

President Bush Praises United Negro College Fund Efforts During \$185,000 Dinner Program

HOUSTON, Texas—Last Friday evening, President George Bush joined Houston Oilers' star quarterback Warren Moon and United Negro College Fund Chairman Bill Gray at a fundraising dinner that raised \$185,000 for the UNCF.

Gray, the recently appointed chairman of the UNCF, and a former congressman from Pennsylvania, was singled out for praise by the president.

"Bill Gray, you may know, was in the leadership of the House of Representatives—one of the most popular and one of the most important and one of the most effective members of Congress," said the president.

"We have great respect for him, and I just wanted all my fellow Houstonians to know how highly we regard him and what he is doing for this commitment to the UNCF," Bush continued.

President Bush, involved with the UNCF since his days in college, told the dinner crowd that "We are very grateful to all of you who have pitched in and made this great expansion of their programs possible."

George Bush has shown a lifelong commitment to historically black colleges and universities and, as president, signed an executive order in 1989 that established the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

"Historically black colleges and universities still represent a vital component of American education, enriching a great tradition of educational choice and diversity in this country," the president said when signing the executive order.

The President's Board of Advisors has been active in developing the strategic plan to improve long-range planning between federal agencies and HBCUs. In addition, the board has been working to increase the ability of HBCUs to participate in federally sponsored programs.

Federal awards to HBCUs have increased from \$775.9 million to \$887.9 billion, or 14.5 percent, from fiscal years 1989-92, and the president and first lady have expressed their strong support for the ongoing mission of these institutions.

In signing a presidential proclamation for National Historically Black colleges Week last year, President Bush said, "For more than 100 years, our nation's historically black colleges and universities have provided rewarding educational opportunities for millions of black Americans."

Continued the president, "These institutions have opened the doors of achievement to generations of students who otherwise might not have been able to enjoy the benefits of a higher education. Our entire nation is richer as a

result—graduates of historically black colleges and universities have made substantial contributions to our country in virtually every field of endeavor."

In concluding his remarks at the

Houston dinner for the United Negro College Fund, the president reiterated his message in regard to equal educational opportunity for all, and said, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste, and

this organization is doing an outstanding job for higher education in this country—offering kids opportunity that might not have had another shot at the American dream."



WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU FELT THE WAY HE LOOKS?

He's smart. He's strong. He's dedicated. He's proud.
He's a soldier in the U.S. Army.

He brought a lot of terrific qualities into the Army—and we helped bring them out.

Like we have for thousands of other young men and women who feel as good as they look—and vice versa.

As soldiers.

Want to feel better about yourself? Look in on your Army Recruiter.

ARMY. BE ALL YOU CAN BE.

Learn the sweet magic of a cheerful face; Not always smiling, but a least serene.

—Oliver Wendell Holmes

1992