where Sears does business," Haselton said. "It's a practice that's good for everyone — not only Sears and the local community, but the nation as a whole."

Haselton said the company's 11,300 domestic suppliers range in size from small firms to ma-

job corporations and employ hundreds of thousands of people to produce the merchandise sold by Sears.

"For residents of North Carolina," he said, "this means more payroll dollars, more purchasing power and more tax dollars to support community services."

In North Carolina last year, Sears maintained 119 retail stores and other sales and service facilities.

Sears paid \$21,943,000 in state and local taxes and other sales and service facilities.

The company employed 7,295 in the state last year, part of the retailer's nationwide workforce of 328,000, Haselton said. Other Sears businesses employ an additional 62,000 people in the U.S. and abroad.

He said North

Carolina was home to 11,127 Sears shareholders in 1980, who owned 3,605,526 shares of the company's stock. That includes the 6,097 Sears employees who are members of the company's profit sharing fund and own 2,075,589 shares of Sears stock. The profit sharing fund is the company's largest single shareholder, owning 22.5% of all Sears shares.

Haselton also said: "Sears sells goods through more than 3,600 units in 50 states. Of those units, 854 are retail stores, the rest catalog sales outlets."

Domestic merchandising sales totaled nearly \$17 billion during 1980, 52.1% of those sales on credit. Sears has 25 million active accounts.

More than 20% of Sears merchandise sales come from its catalog

operations, including sales at the catalog desks of all Sears stores. Some 300 million catalogs are printed each year, including two general catalogs in the spring and fall with circulation of 15 million each; the Christmas catalog ("Wishbook"); winter and summer seasonal sales catalogs; plus 17 catalogs for specific product lines and 14 sales tabloids. About one-third of all U.S. households have current Sears catalogs.

Sears total revenues for 1980 were \$25.2 billion, including \$18.7 billion from merchandising, credit and international operation, \$6.2 billion from its Allstate insurance and financial service business, and \$420 million from its Seraco real estate and financial services businesses.

Rev. Sullivan Honored For OIC Contributions In Africa

Rev. Leon Sullivan, chairman and founder of Opportunities Industrialization Centers — International, was given a hero's welcome and Presidential Commendation in Accra, Ghana by President Hilla Limann.

The occasion was the Tenth Anniversary of the OIC's in Ghana.

The President announced the plan to have the government underwrite up to forty per cent of the Ghana OIC Budget. Rev. Sullivan announced the expansion of the program to include agricultural economic development patterned after the successful projects which are underway in Gambia and Sierra Leone.

OIC International is currently operating in Gambia, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Lesotho, and Togo. Plans are underway for development in Zimbabwe and Tanzania. Rev. Sullivan says

his goal is to be operating in thirty African nations with the self-help job skills training and job creation project development which many African presidents and heads of state regard as one of the most successful programs on the continent.

Rev. Sullivan met with President Limann and several members of the cabinet to discuss the Ghana Government's desire to improve the conditions for the poor in his country.

His OIC work was praised by government leaders and major tribal chiefs in a genuine outpouring of appreciation, especially for the retraining of former government youth employees to move out of messenger work into skilled occupations.

Chief Adantinihie made a special appeal to the Assembly of all the chiefs of Ghana to support OIC, especially in the rural farm develop-

Sears

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