

## Decision To Affect African-American Colleges

The state officials of Mississippi are supposed to render their decision this month on the Ayers case. This case came about as a result of the lawsuit by Jack Ayers of the State of Mississippi for not funding the African-American colleges and universities the same way as they have the Caucasian schools.

If you are a person who graduated from an African-American college or university, you should be aware of the fact that your alma mater is being threatened with closure or it may be merged with some Caucasian college or university. Is this good news, or is this bad news? You be the judge of this situation.

The reason for all of this is that these schools are not receiving the financial support other institutions do within the states were they are

located, especially if they are state schools.

For example, the Supreme Court ruled against the State of Mississippi and stated in its ruling that there was a discrepancy in the state funding of African-American institutions. The court ordered the state to remedy this situation. What some states are coming up with is that they have made plans to merge most of these schools. In other words, they will do away with these institutions as we know them.

The people that will be hurt the most, if this takes place, are the poor young black males and females. Especially those that are from the Southern region of the country.

When the U.S. Justice Department says that the states are discriminating in their funding policies

against African-American institutions, there must really be something overt going on. It is quite unusual for the Justice Department to come right out and agree with African-Americans that they are being discriminated against, and to go so far as the file a complaint against a state. With this kind of action from this agency, you know that there must be something really wrong.

If you are a graduate of one of these colleges or universities you might want to contact the Black Caucus in Washington, D.C. to make sure that they stay abreast of what is happening in all of these states as far as the schools are concerned.

The reason why this issues is so important is that there is a need for African-American colleges and universities in this country. If they did not exist there would be thousands of people who would never have gone to undergraduate or graduate school. In other words, they probably would

not have earned a college degree.

With education comes power, if it is properly applied. With this you can have control of your life. With education comes economic, and political power, with this you can change things for the better, so always keep this in mind.

Some African-American colleges and universities will not be affected by this court case. Nevertheless, some states are saying that the reason why they are opposed to all black colleges is that it is reverse discrimination and there should not be discrimination in the educational system.

I don't know what your opinion is about this, but I would say all of this sounds pretty fantastic. Are they really being pragmatic about this situation? I think not. All you have to do is look at some of the schools in the inner-cities throughout the country. Perhaps you can then draw your own conclusions about the state education system.

## Enrollment Steady At State Colleges

More than 100,000 students will enroll in credit courses this year at Oregon's four-year colleges. About 59,000 students were enrolled in regular campus credit courses this fall term.

The number of students are about the same as last year, according to a report by the Oregon System of Higher Education.

The enrollment for the fourth week of fall classes was 59,416, compared with 59,545 at the same time last year. About 7,000 additional students are expected to enroll in extended campus credit courses, such as continuing education.

The colleges also serve an additional 100,000 Oregonians through non-credit courses, such as those offered by the Extension Service and under contract with businesses.

"In spite of major budget cuts, the state's public colleges and universities have found a way to maintain enrollment at the prior year's levels," said Larry Large, the system's vice chancellor for public affairs.

"The Oregon Legislature will face one more round of reductions in funding for statewide programs as they deal with the final phase of Measure 5," said Large. "We are pleased that we have been able to reduce administrative and support service costs and that the Legislature and the Governor were willing to provide some extra support to sus-

tain enrollment levels at the end of the 1993-1995 session. Those actions enabled us to sustain enrollment even in the face of reduced funding caused by the first two phases of Measure 5."

"I am proud of what the system, the faculty, the staff and most of all, the students have been able to do to pick up the slack and keep as many students enrolled as possible, even in the face of increases in tuition," said Chancellor Joseph Cox.

"Now, we must prepare to carry our budget to the 1995 Legislature and to do all we can to strengthen access to quality higher education for Oregon's students in the future," said Cox.

The end of fourth week enrollments by institution were provided as follows:

- Eastern Oregon State College: 1,931, up 1.8 percent.
- Oregon Health Sciences University: 1,396, up 1.6 percent.
- Southern Oregon State College: 4,535, up .5 percent.
- University of Oregon: 16,680, up .5 percent.
- Oregon State University: 14,131, up .2 percent.
- Portland State University: 14,428, down .4 percent.
- Western Oregon State College: 3,871, down 3.2 percent.
- Oregon Institute of Technology: 2,444, down 5.4 percent.

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## Clothing Donations Needed For Holiday Clothing Drive

The central Northeast Neighbor's Association is requesting donations of adult and children's clothing in good condition, for low-income residents of Northeast Portland's Cully neighborhood. The clothing will be distributed during the second annual Cully Neighborhood Children's Christmas Party on Dec. 15.

This year's Christmas party is expected to double in size over last year's, drawing 1000 low-income children and their parents. The donated clothing will be distributed during the celebration along with Christmas presents and food.

Clothing donations will be grate-

fully accepted during regular business hours at the Community Contact Office in Villa de Clara Vista, located at 6706 NE Killingsworth, on the corner of Cully and Killingsworth. The donations are tax deductible.

The Cully Neighborhood Children's Christmas Party is organized by Hacienda Community Development Corporation and the Cully Association of Neighbors, in conjunction with more than 15 public and private agencies, local churches, merchants, the Portland Police Bureau's Sunshine Division, and the National Guard. The Dec. 15 event is open to families living in the Villa de Clara Vista Apartments.

## 'Tis The Season For Holiday Snacks

The Nabisco Biscuit Company's introduces a lineup of holiday-themed versions of its most popular brands for the 1994 season.

The company will rollout holiday items, for a limited engagement, beginning in December 1. They include:

Chocolate Dipped Ritz Crackers--Nabisco's ritziest Ritz ever. Enrobed in pure dark chocolate, the product will be sold in 4.5-ounce boxes at the suggested retail price of \$2.29.

White Fudge Covered Oreos--Back by popular demand, Oreo cookies covered in white fudge have sold out each year on the market. The

product comes in a 14-ounce package at the suggested retail price of \$2.69.

Holiday Sprinkled Chips Ahoy!-Chips Ahoy!, America's leading chocolate chip cookie, gets sprinkled red, green and white for the holidays. These colorful cookies are available in 14.5-ounce packages at the suggested retail price of \$2.39.

Teddy Grahams Holiday Bears--"Beary merry" cookies, in chocolate and vanilla flavors, will come in six seasonal shapes including Santa Bear, Little Drummer Bear, Bear-in-a-Stocking and Sleigh Bear. Suggested retail price for the 10-ounce limited edition box is \$1.89.



**DONN THOMAS PHOTOGRAPHY**

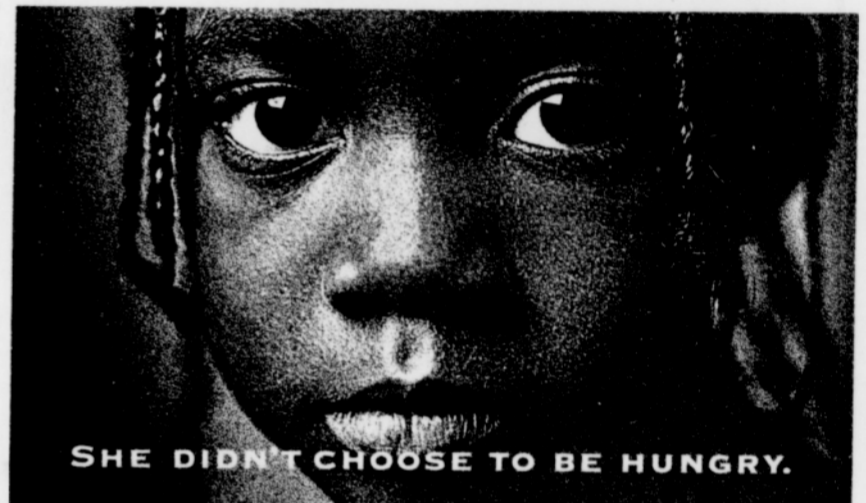
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