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GRADUATES OF JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY, Noad Sergew, a Summa Cum Laude graduate, and Seycret Jackson, a Mag-

na Cum Laude graduate, listen intently during the commencement exercises held last Sunday.



DR MABLE MCLEAN, retiring president of Barber Scotia College and JCSU alumna,

gave the commencement speech. Smith President Robert L. Albright observes.

Photos/CALVIN FERGUSON

J.C. Smith's 129 Graduates Get Degrees And Advice

By HERB WHITE
Post Staff Writer

Retiring Barber-Scotia College President and Johnson C. Smith University alumna Mable McLean gave Smith's graduating seniors a piece of advice at the school's commencement Sunday at the Charlotte Convention Center.

Money and fame aren't everything but being a productive citizen is.

"Greatness is not in the direction you stand in but in where you are going," she said.

Instead of the usual Owens Auditorium site, this year's graduation was held at the larger Convention Center. Owens, which seats about 800, wouldn't have held Sunday's graduation crowd, estimated to be about 1,500. Smith awarded 128 degrees; 43 bachelor of arts degrees, 82 bachelor of science degrees and four bachelor of social work degrees.

McLean, who is retiring from the presidency of Barber-Scotia at the end of the month, was the keynote speaker for Smith's 121st graduating class. A member of the Smith class of 1943,

McLean has served in a number of administrative positions in education, including president of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), the first woman to head the organization.

The graduates were exhorted to stay away from drugs and do a little sacrificing to help solve some of the world's ills.

"You can't do very much out there unless you take care of yourself. Self-respect is the fruit of discipline," McLean said. "Moral decay will divert you from excellence."

McLean told the class that life would have its rough spots, but those who persevere will be remembered. She cited Martin Luther King, Mahatmas Gandhi and John Kennedy as people who made contributions to society despite long odds.

"Life will knock you to your knees," she said. "All you have to do is get up just one more time than you fall down."

Too often, McLean said, people get caught up with staying with the in crowd. She challenged the graduates to seek to improve themselves every day without thinking what the rest of the

world is up to.

"Keep striving to be superior to your former self, not superior to someone else," McLean said.

Smith President Robert Albright presented McLean the Distinguished Service Award for her contributions to education.

The university also presented honorary doctor of humane letters degrees to Bill Lee, Duke Power Chairman and chief executive officer, and James Roberts, a 1947 Smith graduate and religion scholar. U.S. Rep. William Gray of Philadelphia, chairman of the House Budget Committee was presented an honorary doctor of laws degree at the school's founders day convocation last month.

It was a day for retirees, as well. In addition to McLean's departure from Barber-Scotia, Christopher Kemp, who has headed the university choir since the 1940's, is stepping down.

Kemp, Albright said, is "going to do some things, like fishing, that people his age have been doing for 10 years."

Students Protest Campus Racism

CHARLOTTE (AP) --- Black students at several universities in North Carolina and South Carolina have pushed race issues to the forefront in calling for more black professors, improved black graduation rates and greater sensitivity to their needs.

With a few exceptions, colleges in the two states have not had incidents of racial slurs and violence that have hit some campuses.

But blacks protested this year at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N.C. State University, Duke University

and Clemson University against what they called subtle racism.

"What our students are protesting is the more covert kind of racism," says N.C. State Student Development Director Evelyn Reiman.

"Maybe it's a chilly climate in the classroom, maybe they're not attended to with the kind of attention and care as their white counterparts."

The Academic Council at Duke passed a resolution in April requiring each of Duke's approximately 50 departments to add a black faculty member by 1993, or explain why not.

The council had first approved a weaker resolution. But it passed the second resolution after about 300 students, many white, demonstrated for more black faculty.

At N.C. State and UNC-Chapel Hill, black students have complained about the disparity between white and black graduation rates.

At UNC, 76 percent of the white freshman who entered in 1981 had graduated in five years, but only 46 percent of blacks who entered in 1981 had graduated.



Last week, Democratic candidate for County Commission District 2, Nasif Majeed, welcomed former District 2 candidate James Baldwin as a Majeed supporter. Baldwin, who came in third in

the District 2 primary, threw his support behind Majeed, who is participating in a runoff May 31 with County Commission District 2 incumbent Bob Walton.

Photo/LANEY

Majeed Gains Baldwin's Support

By HERB WHITE
Post Staff Writer

James Baldwin, the third-place finisher in the May 3 District 2 Democratic primary for county commissioner, pledged his support to an opponent last week.

The beneficiary is Nasif Majeed, who will face incumbent Bob Walton Tuesday in a runoff election.

Majeed was the top vote-getter in the primary with 5,669 votes, followed closely by Walton's 5,463. Baldwin got 410 votes, and his supporters may be able to tip the balance of the runoff.

Baldwin, regarded as a candidate who followed the beat of a different drummer, announced his endorsement last week at a press conference. He praised Majeed's work in the community and pledged that he would go out and help bring in new voters for the challenger.

"Well, I would hope so," Baldwin said, "since I did it for my-

self. What's an endorsement without the work that goes with it?"

Majeed said Baldwin's total from the first primary would be a boost in the final showdown with Walton in a race that has been the most hotly contested in the county this year.

"Mr. Baldwin garnered some 400, almost 500 votes, which represents almost two percent of the votes cast," he said.

Majeed's total translated into 49 percent of the votes cast; Walton, 48 and Baldwin three.

Majeed and Baldwin confirmed they talked at length about Baldwin lending his support in a possible runoff.

A second primary was needed because no one had a 50 percent majority in the first election. And, as has been the case throughout the campaign, the candidates traded shots on the issue of runoffs. Majeed accused Walton of being in favor

of eliminating runoffs but calling for one when he finished second. Walton says that isn't true.

"I've told people to go slow on (eliminating runoffs)," he said, "because the day was going to come where you would have two blacks in a race and there would be a need for a runoff. If Mr. Majeed had been in my position, he would've called for one too."

Majeed, who is running for office for the first time, said he tried to keep his relationship with the Baldwin camp on good terms and it paid off.

"We've had discussions even during the campaign," Majeed said. "It dignifies the political process in our community."

Baldwin, who was critical of Walton's campaign after a 1987 assault conviction, said he wouldn't be as harsh in his comments on Majeed's behalf.

"That was my campaign," he said. "I don't think that's my place to talk about it."

Sample Ballots Available

Sample Ballots for the May 31st Run-Off Election are now available at locations throughout Mecklenburg County at:

- (1) All branches of the Public Library.
- (2) Branches of Mechanics and Farmers Bank.
- (3) Elections Office, 741 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 202.

The Board of Elections urges citizens to study a Sample Ballot before Election Day in order to speed the voting process. If you have questions concerning the May 31st Election, please call the Elections Office at 336-2133.

Anti-Hate Crime Bill Approved After Latest Threat

Washington, D.C.--(NNPA)-- Sparked by recent outbreaks of racist slayings, outbreaks and death threats, the United States House of Representatives passed H.R. 3193, The Hate Crime Statistics Act, proposed by Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) to signal "strong congressional opposition to crimes motivated by prejudice".

The bill, introduced in Congress almost a year ago last August, was approved by an overwhelming vote of 383-29 by a majority of Democrats with Republican support, the day after the latest assassination plot against presidential candidate, Rev. Jesse L. Jackson. Authorities have records of many threats against Jackson, begin-

ning the first day he announced his campaign for the White House back in 1984.

The legislation prepared by Congressman Conyers as the chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, "provides for the acquisition and publication of data about crimes that manifest prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity." The legislation is expected to be approved by the Democrat controlled U.S. Senate this summer, with little opposition, and must be signed into law by President Ronald Reagan.

In commenting upon the action, Conyers declared, "Yesterday we learned about a threat on the life of Reverend

Jesse L. Jackson, a candidate for the office of President of the United States, made by persons connected with a white extremist group known as The Order. Reverend Jackson was reportedly targeted by them because he is an indication that the democratic values by which we as Americans take great pride in, are not yet shared by all members of our society.

"During the past few years, there have been increasing reports of physical and psychological attacks on persons who were targeted simply because of their race, religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity. These hate crimes appear to be the result of actions carried out by organized groups, as well as non-affiliated

individuals. They are intended not only to intimidate their victims but to spread fear throughout entire communities

In addition to helping solve racial crimes, the act will also protect

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