

Tennessee State Earns Dual Accreditation



Tennessee State University's College of Business has received dual accreditation for its undergraduate and graduate schools. Celebrating the history-making event were (from left) Robert McNeilly, president of First American Trust Co. and co-chair of the TSU President's Advisory Council; Taylor H. Henry, CEO and chairman of Shoney's, Inc. and TSU College of Business Board of Advisors member; Debra Scott-Ensley, vice-president of Citizens Savings Bank and Trust Co. and TSU College of Business Board of Advisors chair; Dr. James Helfner, TSU president; and Dr. Tilden Curry, TSU College of Business dean.

Nationwide Grassroots Policy-Development Effort Spotlights Oregonians Comments

Tables were turned at a "Listening to America" public meeting in Portland, Thursday, June 2, when the National Policy Forum sought out and spotlighted the concerns and ideas of salmon fisherman, loggers, timber industry representatives, small business owners and workers and others who have concerns and ideas to offer about government natural resources policies.

"We think it's time for a role-reversal in the policy-development process. Instead of focusing on what a few national 'experts' have to say, we want to listen to the ideas of Americans who deal directly with our nation's key challenges in their everyday lives," said National Policy Forum Chairman Haley Barbour. "We think it's time for the voices of Or-

gon citizens to be heard in the national policy debate."

U.S. Sen. Mark Hatfield (Ore.) sought out local viewpoints on government natural resources policies at the June 2 "Listening to America" forum at the Portland Marriott in Portland. The meeting was open to the public, free of charge.

The National Policy Forum: A Republican Center for the Exchange of Ideas was launched in 1993 to reinvolve the American people at the grassroots level, regardless of their party affiliation, in the national policy debate. Through its "Listening to America" project, the Forum is seeking ideas that work in meeting the nation's challenges from Americans at 60 public meetings and through other outreach efforts in communities across the country. The ideas pre-

sented at these local meetings will help shape national policy recommendations, to be issued by the Forum in July 1994.

The June 2 meeting in Portland focused on participation from the audience. Attendees were encouraged to voice their opinions about government policies focusing on salmon recovery and the timber industry. A panel composed of Oregon citizens with first-hand involvement with these issues kicked-off the dialogue by sharing their experiences. Panelists included: John Palmizano, Ph.D., independent consultant/certified fisheries biologist; Bob Eaton, executive director, Salmon for All; Ted Strong, executive director, Columbia River Intertribal Council; John Hampton, president and chief executive officer, Willamina Lumber Co.

Father's Day Hints For Fathers-To-Be

For Father's Day, the Lewis and Clark Chapter of the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation has outlined suggestions to help a father-to-be prepare for the journey to fatherhood -- and help his partner have a healthy pregnancy and a healthy baby.

A father can play a very important part in the birthing process by being involved throughout pregnancy and childbirth. Together, both partners can be ready for the baby's birth. A father-to-be can learn about his role in labor and delivery. Getting involved helps both partners feel relaxed and secure.

A father-to-be is instrumental in establishing and supporting a healthy lifestyle and environment for the mother-to-be. This can be done by eating a variety of foods that are good for a mom-to-be; by encouraging his partner to quit drinking or doing drugs; avoid smoking, second hand smoke from a father is unhealthy for his partner and his unborn baby; by exercising together,

as long as it's not too strenuous and her doctor approves it; share the housework, particularly those involving chemicals that should not be inhaled by a pregnant woman; and keep stress at a minimum, interpersonal conflict is reported to be a key source of stress during pregnancy and studies show that when a woman reports high stress during pregnancy, her baby is more likely to be born with health problems.

It is also beneficial for a father-to-be to take the time to learn about pregnancy and childbirth. By reading books, talking to other fathers, or taking childbirth classes, a father-to-be can not only provide support to his partner, but also find answers to his own questions and fears about the birthing process.

Pregnancy is a time of great change in a woman's body and emotions. Pregnancy and birth can be a safe and healthy time when both partners learn and understand more about it. A father-to-be should always urge a pregnant partner to have regu-

lar prenatal care checkups and even accompany her on these visits.

Keep the channels of communication open. It is important to talk with your partner about your feelings so you can understand and support each other now and after the baby arrives.

The Lewis and Clark Chapter would like to remind all fathers-to-be about the important role they play in a healthy pregnancy. Even before conception and all throughout pregnancy, an expectant father can take positive steps to help his partner have a healthy baby. For more information contact the Lewis and Clark Chapter of the March of Dimes at (503) 222-9434.

The March of Dimes is a national voluntary health agency whose mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortality. Through its Campaign for Healthier Babies, the March of Dimes funds programs of research, community services, education and advocacy.

Wendy's Founder Honored For Adoption Cause

Wendy's founder and advertising spokesperson Dave Thomas was presented the first ever Humanitarian Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for his efforts on behalf of the cause of adoption. The presentation was made at the NAACP Corporate Awards luncheon in New York City.

The award, presented by Dr. William F. Gibson, chairman of the NAACP board of directors, reads: "In tribute to a rare human being who pursued a remarkable career to the top of a multibillion dollar business. In salutation and appreciation for his leadership in promoting the adoption of children across this nation who need homes and loving families. For all this and for demonstrating that the American dream not only can be pursued but also can become a reality."

The NAACP has endorsed Thomas' efforts to generate awareness for the adoption of special needs children in America.

"This is a tremendous honor to be recognized by such a highly re-

spected organization as the NAACP for promoting a cause so near to my heart," said Thomas. "I know from personal experience the value and importance of a child having a permanent home and love of a family."

Thomas, adopted at six weeks old, was asked by former President Bush in 1990 to serve as a spokesman for the White House initiative "Adoption Works...For Everyone," an effort to raise awareness among Americans about the large number of children presently awaiting adoption. He believes there are an equal number of adults willing to give these children a loving home, but don't know what to do or where to start.

"I was adopted as a child because someone cared enough to give me a home and love," said Thomas. "Every child deserves the same."

Thomas has made an impact on two areas of the adoption cause: urging corporations to offer adoption assistance benefits for employees wishing to adopt, and, raising public awareness of children waiting adop-

tion in this country.

To encourage corporate involvement, Thomas has written personal letters to Fortune 1000 CEOs and food service executives, sharing the advantages of benefit programs to both employees and the corporation. Wendy's provides eligible company employees up to \$4,000 per adopted child to cover fees and legal costs as well as time off with pay. The program offers up to \$6,000 for adoptions of children with special needs. Since Wendy's began the program in 1990, 19 children have been adopted by employees and two more adoptions are pending. Hewitt Associates, a benefits consulting firm, estimates that 18 percent of all major U.S. corporations now offer some level of adoption benefits, up from 12 percent in 1991.

For the past four years, Thomas has boosted public awareness of children waiting adoption through public service announcements aired on TV, posters, and trailers in all 3,900 Wendy's U.S. restaurants.

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July 11 to July 15 4-5

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