

NTE TIME

Princeton, N.J.--Students completing teacher preparation programs may take the National Teacher Examinations on any of the three different test dates in 1980-81. Educational Testing Service, the nonprofit, educational organization that administers this testing program, said that the test will be given November 8, 1980, February 21, 1981, and June 20, 1981, at test centers throughout the United States. Registration deadlines are approximately one month prior to the test date.

Results of the National Teacher Examinations are considered by many large school districts as one of several factors in the selection of new teachers and used by several states for the credentialing of teachers or licensing of advanced candidates. Some colleges require all seniors preparing to teach to take the examinations.

On each full day of testing, registrants may take the Common Examinations, which measure their professional preparation and general educational background, and/or an Area Examination that measures their mastery of the subject they expect to teach.

Prospective registrants should contact the University Counseling Services for advice about which examinations to take and when to take them.

The NTE Bulletin of Information contains a list of test centers and general information about the examinations, as well as a registration form. Copies may be obtained from Counseling Services or directly from National Teacher Examinations, Box 911, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey, 08541.

SYSTEM FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Washington, D.C.--Less than three percent of Black-owned businesses take advantage of a special opportunity to supply products and services to the Federal Government, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration. (SBA).

Approximately \$30.4 billion in Federal contracts were awarded to small businesses during the 1979 Fiscal Year, but firms not listed on the SBA's computerized data base known as the Procurement Automated Source System (PASS) are missing out on one way to be eligible for Federal contracts.

The capabilities of small firms that join PASS are registered and made available nationwide by computer to the many Federal procurement officers who consult the listing for prospective small business suppliers.

The SBA administers the PASS system as part of its mission to strengthen small business, and the Agency urges Black-owned businesses to join the system. A new, simplified procedure will soon be used to make it easier for small businesses to sign up.

A. Vernon Weaver, SBA Administrator said, "we are continually refining the system to make it possible companies who want government business to have access to over 300 major purchasing activities of the Federal Government."

Not every small business is a likely supplier to the Federal Government, and a small business joining the PASS system has no guarantee that it will receive a Federal contract or sub-contract. Yet there are many Black-owned firms that would benefit from joining the PASS system, says the SBA.

Currently, only 17,000 small businesses are registered in the PASS system, although the SBA expects that number to rise significantly as more small businesses become aware of PASS and the new, simplified procedure to sign up takes effect. Of the 17,000, approximately one third are owned by Blacks, Hispanics, and other minorities.

For information or to sign up, owners of small businesses are urged to call the nearest SBA District Office, listed under "U.S. Government" in telephone directories.

LEARN TO APPRECIATE ECSU

In the early part of the summer, I took a trip to a particularly small area in North Carolina. It is near Columbia, North Carolina and 60 miles from Washington, North Carolina. This little town is a quiet area where everything looks like it is Two (2) centuries behind time.

While visiting this area, I noticed that the town was equipped with two gas stations, one Health Center, one school, one drug store, one hotel and one restaurant (which was joined with the hotel). If anyone wanted a BIG MAC, they would have to drive to Washington, N.C. to McDonald's to get it. This turns into a 120 mile expedition.

Now the water in this peculiar area is a DIFFERENT story. The water has the color of a human being's URINE and smelled like FISH (since this area is known for its seafood)!!!

The coffee had a film covering the top of the coffee that you just pull off before drinking it. So when you go to this "TOURIST ATTRACTION," drink can sodas, but "DON'T DRINK THE WATER."

Now Elizabeth City has the setting of the late 1950's, early 1960's. It is totally different from the area I visited. Elizabeth City has several gas stations (one Texaco), several schools, several hotels, and a large variety of

restaurants. The water is a little salty, but the coffee is GREAT!!

All of this was said to say that we must learn to appreciate Elizabeth City because there are some places worse than Elizabeth City (like the area I visited).

Elizabeth City State University is small, but compared to the area visited, it seemed like New York to me when I returned.

If any of the new Freshman class came here looking for a big, outlandish campus, you came to the wrong place. Here at Elizabeth City State University, we're considered as "One Big, Happy Family," and that is the way it will stay if we learn to appreciate and accept what is here.

MORE WOMEN THAN MEN ATTEND COLLEGE

Washington, D.C.--Last year--for the first time since World War II--there were more women than men enrolled in the nation's colleges. According to a report issued by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census, of the 11.4 million students attending college, 5.9 million were women. The enrollment reversal was attributed mainly to an increase of women students aged 35 and over. In the more traditional student age bracket--under 35--the sexes were about equal, at about 5 million each. Women students over 35 outnumbered men almost 2 to 1--914,000 compared with 487,000.

There were 57.9 million persons 3 to 34 years old attending all types of school in America at the time of the October 1979 survey, some 762,000 fewer than the year before. The decline reflects the continued decrease in the number of students in the

elementary school and high school age brackets. There was no significant change in total college enrollment.

College enrollment of blacks aged 14 to 34, which doubled between 1969 and 1975, remained nearly steady since, the report notes.

Among persons of Spanish origin in 1979 in the same age bracket, college enrollment was about that same as the year before, but substantially higher in 1972 (the first year this figure was available). The figures for the two years were 440,000 in 1979 and 242,000 in 1972.

Other survey findings shown in the report include the following:

A. Elementary school enrollment declined in 1979, continuing the trend begun in the early 1970's. About 28 million children were attending grades 1 through 8 in 1979 compared with 34 million in 1970.

B. Enrollment of high school age youth also

declined--dropping for the second consecutive year. Total high school enrollment was 15.1 million in 1979, a decline from the high of 15.7 million two years earlier.

C. In October 1979, over one-third (36 percent) of all college students were 25 or older but most of these older students were enrolled part time. Only 16 percent of the full time students were 25 or older.

Data in the report, based on sample surveys, are subject to sampling variability and errors of response, including underreporting. A detailed explanation appears in the text.

Single copies of the report, SCHOOL ENROLLMENT--SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS: OCTOBER 1979 (ADVANCE REPORT), P-20, No. 355, may be obtained for \$1.25 prepaid from the superintendent of Documents, U.S. Department of Commerce District Offices located in major cities in the United States.

MIND-BOGGLER

WHAT INSTRUCTOR FROM ECSU WENT TO THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION?? (answer on page 7)