

Black Medical School Suffering With Meager Enrollment

You may not have heard about the decline in black health care providers, but it exists. The minority percentage of enrollment in medical schools is less this year than last year. Predominantly black medical schools and hospitals are suffering with meager enrollment and doors are starting to close fast.

The Graduate Medical Educational National Advisory Committee (GMENAC) has reported that Americans will have more than enough physicians by 1990 - but this is not true for the minority doctor.

In turn those who actually need medical attention will be least likely to receive it.

As of April 1980, 375,811 doctors were in this country. Of that number only 2 percent (6,516) were black.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) shows that there are 136 doctors to every 100,000 Americans. But this figure is deceptive when it comes to comparing black doctors with black patients. There are only 26 black physicians to every 100,000 black citizens in this country.

Contrary to what many think, most black people are treated by black physicians.

The Association of American Medical Colleges recently reported that new black enrollment in the nation's 126 medical schools has dropped another half point.

Last year there were 6.6 percent black students in medical school, this year only 6.2 percent are black.

According to Frank S. Royal, M.D., the 1981 President of the National Medical Association and author of the article "The Survival of Black Health Care Providers," the large medical schools are going back on their promises.

"...a number of prestigious medical schools set as their national goal to increase minority enrollment to 12 percent as reflective of the nation's total black population. Not only have the nation's large medical schools begun to reduce their commitment to black enrollment, but public and private sources have considerably diminished their funding for graduate



With Teresa Burns
Bits & Pieces
Teresa Burns
Principal of Oaklawn Elementary School was recently elected to a three-year term on the Presbyterian Hospital Foundation Board.

education.
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Black medical schools have provided 75 percent of all practicing black physicians. Two of the leading black medical schools in America, MeHarry Medical College and Howard University, together produced 22 percent of the black doctors and 40 percent of all black dentists who graduated in 1977.

-----Frank S. Foyal
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The Annual CROP Walk for Hunger will be held October 4. It is scheduled for Sunday afternoon and will give families an opportunity to walk together and enable working people to join the ten-mile hike.

What will the walk accomplish? Its two goals involve making people in the U.S. aware of the extent and nature of world hunger and to raise funds to give a helping hand in the name of friendship and God's love.

The next planning meeting is scheduled for August 12 at 4700 Woodland Lane in Charlotte.

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The National Medical Association announced recently the creation of the NMA-MeHarry Fund. This fund, which is a privately financed trust, will ensure the survival of MeHarry Medical College, one of the nation's four historically black medical schools.

MeHarry, located in Nashville, Tenn., is on the verge of closing many facilities because of financial difficulties.

Physicians who would like to make contributions to MeHarry may do so by forwarding a check to the NMA-MeHarry Fund, National Medical Association, 1301 Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 310, Washington, D.C. 20004. For more information call NMA at 202-347-1895.

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Gwendolyn Cunningham, princi-

vealed that there are six differences in mathematical abilities. The report confirms that males excel in numerical reasoning and spatial judgment while females are superior in fluency and rote memory.

The differences in these mental abilities are not due to social, cultural and environmental influences, the report says.

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The United States Department of Agriculture has revealed something that you big eaters might enjoy hearing...or eating.

"Starches are no more fattening than any other food." In fact the report says, "...ounce-for-ounce, foods high in carbohydrates have

less than half the calories of fatty foods. And, because these foods are more "filling" it often takes less to satisfy hunger - and that means fewer calories. That can be a big help in weight-reducing diets."

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Shelton Jenkins has been appointed as acting Executive Director of the EEOC (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission). J. Clay Smith is its acting chairman who is responsible for Ms. Jenkins' appointment.

Her position will be confirmed upon William's Bell's incoming chairman decision.

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