# Morgan Joins University Rank

Morgan State University's first president, Dr. Andrew Billingsley, a radical thinking integrationist, brings revolutionary ideas to the 108-year-old institute, chartered in 1867 as the Centenary Biblical Institute.

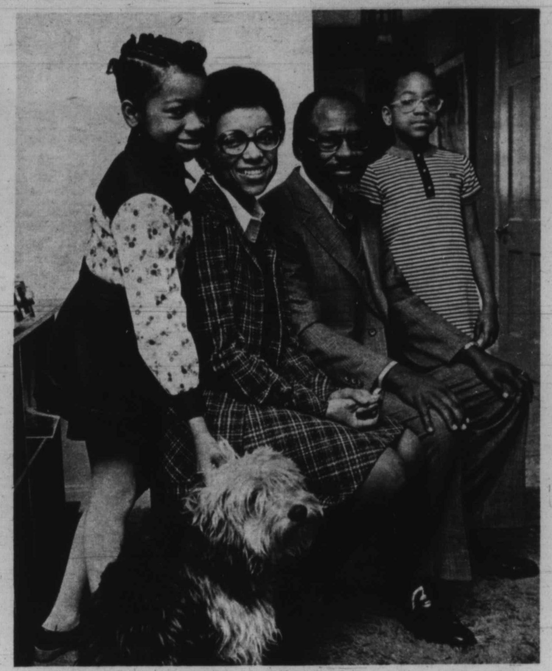
Billingsley, historically speaking, is the 10th president of Morgan in its four phases of development. The original purpose of the institute was to prepare young men for the Christian ministry with emphasis on secondary school level education and industrial training.

In 1890, Dr. Lyttleton F. Morgan, former chairman of the Board of Trustees, gave a large endowment to the institute. It enabled the institute to upgrade its programs and offer courses at collegiate level. The name was changed to Morgan College. By an Act of the Maryland General Assembly on Nov. 20, 1939, the name was changed to Morgan State College.

On July 1, 1975, Morgan became a university, when Senate Bill No. 354 introduced by Morgan alumna Verda Welcome, state senator from 40th District, was approved by the General Assembly.

At 49, the goateed, straight-talking Billingsley, the son of a rugged Alabamian miner, brings a gold mine of educational wisdom and academic expertise to Maryland's financially troubled university system of higher education.

Born in Marion, he started schooling at 10 in Montgomery. He is a graduate of Parker High School in Birmingham, Ala. Graduating as the oldest in his class at 21, Billingsley was later drafted into the U.S. Military. He served in France, Germany, Philippines and Korea.



*Dr. Andrew Billingsley with his wife, the former Amy Loretta Tate, and their two children, Angela Eleanor, 12, and Bonita Rebecca, 11, and the family pet.*

*(Photos by Cabell)*

***New Morgan president is advocate of love, tolerance and action***

Although a late-bloomer in the arena of higher education, Billingsley earned four degrees in a matter of 23 years: AB, Grinnell, 1951; MS, social work, Boston University, 1956; MA, sociology, University of Michigan, 1960; Ph.D., Brandeis University, 1964.

Billingsley, familiarly known as "Andy" in the academic circles of Harvard, Berkeley and Howard, is a prolific writer, an articulate speaker, a magic fund-raiser and above all an exciting educator.

The sociologist has authored four books, co-authored two, and has published 42 scholarly, researched articles including several monographs.

Among his major published works are "Black Families in White America," "Children of the Storm" and "Strengths of Black Families." He was caught in the center of the radical movements of the Sixties, while serving as assistant chancellor for academic affairs and associate professor of social work at the University of California, Berkeley.

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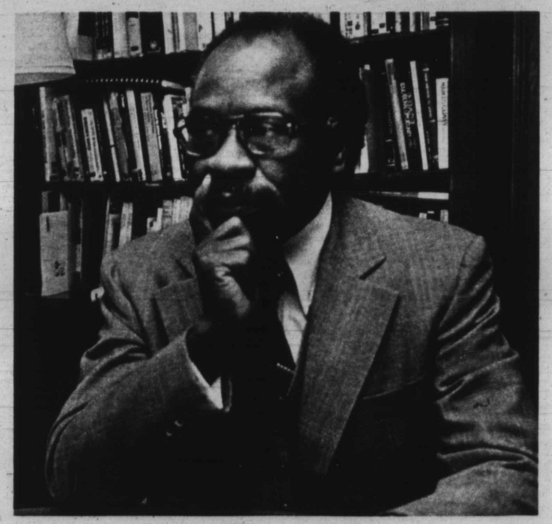
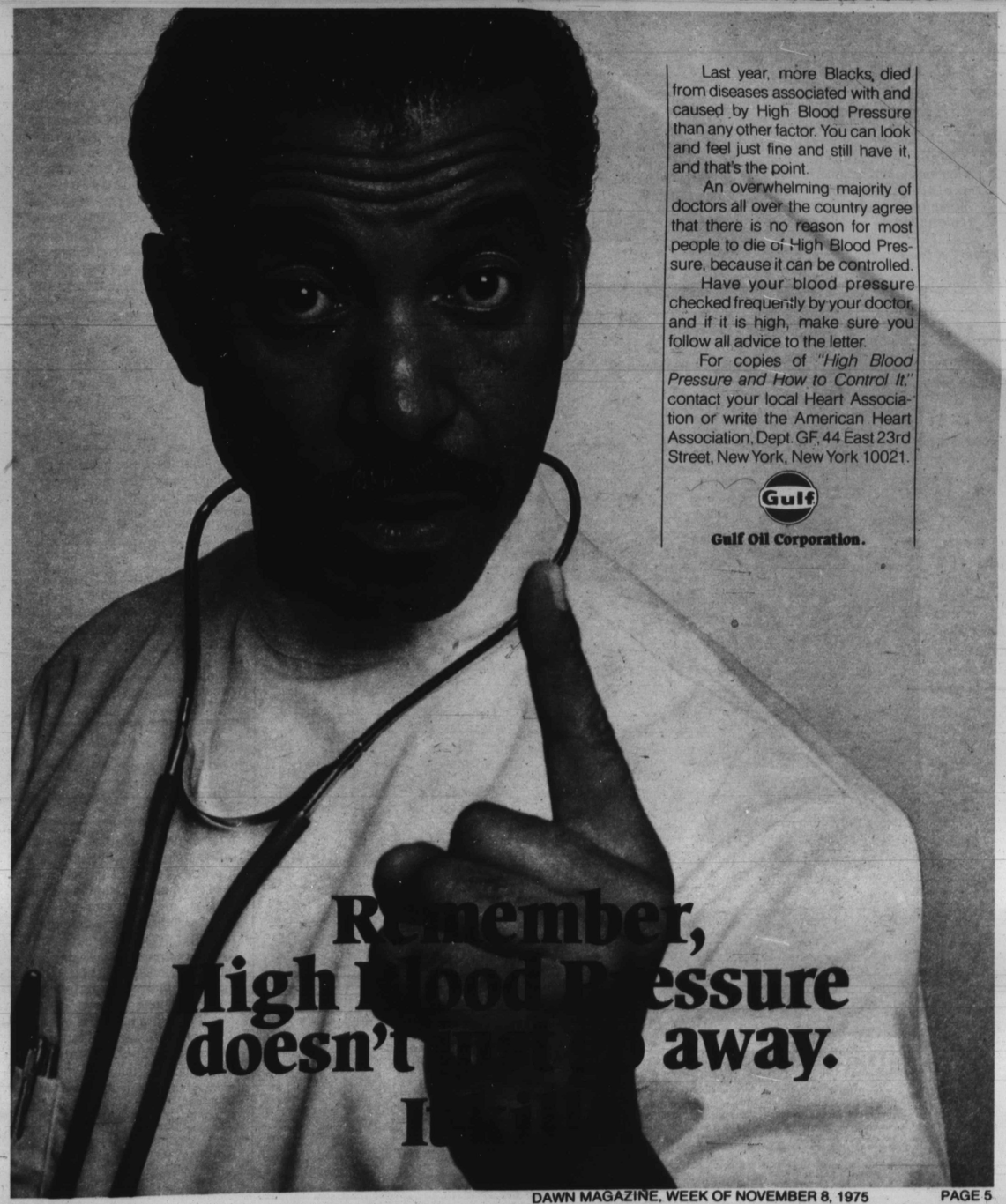
***'Black colleges have demonstrated their ability to train competent manpower for the nation. . .'***



*DR. BILLINGSLEY IN STUDY*




Last year, more Blacks died from diseases associated with and caused by High Blood Pressure than any other factor. You can look and feel just fine and still have it, and that's the point.

An overwhelming majority of doctors all over the country agree that there is no reason for most people to die of High Blood Pressure, because it can be controlled.

Have your blood pressure checked frequently by your doctor, and if it is high, make sure you follow all advice to the letter.

For copies of *"High Blood Pressure and How to Control It,"* contact your local Heart Association or write the American Heart Association, Dept. GF, 44 East 23rd Street, New York, New York 10021.

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