

Today's Black College Mission

The American Council on Education, the presidents of the 3,200 White colleges and universities, said that the decline in Black students on their campuses amounts to a "crisis."

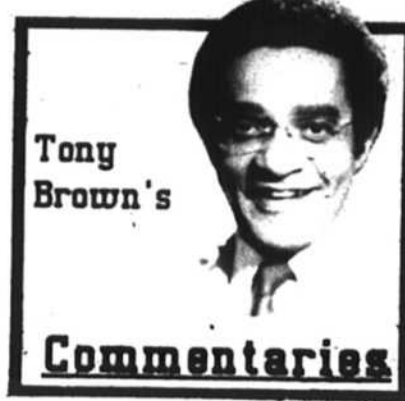
As a result, these White leaders of higher education have announced a plan to put more Blacks on White campuses, to make life better for those already there and to graduate more than 3 out of every 10.

A combination of higher costs for education, a scarcity of scholarship money, a crumbling inner-city public school system and an increasingly hostile White population on and off college campuses has led to this so-called crisis.

A prime motivation for the new concern about Black-student welfare is the possible elimination of federal funding, such as defense contracts and grants.

Therefore, we might say the mission of White colleges and universities is to treat Blacks well when their own vested interests are threatened.

Black colleges, on the other hand, have a more compelling purpose. They take the poor, the downtrodden, the rejects of American society. They take the confused transfers from White colleg-



Tony Brown's

Commentaries

day's magnificent 114 Black colleges and universities.

Separatism never has been and is not the major driving force of Black colleges. Historically, Black colleges have provided the best and most efficient climate for finishing school. To African-Americans, education has been the key to better jobs and financial security. Black colleges were established to meet this need.

Loyalty to them, therefore, is the result of their service -- not a campaign of racial exclusion. For example, the faculties at Black colleges are much more integrated than the faculties at White colleges and universities.

Whether one wants an integrated educational environment or not, the results of Dr. Jacqueline Fleming's study, "Blacks In College," (Jossey-Bass), are inescapable: Black students in Black colleges show more positive intellectual development than Black students in White colleges. And 7 out of 10 students on these 114 Black campuses graduate.

TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL TV series can be seen on public television Sunday on Channel 42 at 5 p.m. It can also be seen on Channel 48, Saturday, 1:30 p.m. Please consult listings.

es and universities, Black students broken and frustrated by a hostile environment, their high hopes turned into doubts.

The academic program at the Black colleges fills the gaps in education among the disadvantaged with unrivaled expertise developed out of necessity. For those who left the White campuses with shattered confidence, there is the sensitivity that restores the positive direction necessary for learning.

For both those lacking basic skills and those with dashed hopes, there is an experience that carefully provides the academic and social successes that build a self-image that restores confidence. That is the mission of to-

Letters To The Post

Black Communities Need Change Before Time Runs Out

Dear Editor:

It would be highly appreciated if you could add my contribution in your most esteemed newspaper. I am an African who has been in this most civilized country a few years.

My first observation of the black people here was how sympathetic they are. I work in a convenience store where most of the customers are blacks. I always witness blacks helping each other by offering each other change for their purchases. These acts revealed to me that there is some kind of love existing within the black community.

However, the "Black Men In Crisis Stage" article that appeared in the May 14, 1986 publication of your newspaper revealed the sad and appalling condition that my fellow blacks live in. Drug abuse is rampant and is highest in many black communi-

ties. Robberies with violence and killing has made many black communities unsafe places to live.

I feel one of the factors contributing to these conditions is the way some black children are being raised. Many black children come to the store where I work and ask for change, saying, "Give me change for a dollar."

They do not know how to say, "Please, may I have change for a dollar," or how to say "Thank You" either.

What is most striking is the fact that these children come with their parents, mostly single mothers, who never tell the children the right way to speak. These children will become adults who do not know the correct way to do things.

Any child who does not acquire the necessary training will find it extremely difficult to become

good citizens.

We blacks were not born as criminals and we can do something for the betterment of our society. Time is running out and we need changes, just as was suggested in the article that appeared in the Post.

If we suspend the use of expensive drugs, which are not only expensive but also deadly, we can save our money and team up together to do something positive. We can then open industries and help each other.

Black women and men must also come together and raise our children together with understanding.

I am appealing to my fellow blacks to know God loves us and it is time to change.

Sincerely,

George Asumadu Sekyi

Pat Robertson Urged To Repent

Dear Editor:

News wire reports quote television preacher Pat Robertson as saying in a North Carolina speech recently, "Justices Marshall, Stevens and Brennan should be retired or promoted to that courtroom in the sky..."

We consider these comments to be as immoral and unbecoming to a minister as the behavior of Jim Bakker, another TV preacher. These remarks are both hateful and inflammatory. It is possible that someone might consider

translating Robertson's obvious death-wish for these men into reality. Such behavior on the part of Mr. Robertson denies the efficacy of love in human relations as represented in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "If a man lusts after a woman in his heart he has already committed adultery..." Does Robertson's lust after the death of the Supreme Court Justices mean that he has already committed the sin in his heart?

We believe Mr. Robertson has

committed a grievous error against the commandment of love. We pray that he shall repent and seek forgiveness, and we also urge him, in view of such reprehensible behavior and lack of good judgement, to reconsider his intention to seek the nomination as President of the United States.

Rev. Clinton Marsh
Deputy Director,
Metro Atlanta
Christian Council

The Constitution And PTL

PTL and the Constitution of the United States.

What do they have to do with each other?

Perhaps only that I have been thinking a lot about both of them lately. But there may be more to it than that. Be patient with me. Maybe I can explain.

Those who visit PTL these days sat that there is a marked change in attitudes about Jim and Tammy. The words "Forgiven" are gone. You no longer hear the adoring comments from shopkeepers and staff.

The Bakkers are now just "those people from California." "The king is dead. Long live the new king."

That seems to be the message as the PTL community struggles to find itself--after it "reasons to be" have gone.

What a marked contrast to the way it was a few months ago. Jim and Tammy pictures were everywhere. Jim and Tammy were everywhere. They were PTL.

Who could say any wrong



D. G. Martin

One On One

about them at PTL? Who could stand up to them and put them on the right course?

Nobody. Nobody at all. Until it was too late--after they were gone.

There was no accountability at PTL. When the leaders were wrong, there was no way to make a correction. No way to make a change of the leader's policies short of disaster.

That is why our country's Constitution is so great.

It sets out the rules for accountability and for leadership transi-

tion and balance.

Why is our Constitution so full of checks and balances?

Why does it provide that even the President must follow the directions of Congress--or answer to it?

The men who wrote the Constitution knew better than to let one person be in charge. They were suspicious of power and its potential to corrupt.

Thank goodness for those men. The Constitution that they created makes it possible for us to avoid the abuses of leadership that brought PTL to its knees.

This week, exactly 200 years ago, those men gathered in Philadelphia to begin the task of drafting that great document.

What a job they did! Let's celebrate!

Let me know what you think. Write me in care of this paper or at Box 37283, Charlotte, NC 28237.

Media Protects Board of Education

Dear Editor:

You are to be commended for publishing the letter I wrote about Harvey Sadoff. Although I stand corrected on the point of Sadoff's election to fill an unexpired term of a member of the Board of Education, who resigned, the other facts are absolutely true. Any investigation would bear out as being factual in my letter to you.

I also sent the same letter to the Charlotte Observer, the Charlotte Weekly Newspapers, and each of the local television stations that

did not publish or investigate. Why are the actions of the Board of Education protected? A past editorial letter in the Charlotte Observer once said that "the Observer's presses would stop running if they printed something unfavorable about Jay Robinson (former superintendent)." Obviously the same holds true about the Board of Education and the other administrators. How they remind me of Ronald Reagan. They too are "teflonized" against their blind

leadership and irresponsible actions.

Lest you be accused of reckless journalism, know that I am an informed employee and my information sources are trustworthy. It's too bad we have only the Charlotte Observer as a daily newspaper. From now on, I will not send a single work to the Observer to be censored as usual. I'm glad I learned about you. Keep on striving!

C. Reid

Sadoff's Defense Inappropriate

Dear Editor:

Now you can add James F. Foxx's name to the list of the great defenders who say what folks tell them to say. His letter defending Harvey Sadoff (printed in the Charlotte Post Thursday, May 21, 1987) was an obvious attempt to divert attention from the real issues in question: conflict of interest and impropriety. I hope there are not many readers like him who can't see the forest for the trees.

He can speak only for himself, in calling the letter the Post printed "undesirable, unkind and ig-

norant." I personally know of many intelligent and kind individuals who rushed to get a copy of the Post when the letter became known. They were happy to see the story come to light.

Nothing is more "undesirable, unkind and ignorant" than Foxx's interjection of race by saying that "Quality does not come in color." Who questioned the quality of anything or anybody? When did color (race) become an issue or ever enter the picture? What does he really mean by that statement anyway? Is he referring to

blacks? Is he saying that color (black) means an absence of quality? Does quality come only in white? It sounds to me like Mr. Foxx has a problem.

That said, I'll judge his letter and "facts" accordingly. I hope others will do the same for this acknowledged political supporter of Sadoff's--another "fact," like several of his other "facts," which has nothing to do with the right and wrong of the actions and issues in question.

Benjamin Williams

If Jesse Were White, He'd Be Halfway To The Presidency

Special To The Post
By Dr. Lenora Fulani

Since the withdrawal of Gary Hart from the Presidential race, there has been a great deal of talk and speculation within some media and within certain political circles that the prospects for Rev. Jesse Jackson's candidacy have greatly improved as a result. It would seem reasonable to assume this, given that the departure of a frontrunner usually means that the second place candidate gains in stature and resources. However, this is not the usual scenario and will not follow the characteristic pattern. If Jesse Jackson were white, he'd be halfway to the Presidency by now. But Jesse Jackson is Black. And Jesse Jackson is progressive. And the Democratic Party is structured to guarantee that Jesse will not gain from the folding of the frontrunner's campaign.

I am a strong supporter of Rev. Jackson. I backed him in 1984 and I plan to do so again in the 1988 Democratic Primary. But we must not be seduced by the monetary equalization of percentages in the popularity polls and by the descriptions of Jackson as a possible frontrunner. Jesse Jackson does not gain from Hart's departure for one very simple reason. Racism. And I don't mean the racism of individual white voters who may have supported Hart's campaign. I mean the racism of the Democratic Party, its structures, its rules, and its process.

While Rev. Jackson may participate to a certain extent in the inner life of the Democratic Party, he is not anything like the white candidates, all of whom, whatever their political beliefs, are hooked in to some segment of the official party structure. When Mr. Hart's support - in the form of financial contributors, loyalty of party leaders, staff and potential voters is redistributed - it will end up in the hands of one or several of the other white candidates.

There is a process of reposi-

tioning and redistribution that is the Democratic Party pathway to the Convention in which all Presidential candidates participate except Jackson. Rev. Jackson has been frozen out of the process that dominates and determines the selection of the Democratic nominee because the white party bosses don't want and don't intend for him to win.

It is for these reasons that I am firmly committed to running a Black candidate, with the Rainbow social vision for the Presidency as an independent in 1988. The New Alliance Party, the country's only Black-led, multi-racial progressive independent electoral party, has already begun a national ballot access drive to secure a position on the ballot for that Black independent in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

This independent campaign is in no way a detraction from Rev. Jackson's Primary bid. In fact, it is just the opposite. As I said before, I strongly support his candidacy and when he formally announces I will be among the first to stand up with him. But the African American community must have an alternative to the dead end of Democratic Party racism, exclusion and discrimination. The party may want our votes, but it doesn't want our agenda. We cannot go on as the second-class citizens of

the Democratic Party - always loyal, never rewarded. We need to move on to an independent, Black-led, multi-racial party that is fundamentally based on our agenda, our concerns, the needs of our communities and our children. We need a third party.

I have already spoken with Rev. Jackson about our plan to support his Primary run with complete dedication and then barring his winning the Democratic nomination - moving on to back a Black independent. This two-pronged plan is called "Two Roads Are Better Than One." I have urged - and continue to urge - Rev. Jackson to keep the door open to allowing the voters of the Rainbow movement to vote their conscience and not party line after the convention here in Atlanta.

There are many, many thousands of people across this state and this country who recognize that the Democratic Party applies a racist double standard when it comes to Blacks. Our people have a powerful tradition, a moving history, of fighting against that double standard and for our freedom. We must continue that tradition and we must continue that fight. Only this time the fight must be to lead our people through the Jackson Primary campaign and out of the Democratic Party, onto the independent path. In 1988, two roads are better than one.

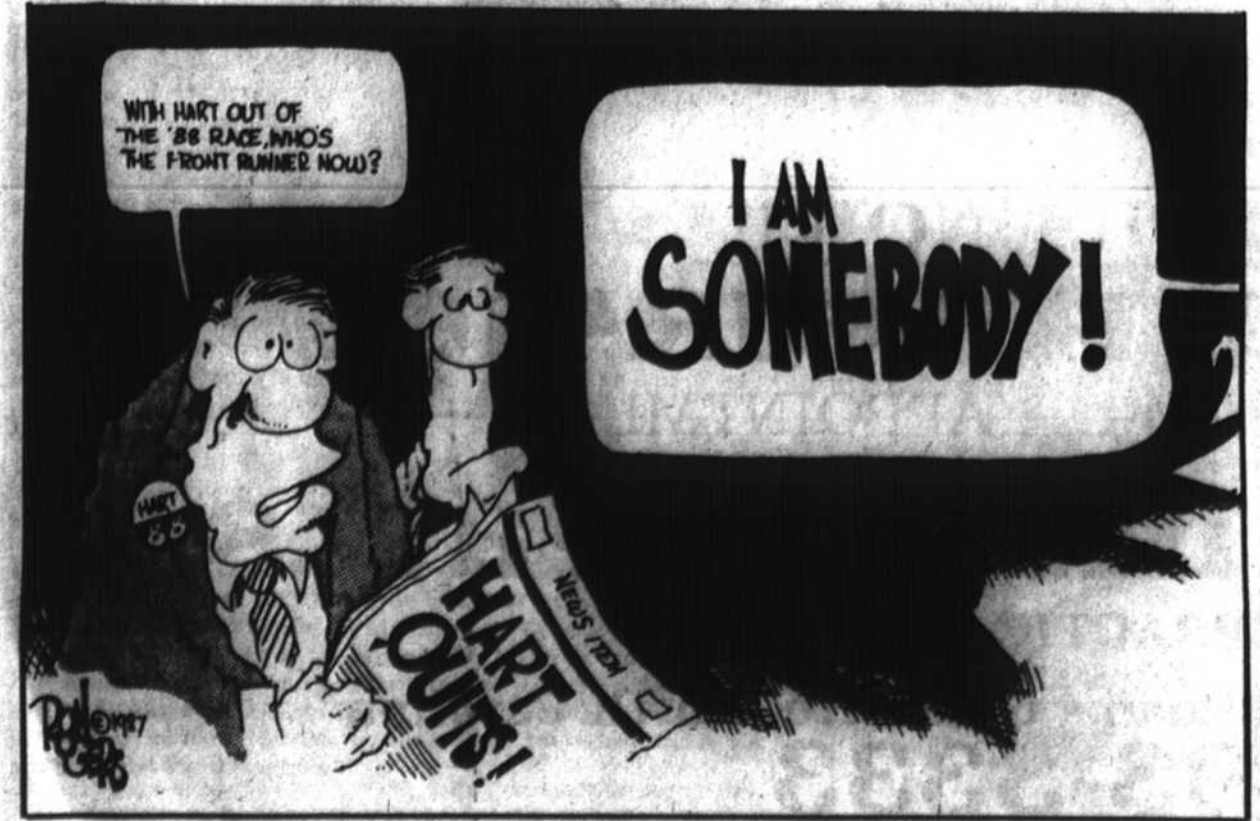
DEMOCRACY vs APARTHEID

In South Africa, There Is Only One Solution.

Your Support of the Freedom Fighters Will Hasten the Day of Victory for Democracy. One man - One vote. Give as if the absence of Liberty there diminishes all of us. In truth, it does.

Enclosed is my check/M.O. for \$_____ as my contribution to the Freedom Fighters in the South African struggle for One man - One vote.

Send Contribution to:
Democracy Vs. Apartheid Committee
P.O. Box 644 Adelphi Station
Brooklyn, New York 11238



WITH HART OUT OF THE '88 RACE, WHO'S THE FRONT RUNNER NOW?

I AM SOMEBODY!

HART OUT!

Redmond