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BBL Calls For Economic Self-Help

Dr. Says Pot Not Harmful

by James Smith
Staff Writer

Marijuana has been proven less dangerous to the user than cigarettes or alcohol says Dr. Robert DuPont, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

However, DuPont said in a recent statement that if smoked chronically and heavily, marijuana can cause bronchitis and other respiratory ailments.

However, John Shields, executive director of the Council on Drug Abuse stated that while he expected more persons to try marijuana because of the statement, he added that the use or possession of marijuana was still illegal.

"The use of marijuana is against the law and if persons are caught, they can be prosecuted," he said.

Shields also stated the reason he felt more persons would try to use the drug is that now "they think this is a way or excuse for justifying their use of marijuana."

"While Dr. DuPont said that the drug was not that dangerous, he didn't advocate the use of it," said Shields.

He further reiterated that while marijuana is less dangerous than alcohol from the physical view, it was not from the viewpoint of the law.

He does, however, state that alcohol is still the number one drug in the nation and that out of the nine million known alcoholics in the nation, there were only 300,000 "junkies" (heroin addicts).

DuPont, who has previously avoided making public comparisons among the three most widely used "recreational" drugs, said that while none of the drugs is safe, marijuana lacks the "lethal effects" of either or tobacco.

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Shown presenting the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) Award to R.J. Reynolds Industries, Inc., is Frank L. Stanley (l.), publisher of the Louisville Defender. R.J. Reynolds was recognized for the sponsorship of scholarships for black journalism students. Marshall Bass, corporate manager of personnel development for Reynolds Industries (r.), is accepting the award.

For Journalism Scholarships

R.J.R. Honored By NNPA

R.J. Reynolds Industries, Inc., was recently honored by the National Newspaper Publishers Association at its Mid-Winter Workshop in the Virgin Islands.

The award was given in recognition of the company's outstanding contribution to the communications industry through the sponsorship of journalism scholarships for black students.

Accepting the award for R.J. Reynolds Industries was Marshall Bass, corporate manager of personnel development.

The scholarship program began in 1972, when Reynolds Industries announced it would provide a total of twenty scholarships for black students to study journalism at

accredited institutions. The company said the program had been designed to help increase the number of college-trained black media personnel.

Students selected for the program were chosen by the NNPA Scholarship foundation, working with the

National Scholarship Service and the Fund for Negro Students.

Since the program originated, selected students have attended such institutions as the University of Maryland, University of Nebraska, Stephens College, Michigan State University and the University of Oklahoma.

Rewards Offered in Murders

Governor Jim Holshouser has announced that the State has offered rewards totaling \$12,500 for the solution of four murder cases and a possible kidnapping.

Rewards of \$2,500 each were offered in the following cases:

--The January 7, 1976 murder of Thurmond Edward Royal, 65, and Mrs. Lecie Elender Pruitt Royal, 63, of Wilkes County: Investigation revealed that the victims died as a result of severe blows to the head, crushing the skull.

Fourteen rifles and shotguns were removed from a gun cabinet in the Royals residence and an unknown amount of money was taken from Royal's wallet. The reward will be paid to anyone furnishing information to the Sheriff of Wilkes County or the Director of the State Bureau of Investigation which leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the murders.

--The robbery and murder of Tommy Bowens, 70, the

Blacks Urged Keep Money In Community

by James Smith
Staff Writer

The black community should be receiving the bulk of the money that black people spend, according to Johnny A. Williamson.

Williamson, president of the Black Business League, said last week that it's time to get a system together where the money can be controlled that's spent by black people."

Williamson said that it was time for the black businessmen, pastors of all churches, educators and all concerned people to get together and map out some sort of program which would be conducive to ALL black people.

Williamson stated he feels there is a great need for such a system to be had in Winston-Salem.

"Other cities have such a system, why not one here in Winston-Salem?"

At present, members of the Black Business League are negotiating on the purchase of a 17.5 acre tract of land to erect a "Community Business Center" which eventually would set up 46 different manufacturing businesses.

"Our people have the

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GIVE-A-WAY
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operator of a rural grocery store in the Scuffleton community of Greene County. On January 16, 1976, someone entered the store, struck Bowens on the head several times and robbed him of approximately \$120. Mr. Bowens died the next day as a result of these injuries. The reward will be paid to anyone furnishing information to the Sheriff of Greene County or the Director of the State Bureau of Investigation which leads to the arrest and

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