

Homecoming Kilpatrick

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fun with it."

Whereas in past years, Homecoming has been perceived as a "Greek event," this year Tubbs said the whole college is getting involved. "It's not all Greek anymore...we have a lot of diversity now; we've encouraged an all-campus participation and we got that this year."

Along with the Greek organizations, others involved this year are Bacchus, East and North areas, the Black Cultural Society, Alpha Kappa Psi (business fraternity), and S.U.B.

The Homecoming Parade down Haggard Avenue starts at 11:45 a.m. Saturday. The public is welcome to come see the display of floats sponsored by all of the college organizations. The annual Homecoming football game kicks off at 2 p.m. (pregame begins at 1:30) when the Fightin' Christians play the Bulldogs of Gardner-Webb.

Special guests for this weekend are the reunion classes of 1941 and 1966, along with other alumni, students and friends of the college. Special activities will be held for the reunion classes throughout the weekend.

This weekend also marks the opening of *Fiddler on the Roof* Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at the Fine Arts box office from 12:30-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Diversity

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made slavery possible, that has kept apartheid alive in South Africa, and that delivered Jews into the Holocaust. I, for one, would rather the average American did not believe that all blacks act a particular way because they are black!

Similarly, I would rather not toss aside many of the great works of science, philosophy, and literature just because their authors were white. Black collegians can understand and appreciate James Madison, John Milton, and Charles Darwin - just to mention a few examples - as well as any white student. To suggest otherwise is racism in its pristine form.

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Tallahassee, he was part of a successful effort to establish a state program of compensation for victims of crime. Most states now have such programs, but some of them are poorly funded.

Compensation for medical expenses and lost wages is fine, but Smith believed much more should be provided. Slowly the idea developed. In 1982 Jacksonville's City Council commissioned a study of a victim services center. The commission gave the plan a green light.

Over the past four years, bending to court pressure, Jacksonville has built \$100 million worth of new prisons. Last year the City Council voted to commit \$250,000 to the Victim Services Center. The University Medical Center gave a Jacksonville Economic Development Corporation hitched up. By early December the center will open.

When I visited the building a few days ago, carpenters were getting down to the final trim. Director Jerry L. Flakus was out of town, but Smith and coordinator Pat Alexander took me around. To describe it as a "building" leaves a wrong impression, for the center will be housed in what appears to be a house. Located in the city's historic Springfield neighborhood, it is painted a kind of putty color. By the time it is landscaped the house will look as if it grew there.

Ms. Alexander, a sociology graduate who has worked with Travelers Aid, has been working in the city's existing victims program for the past five years. The goal is to have someone on counseling duty around the clock. About 600 to 800 cases a month are anticipated at the outset.

Through a Victim Assistance Services Trust Fund (VAST), the center expects to do many little things that mean a lot. In recent months VAST has provided new locks for a poor woman whose house was broken into. In another instance, a victim of auto theft was unable to pay storage charges on her car after police found it. VAST paid the bill.

A third of the center's cases will involve sexual assault; probably 12 percent will involve wife-beating and other domestic violence. The center will work with abused children and with

victims of drunk driving.

The idea is to give substance to a constitutional amendment that Florida adopted in 1988. The amendment guarantees certain

rights to victims of crime, for example, a right to be present at every crucial stage of a criminal proceeding. Yes, an accused person has rights (and no one is

trying to diminish these), but victims of crimes have rights as well. It's a novel idea whose time has come.



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