

Editorial

VOICE

Time Is
Running
Out

Legislative Changes
Seriously Affect Low-
Income Minority Students

By CHARLES H. MITCHELL

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1973,

by BELINDA HIGGINS

The Educational Talent Search Project is here to serve you THE STUDENT! The time to apply for the up-coming school year is now. The deadline for Confidential Statements is March 15, 1973.

With the cuts in Educational Funds it is imperative that you get your forms in immediately.

The National Defense Student Loan has been deleted. Educational Opportunity Grant Guidelines have been redefined; and no longer pertain to low income students. It is now available to all students regardless of income. With these major changes we must deal with them by submitting our forms early and on time.

We the Educational Talent Search Staff provide counseling and assistance in filling out financial aid and admissions forms. High school seniors are also urged to come in and complete forms for entrance into colleges and universities.

Also available to high school seniors are fee waivers for the Scholastic Aptitude Test and Achievement Test that are required by colleges and universities.

Getting On The Case

By Vivian Luni

This is in regard to the poor turnout at the meeting that was held on Wednesday, January 31 at 2 p.m. in the Bellarmine Conference Room. Only two clubs responded. the Chinese Student Association and -- The Filipino-American Brotherhood. Because of your jive time show of enthusiasm, those who came as well as myself will continue to establish ethnic courses we feel are needed to meet the problem of irrelevant curriculum on this campus.

Since it is a "no show, no go" type situation, do not come complaining to us if the classes that are produced are not to your liking. If you want what you get, then start at the grass roots level of planning and organizing those classes.

The meeting's agenda is enclosed as well as an added comment that if you want to still get involved, then contact me at Minority Affairs, 626-6226.

Blacks Voice Against Attempted Rip Off of Black Journal

By TRINEE DUKES

There have been strong supportive rumors in the recent months about the cancellation of the TV program. "Black Journal," by the Public Broadcasting Company.

These rumors have now been brought to the attention of many individuals in the black community, which has caused much concern.

In an effort to stop the broadcasting system from discontinuing "Black Journal," many petitions have been drawn up within the community. On a national level congressman, Ron Dellums and William Clay have given continuous support. Also, many known organizations such as the National Education Association, Precy Greens Action Group in St. Louis and black citizens for "Fair Media," under the leadership of Emma Bowen have endorsed "Black Journal" and have their committee support in preventing its cancellation.

The concern of Blacks is

evident for anyone who has ever viewed "Black Journal."

During these times of blaxploitation, a black program with originality, pride, and truth is needed. "Black Journal" presents this and more. "Black Journal" presents the truth about our society, and the truth about black people in our society. Black Journal tries not to provoke the individual, but rather, tries to bring about an understanding of the reality of the present and past situation of blacks in this country.

Tony Brown, host and executive producer of "Black Journal" has become an outstanding figure in the Black Community. Mr. Brown is also Dean of Howard University's School of Communication. has degrees in psychology and psychiatric work.

Tony Brown is opposed to the Blaxploitation that is occurring repeatedly within Black Communities. According to Mr. Brown, blacks are venturing out to go and see movies such as "Superfly," which is degrading to the black man's existence. In "Superfly,"

you have blacks represented as oppressed individuals overwhelmed by self-hatred. And in the audience you have the same type of people identifying with the drug pusher "Superfly." If movies such as "Superfly" and "Nigger Charlie" are all we have to identify with, then, where do we go from here?

Tony Brown believes that black movies or any black program should present in a more realistic struggle of Black people, like the award winning "Sounder."

"Sounder" is more realistic in the sense of strength that is shown in blacks, not the weakness found in "Superfly" or "Nigger Charlie." "Sounder" shows Blacks struggling to overcome being oppression.

Tony Brown will continue to fight Blaxploitation and the continued showing of "Black Journal" would be of great assistance.

Please start, or continue to give support in an effort to keep a very needed program, "Black Journal."

College students, or parents of college age students, should be abreast of some very significant proposed changes in financial aid allocations. The Nixon administration has acted to delete some very successful financial aid programs that are targeted for low income students. All minority students who are receiving or planning to receive financial aid to further their studies will be affected by these proposed legislative changes.

The two popular programs that the President plans to dispose of are the Educational Opportunity Grant (EOG) and the National Direct Student Loan (NDSL). The EOG went only to students of low income families (\$9,000 and under). And the lower his family income the higher his priority for grant funds. The NDSL is a three percent simple interest loan which a student could start repaying a year after graduation or a year after leaving school. This loan does have some "forgiveness clauses." A person teaching in a target area could work off the loan at fifteen percent a year up to the total amount of the loan. A person in the armed services or job corps could delay payment on the loan.

Mr. Nixon has some plans in mind for filling the gap left by these disposed programs. The Educational Opportunity Grant will be replaced by the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant (BEOG). The big difference between these grants is that the new Basic Opportunity Grant has no family income ceiling; otherwise many more students will be eligible to compete for these grant funds. The President is asking that Congress appropriate 600 million dollars to fund the BEOG. Theoretically, if this amount is funded each participating student would start with a basic grant of fourteen hundred dollars and the amount of family income would be subtracted from this figure.

Now the question: How am I, as a low income minority student, affected by the BEOG? First, there are no priorities to fund the lower family incomes. This means first come first served. And we know from historical evidence that for reasons, some valid, and some not, minority students are too often late in completing and turning in financial aid forms.

The second very real pitfall is that like revenue sharing, the amount being discussed will not be the amount appropriated and a more realistic figure would be about half of the 600 million plus dollars. This means that a student would begin with a basic seven hundred dollar grant instead of one for fourteen hundred.

The second Financial Aid Program change requested by Mr. Nixon is to replace National Direct Student Loan (NDSL) with the Federally Insured Student Loan (FISL). Many students and their families are familiar with the FISL. It is a seven percent interest bank loan, and like the NDSL a student does not start repayment until he/she has been out of school for a year. This loan unlike the NDSL, has no "forgiveness clauses." The problems facing low income minorities with the FISL are more obvious. Most banks are shaky about granting these loans to middle income persons, but with an larger influx of students from low income families requesting these loans, I'm sure that we will be hearing such non-hesitant replies, as "Sorry, but your credit is not in order."

What can be done? Of course we can write our congressmen in Washington. But before all of that I would suggest that we all get busy and complete our financial aid forms for the next school year so that whatever money is available next year we will be ready for it.

I hope you comprehend the urgency of the above message

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