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OXFORD, Miss.—The Confederate flag waves as cheerleader John Hawkins of the University of Mississippi performs at an Ole Miss football game. Hawkins, Ole Miss' first black cheerleader, refused to carry the Confederate flag during football games. Hawkins had proposed to carry the state flag. Despite strong reactions from Ole Miss alumni (characterized by the university's public relations director as a "major controversy"), a new plan was devised in which one cheerleader will carry the Confederate flag and the rest will carry nothing. Hawkins contended that to blacks the flag represented the days of slavery and was offensive, but he conceded it does not represent this to most white students. (UPI Photo: Chris Womack)

Social Security benefits end for entering frosh

By Marion McKinney

Entering freshmen are no longer eligible for Social Security student benefits due to an initiative of Reagan administration.

Jane Wienke, an officer with the Social Security office in Durham, said that anyone beginning post-secondary education after May 1982 will not receive an extension of his Social Security benefits after age 18.

Students already on Social Security will also notice that their benefits are being phased out.

These students have already had their payments stopped during the summer months and they will see a 25 percent reduction in their benefits this school year.

These reductions are based on what the student received in August 1981. Further reductions will be made in 25 percent increments until

they end completely in 1985.

"The rationale that the (Reagan) administration used in proposing that students be cut from Social Security was to keep the trust fund sound," Mrs. Wienke said.

She explained that the Reagan administration feared that Social Security was facing imminent bankruptcy unless steps were taken to reduce the number of people receiving benefits.

However, she added that the college student cutbacks will not affect high school students over age 18.

In a related action the Reagan administration decreed that parents no longer receive the dependent's benefits for their children over 16. The child will continue to receive benefits due him independently from his parent.

Health Building opens

By James Dockery

The building that administrators at N. C. Central University asked for in 1965 has finally been built.

The Health Sciences Building, which houses the health education department on the first floor and the nursing department on the second floor, opened its doors to students for the first time last week.

Dr. Johna Kelley, chairman of the nursing department, said the new building is a dream come true. She also said the new facilities will help with the recruitment of students and will enhance the image of the program.

Construction of the building was delayed because after the funds were approved by the state legislature, priority for construction of new

facilities was given to East Carolina Medical School, and as a result all other institutions were restricted in new construction.

Also, at that time NCCU wanted to construct two buildings, the new Law School and the Health Sciences Building but decided to go ahead with the Law School and put the other on hold.

The health education department has four regular lecture rooms, two lab areas, four seminar rooms, individual offices, a lounge and a research room for faculty, a student lounge with lockers, a reading room, a dark room and a computer room.

The nursing department has four

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President of National Association of Black Educators Reid calls financial problems crucial issue for black schools

By Edwin Horsley

Dr. George W. Reid, assistant undergraduate dean and president of the National Association of Black Educators (NABE), called the 1982-83 academic year a "crucial period for financial help" for N.C. Central University and the four other predominantly black schools of the UNC university system.

The financial situation needs immediate attention in Reid's opinion. The choices left to blacks are few. "It may come to marching up to the Capitol steps, but if that's what it takes, then we (concerned black citizens) should do so."

Reid is quick to point out that the financial problem will take time to correct unless money (denied to the black schools in previous years by state and federal governments) is given to the schools in large sums. Says Reid, "If you start with the period right after slavery and come up to date, you see that we are talking about millions of dollars that would have to be given to black schools just to catch up! Then (after catching up), the black school will have to be funded equally with the white school annually to keep our level of accomplishment where it should be."

The desire to be at least equal to the larger white schools is justified in Reid's opinion. The charters governing N.C. Central and UNC-Chapel Hill, for example, are exactly alike. But in terms of the education programs offered or the monies allocated to each school for these programs, the schools are far from being alike. Because of this, black students are being cheated, according to Reid.

"The state is not serving as many people as it could," says Reid. "Central does not have doctoral programs; UNC does. If the charters call for the schools to be the same, why aren't they? And at UNC, the blacks who enter the doctoral programs there have a high rate of not completing the program. Central's rate of completion on the Master's level is as high as UNC's. We could do as good a job as they're doing on the doctoral level if we had a doctoral program."

Enhancing Education

Concerned about the problems affecting black colleges and education in general, Reid and several Central instructors established NABE in April of 1982 to "speak on the issues of and to enhance education."

Presently, there are more than 400 members in the association ranging from elementary teachers to university administrators. There are no restrictions for membership and students and parents of students are encouraged to join. "All people who are concerned about black educators and students should unite in the association," says Dr. Reid.

There are several other reasons why Dr. Reid felt compelled to organize NABE. One reason was his concern with the image of black schools. "When I was an undergraduate student at NCCU, there was a sense of pride and unity that started at the administrative level and spread down through our student body and into the community. I don't feel that pride and unity is as strong as it was and needs to be at our black schools," said Reid.

Another concern was the fact that after desegregation, most black administrators at the elementary and secondary levels were either demoted to assistants to white administrators in intergrated school districts or completely phased out.

There are presently only three black school district superintendents in the state of North Carolina; there are 143 school districts. Many districts are 50 percent or above intergrated with black students.

Reid focused on several discrepancies. "How can the state not have more black heads of districts with so many black children in them?" he asked. "We did an excellent job of educating our students when they (the white

Legislators speed up attendance estimates

By Jim Jarvis

Did you miss a day in class last week only to find your name had been deleted from the attendance list? Well if you did, don't think the instructor has a personal vendetta toward you. It's all part of this year's policy to get an accurate estimate of how many full-time students are enrolled at N.C. Central by Sept. 3.

"These estimates have been done many times in years past but this year is different," said Dr. Cecil Patterson, vice-chancellor for Academic Affairs. "The state has a new policy for turning in the enrollment figures by Sept. 3 because the state legislature meets in February to appropriate funds for the 1984-85 budget."

In the past the figures were due at the end of October.

An accurate estimate this year will determine just how much money NCCU will get in the 1984-85 school year.

"Enrollment figures are the most uncontrollable and volatile of all the things the state legislature has to estimate," added Patterson. "With the fluctuation in the economy and the birthrate, and if you add to that the instability of the student aid situation, it will be extremely difficult to get an accurate estimate this year."

Patterson explained that it costs NCCU approximately \$2,500 per semester to educate one full time student, so any miscalculation could cost the school "mega-bucks."

Patterson said the estimate the university did two years ago was within two percent of this year's current enrollment, so he noted that the school has been fortunate since the money allotted from the state is close to current enrollment statistics.

Patterson said he hopes the university does as good a job this year in estimating student enrollments last year although we have much less time to get the estimate in to the state.

Part of the problem of estimating is that some students enroll after Labor Day and there is no way the university can add those students to the estimate as they have done in past years.

populace) did not want us in their schools. Now we can do a better job of educating all students with the resources available."

The high school competency test was another factor in the birth of the NABE. Reid, along with many other blacks, feels that the test is unjust. "The so-called competency test does not measure one's knowledge. It also looks at one's exposure to his environment. It is not an excuse but a fact that many black youths have not had the same kinds or amount of exposure as their white classmates."

Reid sees the NABE as a vehicle for implementing the necessary changes needed to help black schools start progressing towards an educational level equal to that of the larger white schools.

Reid wants the association to have an active role in the selection of chancellors and other administrative positions at black universities. He also feels the NABE is where black students should rally together to voice complaints about the current budget cuts.

"Black students have to stop being so complacent," said Reid. "The student bodies of black schools need to let the lower federal government know that they are tired of having money appropriated for education taken away from them under the pretense of balancing the budget. It's ironic. There are black students who couldn't get money for school at Central this semester while white students are getting money to come here. I'm not against white students getting money to go to a black school, but black students should certainly be able to receive federal money for school here."

New interim policy ends unlimited cuts

By Daryl Goodman

There is a new attendance policy at NCCU this year and the faculty is advising students to attend classes regularly.

The Interim Attendance Reporting System requires that students miss no more than two consecutive weeks or a total of three weeks during the semester. It also requires that each instructor take class attendance every day.

A grading system has been added to enforce attendance. If a student misses more than the allotted days, the instructor will then send an attendance report to the dean who will administratively withdraw the student from the class roll.

The policy also creates three new grades: "NW," "NP," and "NF." Students who are dropped before the evaluation period will be given the grade of "NW." Those dropped during the evaluation period will be given either a "NP" or "NF," depending on their average when they were dropped. There are no grades or hours counted against the students for the "NP" or the "NW," but the "NF" is the equivalent of an "F."

According to George Reid, assistant undergraduate dean, federal obligations required that NCCU report attendance figures by Sept. 7, to the Board of Governors in order to determine the 1983-85 university budget.

"Students who receive financial aid and veteran's benefits would have been especially affected," explained Reid, if the university had not adopted such an attendance policy. "The university had no accurate record of their attendance before this system," and as a result several agencies were threatening to withdraw funding, he said.

The attendance reporting system is an attempt by the university to upgrade attendance records and encourage satisfactory academic progress among its students, Reid added.

Reid noted that the faculty was split over the attendance policy, but because of the federal demands, the Administrative Council decided "we need a reporting system." A student faculty task force led by Reid was established to study the problem.

Although students were not told of the policy change until the beginning of classes, some agreed with most of its intentions. Venice Jackson, a sophomore from Tarboro, said, "I think it is a good policy but a little too extreme," though she agreed some students need some "initiative" to attend classes.

Renee Goodman, a sophomore from Castle Hayne, who also agreed with the policy, said that the policy will enable students to "maintain a level of academic excellence by attending classes regularly."



GDANSK, Poland: Riot police shoot clouds of teargas to disperse thousands of demonstrators who gathered to mark the second anniversary of the Solidarity trade union. (UPI photo by Jeff Widener)