



Dr. Lionel H. Newsom Photo By Calvin Ferguson

Humanities Building Named In Honor Of Dr. L. H. Newsom

Dr. Lionel H. Newsom was the eighth president of Johnson C. Smith University succeeding Dr. Rufus P. Perry in 1968. Dr. Newsom has had a long and distinguished career as an educator and an administrator. He was former president of Barber-Scotia College in Concord, NC, Central State University of Ohio, and Director of Higher Education in the South.

Because of his outstanding record at JCSU, the University Board of Trustees has named the first building of the Center for the Humanities and Performing Arts in his honor.

The Lionel H. Newsom Humanities Building, located between

McCrorey Hall and Brayboy Gym, was dedicated April 10 as hundreds of friends and supporters turned out to enjoy the celebration.

"It's a great honor," says Dr. Newsom. "One I don't really deserve, but I am happy to receive. I hope that this new edifice will serve, with distinction, the purpose for which it was built."

Newsom, a native of Wichita Falls, Texas, is now at Barber-Scotia College as a United Negro College Fund Distinguished Scholar. He and his wife, Jane Emerson Newsom, his family and supporters are, in his words, "enthralled" with the presentation.

Black College Student Enrollment Declines

Washington, DC - Declining levels of black college students as a percentage of black high school graduates represent a "gathering storm brewing in U.S. public higher education," according to "To Secure the Blessings of Liberty," the final report of the Commission on the Role and Future of State Colleges and Universities. To head off that storm, American education must develop a "Marshall Plan" for the future that includes a strong focus on improving quality of and access to education for minorities, according to the report. Former Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell chaired the Commission, which issued its report at the 1986 Annual Meeting of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU).

The Commission found that "the nation's educational pipeline is contracting as the high school dropout rate mounts to over 25 percent, reaching levels as high as 45-50 percent for minorities in disadvantaged urban areas. Despite gains in the early 1970s, at the end of the decade, blacks still lagged behind whites in both attainment and achievement at each stage of education, from the high school through graduate and professional studies. The education reform movements have failed dismally to address the needs of minority youths, in many cases resulting in the uses of 'excellence' and 'quality' as code words for denial of access and opportunity to blacks, Hispanics and other racial minorities."

"State colleges and universities, especially historically black public institutions of learning, have been key elements in providing higher education to America's black and other minority students," said AASCU President Allan Ostar. "These institutions continue to be among the best educational investments that minority students can make in their futures, since state colleges and universities can offer high-quality education at affordable tuition levels."

The Commission report highlights important issues for minorities seeking higher education and urges state colleges and universities to work toward increasing access for black students. Among its recommendations are to strengthen partnerships between colleges and local public school systems,

"State colleges and universities should direct their academic resources and institutional priorities toward working cooperatively with public schools and community colleges to reduce the high school dropout rate by 50 percent over a 10-year period."

The report also stresses the importance of internationalizing the curriculum, improving the quality of higher education and training one million more teachers in the near future.

For details on the report and its implications for Black Americans, contact AASCU, #1 Dupont Circle, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20036; 202-293-7070. Copies of the report are available at \$15.50 (prepaid) from AASCU.

AASCU is the national education association serving 373 state colleges and universities, including historically black public colleges throughout the U.S., Virgin Islands, Guam, and Puerto Rico.

Changes In Driver's Ed

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools is making changes in the way driver education classes are offered for the first time this summer.

Students currently enrolled in the school system who wish to take driver education classes during the summer must also take personal health issues. Driver education/personal health issues classes begin June 19 and last for three weeks.

If there is a sufficient response, classes will be offered at each of the ten high schools.

Young people who do not attend Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools may enroll in a different summer session of driver education classes, not including personal health issues. Those classes begin June 8 at 3 p.m. at East Mecklenburg, Myers Park and South Mecklenburg High Schools.

To be eligible, non-CMS students must be 16-years-old, not be 18-years-old before July 1, 1987, be residents of Mecklenburg County, show proof that they attend private or parochial schools, Central Piedmont Community College (or any other post-secondary school), or no school at all.

Phi Beta Lambda Chapter At Rutledge

The newly formed Rutledge Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, a national business organization, recently installed its charter members at an impressive candlelight ceremony. The local chapter was officially installed into the Phi

Beta Lambda national organization by Lori Dixon, vice president of the Central Region of North Carolina PBL.

The purpose of the PBL is to provide opportunities for junior college and college students to develop competencies for business and office occupations or business teacher educations. Local chapter members are encouraged to participate in activities designed to facilitate career choices, develop business skills, teach the value of community responsibility and

strengthen self-confidence. Participation in PBL helps students to become the business leaders of tomorrow.

The immediate program of work that challenged the new members was to develop projects to raise the necessary funds to attend the North Carolina State Leadership Convention in Raleigh. After careful planning and

with well defined objectives, each member took an active role and the result was SUCCESS. Five charter members and two advisers attended the State Leadership Conference in Raleigh, April 3-5.

Officers for the newly formed chapter are: president, Curtis Whitmire; vice president, Brenda Martin; secretary, Nancy Allen;



Pictured above with the North Carolina PBL regional officer and the College faculty advisers are the charter member of the PBL Rutledge chapter. Left to right, back row, Michael Faulk, treasurer; Lori Dixon, North Carolina central region vice president; Curtis Whitmire, president; Brenda Martin, vice president. Front row, Clariece Caudle, historian/parliamentarian; Dr. Cornelia Hennigan, faculty adviser; Nancy Allen, secretary; Harlee Davis, faculty adviser. Photo By Calvin Ferguson

treasurer, Michael Faulk; historian/parliamentarian, Clariece Caudle; faculty advisors, Harlee Davis and Dr. Cornelia Hennigan.

"Career Day" At Friendship Baptist

Friendship Baptist Church held "Career Day" last Saturday with Lenell Geter as guest speaker for the event.

Gwendolyn Burton, co-chairperson of the program, said over 600 participants attended.

Aside from Geter beginning the program with a speech on the importance of education, job skills and a continuing faith in God, "Career Day" presented before its attendants several representatives from different area companies.

Several companies held interviews on the site including Eastern Airlines, Digital, Duke Power, Xerox, Allstate, Carowinds, Kroger Sav-on, and the City of Charlotte.

Career Awareness seminars were conducted on such career choices as architecture, financial services, computer technology and a variety of other fields.

There was also a Careers in Missions seminar for the exploration of opportunities for careers in overseas missions.

"Career Day" was open to children in grades K-12, young adults, adults and senior citizens. Many of the older par-



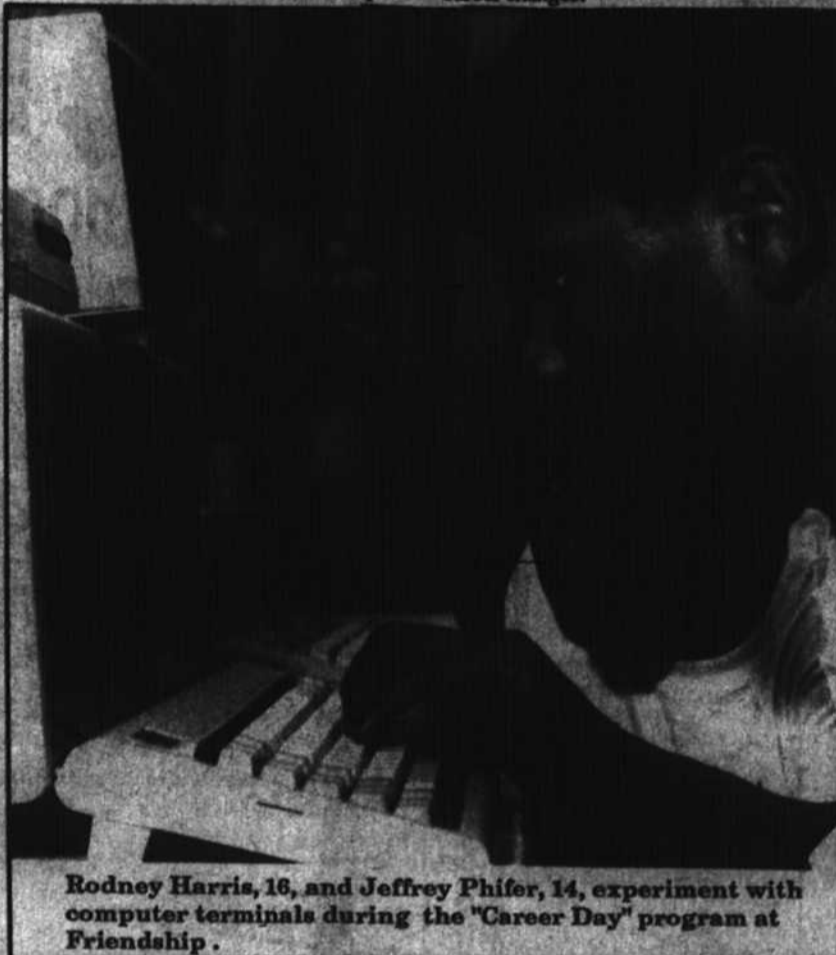
Dorothy Waddy converses with Reginald McAfee, a representative from Xerox.

ticipants were seeking information on career changes.

Burton extends special appreciation to the Charlotte community for its support in this program.

The event heralded the theme: "We

Believe That Children Are Our Future." It was sponsored by Friendship Baptist Church and the Coleman W. Kerry Jr. Scholarship Fund Committee.



Rodney Harris, 16, and Jeffrey Phifer, 14, experiment with computer terminals during the "Career Day" program at Friendship.

Free Lunch Summer Program

Needy children in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County will receive free lunches this summer in a special program sponsored by the Division of Child Nutrition of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. The free lunch program, which serves children in areas with high concentrations of low income families, will begin June 15 and end August 14.

The Summer Lunch Program for Children is designed to fill a nutritional void for children who qualify for free and reduced meal programs during the regular school year. Children who receive free lunches during the school year generally will be served during the summer.

Funds for the program are provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Special Food Service Program for Children. Funds are channeled to CMS through the Division of Child Nutrition of the N.C. Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh.

The local program is coordinated jointly by the City and County recreation departments, churches, the Housing Authority, YWCA and other interested civic groups.

There will be no discrimination against any child because of race, age, color, national origin, sex or handicap at any designated summer feeding site.

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