Baltimore Afro-American

OPINION

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"FALL BACK, SPRING FORWARD"
TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR ON OCT. 25

The crime crisis

If St. George Crosse did nothing else last week his plea for a city-wide coalition of citizens to lessen crime in our community was of considerable value.

His blast at our elected officials for being "soft" on crime also had its positive aspects.

The fact that Crosse is Republican and most of the politicians he criticized are Democrats cannot be overlooked.

The fact that the august SUNPAPERS released the results of a state-wide poll shortly after Crosse's pronouncements and the AFRO's citing of crime as a paramount concern in our neighborhoods can also not be overlooked.

For even if the Sun's findings are half-valid, the evidence is clear (as we have been saying all along) that violent street crime has as the great majority of its victims, black citizens, particularly young black men.

That the aggressors of violent street crime also are young black men is of equal importance.

It boils down to a terrible waste of human life. Victims, killed and maimed, perpetrators incarcerated, all black, all young.

Considering this data we are of a mind that Crosse who is capable of both brilliant political perceptions and colossal mistakes has targeted a feeling among black Baltimoreans that his Democratic adversaries have either been tip-toeing around or have been keeping under the rug for almost a decade.

Our community is gripped with a fear of crime and sick to death of leadership that has thus far not articulated this concern.

We are confident now that the long silence has been broken citizens and organizations will begin to formulate the necessary political, socio-economic and humanistic strategies to diminish the devastating toll crime takes on our people.

To this end, we all must be willing to restructure some of our traditional thinking about crime and black people.

We suspect that a painful reordering of priorities will be necessary. It will be with much anguish that all of us must begin to think of what we might have to give up to ensure safe streets for our families.

It will be with even more pain that we begin to examine the question of whether the police are to be told anything or if such accommodation is ever viable.

It will be far less trouble to review our juvenile justice system because everyone is agreed it is simply not working.

Warehousing, rehabilitation, capital punishment, work-release programs. All of these issues must be looked at anew.

The inequity of sentencing and the need for a uniform code of jurisprudence are other important concerns.

We all have shied away from such questions.

The good people of Maryland, however, send strong signals to all who can hear that something must be done about crime. Whether we end with simplistic Draconian solutions or programs that are more even-handed is very much up to us.

In a war on crime as in a war on anything you get out of it only as much as you put into it.

Everyone has begun talking about crime finally, now its "doing time."

MADELINE MURPHY

Does blame-placing solve anything

Is the problem greater than personality differences? I keep asking this question as I read where the Rev. St. George Crosse lambasts the black legislators as do-nothings, while he has this grand plan for coalition to write a position paper to deal with the problem of crime.

On surface, his proposals are more a support of police than they are part of a reasoned plan to address the complexity of the issue.

It may be true all the youthful criminals are not out here looking for jobs, but do come from stable homes, with enough food, clothing and shelter. But then how do churches work with these families, help them, counsel them so other family members do not choose the wrong role models?

In addition, there indeed are those who find crime pays more and faster than a steady job if it were available to them. Are these people in families without hope, without morals or without ideals? There also the church has a role.

Just last Sunday, Wall Street Week on PBS threw out the suggestion of one of its regular panel members, that the best investments today were in crime. Yes, crime.

Security systems and all the ancillary corporations who feed with greed on the hysteria of crime, for after all, crime is big business in guns, mace, illicit drug manufacturing, alcohol, private security forces, you name it — even bullets.

What do all the people who are concerned about crime, therefore, do about those few corrupt police who shake down drug pushers, number writers, informers, and the whole fringe area that also considers crime to be big business?

It indeed is deplorable we must be victimized given this background by our own people, while there have been symposia, meetings and conventions called by politicians; such as Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, to form a plan to combat crime in our neighborhoods.

But it does us little good to chastise each other for not doing enough, saying black legislators are soft on crime. This is purely a divisive stance which divides us at a time when we need unity.

We shall need everyone, on all fronts, to devise a plan such as Ossie Davis said at the first Congressional Black Caucus dinner 10 years ago:

"It's not the man, but the plan; it's not the rap, but the map."

Presenting position papers on what community residents would like to see done about the surge in violent crime, merely does what most governments do when they cannot solve a problem. They scapegoat first, form a task force next and then study the problem to death without moving off dead center.

We all know what the problem is.

But are we, as citizens, aside from the quasi-vigilante groups, such as the Guardian Angels and escorts, willing to participate actively in block by block, community by community programs that will get school drop-outs off the streets, will motivate them to go back to school to learn how to read and write, to study a trade and to prepare themselves for a growing technological society?

It is in this light we must ask where were most of the citizens when Mayor William Donald Schaefer tried to bulldoze the Lockwood Building, where trades in refrigeration, computer programming and other worthwhile skills are being taught at the Harbor Campus of the Community College of Baltimore?

Without vigilance this may happen again, for that is prime land for hotels, office buildings and the economic development of the harbor.

What measure will we take to keep children in school now that school lunches and teacher personnel are being cut, now that the Headstart program is out of the window?

Where are the churches that will have similar Problems using church members as volunteers? What about after-school study programs enlisting the aid of teachers, who are parishioners and junior high members of the Future Teachers Clubs?

When do we open our churches during the week to fill these gaps, no longer subsidized by federal funds? What about literacy classes for adults—the more than 250,000 who are functional illiterates?

Not only must we fight violent crime with punishment and police protection, we also must develop programs in prevention, abatement, motivation and uplift.

It is these private, tax exempt institutions, most of them closed during the week, that must realize their mission in this world.

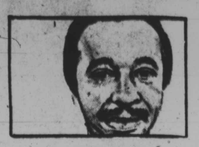
As Booker T. Washington exhorted, "cast down your buckets where you are." It is this we should try. It is this we must be forced to do, by those who are Reaganites, as well as those who are anti-Reagan.

No longer can we be of the mentality of placing blame of letting "George" do it. When we realize we all are interdependent, that we have to pull together, then maybe something will be done about the problem of crime.

Maybe then, we shall close the generation gap, the blame placing gap and the judgemental attitudes toward each other and our children.

For there, but for the grace of God, go you and I.

PARREN MITCHELL



Private Sector can't do it

When President Ronald Reagan and the Congress slashed away at jobs and job training programs, they attempted to justify those cuts by saying the private sector will find jobs for the unemployed Comprehensive Training Act (CETA) workers.

Well, that just has not happened.

At a recent speaking engagement in Florida, I was seated next to the president of a major corporation at the head table. During the course of the dinner, the local CETA director made an impassioned plea to the businessmen present to find jobs for 1,000 former CETA workers.

I turned to the president of the corporation and asked, "how many will your company take?" He replied, "none, we are not doing any hiring and it is most unlikely that we will do any substantial hiring in the next two years."

Last Spring, Labor Secretary Ray Donovan enlisted the support of the business community in an effort to find jobs immediately for terminated CETA workers. His efforts were the first test of Reagan's reliance on the private sector to help fight against long-term unemployment.

Donovan chose New Jersey, his home state, to make the strong pitch to the business community. In New Jersey, 16,000 persons lost public service work because of the Reagan budget cuts.

"Stand up and be counted," urged Secretary Donovan, but the business community did not stand up, in fact, it did not get up. In response to the Labor Secretary's plea, 18 employers offered 20 job leads, not jobs, but job leads to the 16,000 unemployed persons.

In Baltimore, some 14,000 former CETA workers are looking for jobs. Mayor William Donald Schaefer has announced the Baltimore business community has raised $500,000 to take up some of the slack in programs severely hurt by the federal budget cuts, but it has not, perhaps, cannot address the problem of unemployed CETA workers.

One corporate president in Baltimore told me, "this idea simply has not caused a ripple in the business community because these people just do not fit our needs."

The CETA director in Montgomery County, Maryland advertised widely in the Washington area newspapers (Maryland and Virginia) for jobs for unemployed CETA workers. Only five responses were received.

The problem with asking the private sector to find jobs for former CETA employees is many companies have a large number of their employees laid off and those employees will be returned to payrolls first.

In addition, the private sector is searching for computer, secretarial, and word processing skills — skills not possessed by former CETA workers.

The U.S. Labor Department had announced that by Sept. 30, 1981, the bulk of laid-off CETA employees would have found jobs in the private sector. Of the 306,000 CETA workers, only 18 percent had found jobs in the private sector by Sept. 30.

The first real test of the private sector under the Reagan Administration has failed and failed miserably.

To me, it is still incredible the Reagan Administration and the Congress would have savagely slashed funds for jobs and job training programs without considering what the impact would be on the lives of people and on the economy.

Twenty-two percent of unemployed CETA workers are collecting unemployment benefits. Fifteen percent are unaccounted for. Five percent entered into military training.

Thanks I.B.M. Thanks General Motors. Thanks Exxon. Thank all of you for taking up the slack.

College mergers

As we see it Sheldon Knorr, Commissioner of the State Board for Higher Education, is determined to bring the state's traditionally black colleges to heel.

Being a good bureaucrat, we assume, Dr. Knorr would not keep heading down this road without the blessing of the commissioners he serves.

His latest ploy is a recommendation that the trustee boards of Morgan State University and Coppin State College be merged, one group overseeing two distinct campuses.

This strikes us as administratively daffy, but then Dr. Knorr in past maneuvers has tried to practically close Morgan down or at least abort its historic and continuing mission by letting the University of Maryland swallow MSU whole.

The community blocked that bid.

Now on a different tack, we are confronted with this MSU-Coppin merger which seems another version of the same attempts at emasculation.

We keep suggesting to the State Board and to Dr. Knorr that they cease and desist but once again, they have the many friends of Morgan and Coppin up in arms again.

We regret that the three black education commissioners, Thelma Cox, Harrison Ager and Louis Randall, did not exempt themselves from this section of Knorr's overall recommendations as the MSU-Coppin merger in no way reflects the wishes of the constituencies from which they come.

LETTERS

Rawling's views on crime

Dear AFRO:

I commend the AFRO for raising the level of public discussion on the issue of crime in the black community and welcome such interest being taken.

The black press is an appropriate vehicle for articulating concerns of the black community. I encourage you to continue to engage in this constructive manner of reporting.

I do, however, vigorously take exception to your recent editorial embracing the position of the Reverend St. George Crosse related to crime in our community.

You and Reverend Crosse have taken a very simplistic approach to a complex, multi-faceted issue. The Reverend Crosse's opinion, "there is no such thing as prevention, and 'get them off the streets any way possible,' and his general 'get tough' attitude can be dangerous to indecent blacks accused of 'crime' and should neither be encouraged nor embraced by the AFRO.

Ironically, in the same issue (Oct. 17, 1981) the Reverend Crosse is quoted as saying, "there's no need to worry about police brutality," there also is an article that begins by stating, "The NAACP has released an outstanding organizational manual for local groups that want to end the improper use of deadly force by police, a problem which claims a disproportionate number of black lives each year."

We, as blacks, should be ever watchful to keep extremist and vigilante groups of any kind out of our communities. We should be more cognizant than other groups of the constitutional infringements that these groups can perpetrate in the name of a "cause."

Black on black crime is a festering cancer in our community of which there are many causes: high unemployment, drugs, delinquency, the deterioration of the black family, the lack of a universally accepted value system in our community, to name a few.

It will take a strong coalition of citizens, elected officials, law enforcement agencies, the media, the church and other facets of our community to alleviate this savage problem.

My philosophy on crime in our community is more compatible with that articulated by a NAACP spokesman which its community residents can actively fight crime in their neighborhoods; for example by turning in drug dealers, providing police with descriptions of assailants and generally offering the police more assistance.

Elected officials are a vehicle for expressing public sentiment in the legislative arena through an orderly, legal process.

With regard to black state legislators, accurate research on your part will show the legislative positions we have taken on the prevention of crime. They are not "soft" nor do they ignore the concerns of protecting black citizens from police brutality and disparate sentencing from judges.

As a black legislator, I resent the implication I am not concerned about crime in the black community. I welcome the opportunity to work with any responsible, legitimate group that is willing to seriously address this problem.

I will not, however, support anti-crime legislation that will have a far reaching discriminatory impact on our citizens. Nor will I be manipulated to engage in irresponsible legislative activities by the self-serving, political rhetoric of some black community leaders.

DEL. HOWARD P. RAWLINGS
(D.-40th district)

An outrageous Reagan choice

Dear AFRO:

It is difficult to maintain much faith in "due process" and "fair play" when once again the folks at the top get to bend the rules to meet their own purpose. I am referring to the sham hearings now being conducted on Dr. Everett Koop's nomination for U.S. Surgeon General.

President Ronald Reagan has promoted the nomination of this Philadelphia pediatrician, who is past the age limit required for the nominee and who is not a Public Health Doctor as the regulations state the Surgeon General must be.

Also, he comes to the nomination lacking an unbiased view towards the health needs of the American public; he opposes the position taken by more than 75 percent of America, about 150 million of us, that abortion must be a safe and legal choice available to all women.

In spite of these major drawbacks, Dr. Koop's nomination continues to move closer to congressional approval.

Special exceptions are being made for his age and for his lack of public health medicine qualifications. It is a sorry day when despite a person's lack of qualifications they are appointed to an important public leadership post.

In addition, his inability to represent the concerned majority of Americans in their pro-choice views regarding abortion, only further emphasizes his lack of qualification for this job.

He is too biased to understand the many reasons why women choose not to continue a pregnancy at a given time. As Surgeon General, one must advocate for better public health care, not try to control and limit access to medical services one dislikes for personal reasons.

I would ask my representatives in Washington how they can, in good conscience, confirm the nomination of Dr. Koop for Surgeon General when he so clearly is a poor choice for the position.

People who want the Surgeon General to be a leader in advocating for services, education, and public policies that help the American people become healthier in body and spirit cannot support Dr. Koop as a candidate for this post. Nor can we vote for elected officials who support such an outrageous nominee.

CYNTHIA GOLDBERG

Samuel BANKS

Blacks and poor: Under siege in the U.S.

The trickle down philosophy inherent in Reaganomics, in reality, is having a devastating effect on 31 million black Americans and more than 25 million Americans defined as poor in the United States.

It is abundantly clear the paramount focus and operation of the Reagan Administration is not a balancing of the budget, but a calculated and deliberate attack on blacks and the poor through a blatant elimination of vital support systems.

The Reagan-Stockman cruel socio-economic warfare directed against blacks and the poor is succeeding because, as in the past, the larger white society by and large, to date, has acquiesced and remained silent.

Rational and thoughtful observers of Reagan's economic plan can readily discern the plan will not balance the budget or end inflation or significantly reduce inflation by 1984.

The Reagan economic plan, in actuality, is an invidious and divisive force in our national life.

A fundamental leitmotif or emphasis of Reaganomics is the necessity of maintaining power and obscuring the deficits and failures of the Reagan Administration by creating scapegoats. The scapegoats, as has been so often true of our nation's history in the past and present, are blacks and the poor.

The broad visibility of Black Americans in our society provides an auspicious framework for singling them out for whatever ails the nation.

The remarkable factor, given the gruesome and brutal vicissitudes and privations 31 million black Americans endure on a daily basis, is their faith remains whole and wedded to our nation's ideals and possibilities.

It is clear the current period, in view of the institutional exclusion, hate, religious and racial subtleties, is highly dangerous and inimicable to the vital interests of blacks and the poor.

A brooding, troubled and angry black underclass is proliferating as a result of the operation of Reaganomics and the developing of a national mood that is non-supportive of social and economic justice for all citizens.

The point made by James Henry Hammond, a wealthy plantation owner from South Carolina, 123 years ago is reflective of this point:

"In all social systems there must be a class to do the menial duties, to perform the drudgery of life. That is, a class requiring but a low order of intellect and but little skills.

"Its requisites are vigor, docility, fidelity. Such a class you must have, or you would not have that other class which leads progress, civilization and refinement."

This ancient raison d'etre utilized by Hammond et al., in a feverish and desperate effort, to set in place a rationale to support the iniquitous and barbarous system of slavery has, in fact, been updated and euphemized by the Reagan Administration and their apologists in the nation's urban plantations in the name of "safety nets" the truly needy" and "reverse discrimination."

The fundamental result remains the same: the institutional subordination and oppression of blacks and the poor.

While blacks, historically, have been able to endure and maintain their humanity in the face of awesome resistance and brutalization by the majority white society, the hardest part, past and present, has been enduring the traducement and hypocrisy by fellow-blacks.

The rank opportunism and apostasy of Drs. Thomas Sowell, Walter Williams, Gloria Toote, among others, is a grievous blow to the hopes and aspirations of 31 million black people in the midst of vicious and deadly socio-economic warfare.

Drs. Thomas Sowell, orginally from an impoverished area of Gastonia, N.C. and Walter Williams, a former native of an economically depressed section of Philadelphia, in particular, have become the "high priests" without portfolio of the Reagan Administration.

Each of them confidently avers, to the great satisfaction and pleasure of the majority white society, that there is no need for affirmative action, school busing to achieve equality in education, a minimum wage and other social programs to assist their fellow blacks and the poor.

They have been enormously successful in attracting the undivided attention of the nation's media - New York Times Magazine, Washington Post, and numerous television and radio interviews - and acquiring speaking engagements because as feckless self-aggrandizers they parrot the rank nonsense and jaundiced thinking of the majority white culture.

Both Sowell, Williams and the other colossal apostates should be eternally grateful to Drs. William E. B. DuBois, Mordecai Wyatt Johnson, Carter Godwin Woodson, Charles Spurgeon Johnson, Mary MacCleod Bethune, Ralph Johnson Bunche, Rayford W. Logan, Alain Locke, Merze Tate, John Hope Franklin, Charles S. Wesley and Benjamin Quarles.

They were, among others, towering black scholars and innovators, plus the thousands of nameless activists of the turbulent 1960s, who put their lives on the line and made it possible for them to pout their arcane economic theories and to secure university positions at the Stanford Institution in California and George Mason University in Virginia.

It should be noted neither Drs. Thomas Sowell nor Walter Williams has any "troops" or standing within the black community.

They have received national attention because the white controlled media, print and electronic, have made them instant "black heroes." They represent for black folk another painful and troubling burden to bear.

The sense of mood, frustration and hopes of black America will be depicted in a scholarly and insightful manner at the 66th national convention of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History in Philadelphia, Pa.

More than 2,000 black historians and educators will convene at the Philadelphia Sheraton Hotel Oct. 29 through Nov. 1, to analyze and suggest action strategies for black Americans in a period of major crisis.

The association, founded by the late Dr. Carter G. Woodson, is the foremost organization in the nation and world focusing upon the history and culture of black Americans.

It is demonstrably clear for blacks and the poor, under siege, the situation will worsen before it improves.

A comment made by the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., on April 3, 1968, in Memphis, TN, the night before his assassination is both prophetic and steadying in a period of tremendous stress and strain for 31 million black Americans and supporters of social and economic justice and freedom:

"I don't know what will happen now. We have got difficult days ahead, but it doesn't matter with me, because I've been to the mountain top.

"Like everyone else, I would like to live a long life. But I'm not concerned with that. I just want to do God's will, and He has allowed me to go up the moutain.

"You all know the story of Rip Van Winkle. Everyone remembers that Winkle slept for 20 years. But what is important is that when he went up on that mountain to sleep there was a picture of King George hanging in town. When he came down, there was a picture of George Washington in its place.

"Rip Van Winkle slept through a revolution, but we cannot afford to remain asleep...Our world is as a neighborhood. We must all learn to live together as brothers or we will all perish as fools."

The "difficult days" predicted by Dr. King are now upon us. The socio-economic budget cuts of the Reagan Administration forecast for 1982, 1983 and 1984 will intensify exacerbate the deplorable and desparate status of wide segments of black America and the poor.

The times call not for universal lamentations, self-pity and sack cloth and ashes, but audacious, well-conceived and imaginative planning and action for our collective survival.

We have come too far to permit the temporal siege and fury of Reaganomics and racism to stop us in our ancient quest for full freedom, social and economic justice and equality of opportunity in the land of our birth.

85 YEARS OF SERVICE brought honors from Gov. Harry Hughes to the YWCA Madison Avenue Center which were received by representatives Mesdames Thelma Ashe, Regina Bernard (chairperson), Philathia Calhoun (community specialist) and Patricia Page. The Madison Avenue YWCA 85th birthday celebration will be held the week of Nov. 2-8.

By Elizabeth M. Oliver

For all we know

THE BIG SALES item at the Teachers Convention was the poster "FAMOUS BLACK AMERICANS."

STRANGELY, white teachers and older black teachers were excited and happy to be able to get the poster for the children for Black History week.

BUT, young black teachers seemed to reject the old attitude to reject everything which makes them black.

Some of the teachers said they had no black students in their classes and therefore "we do not teach black history."

ATTITUDES varied from parents. The upper black parents were proud to get the poster for their children's room at home and "a present for the teacher."

Most white parents wanted the children to have the poster as a good possession. Many white youngsters could identify most of the famous black Americans.

Black and white alike grabbed the poster because of Sugar Ray Leonard's photo. Prince Georges County teachers and parents by the score bought several posters "just to have them."

THE YWCA CONGRATULATIONS go to the Madison Avenue YWCA Center which is marking its 85 years of service.

THIS EVENT brings to mind the fact that my Grandmother Martha Elizabeth Murphy was one of the YW founders. Her picture used to hang on the wall there.

Way back according to history, the YW was the place for the ladies who came to Baltimore to go to college or to teach school.

A very elite place to lodge, the home away from home strictly guarded the ladies who were reared properly, and had good morals and manners.

REJECTING or how times have changed-look, for example, at the coed college dorms where the men can visit over night and the ladies don't seem to mind.

And neither do the administrators of the institutions of higher learning.

PLANNING for the 85th Anniversary, the YWCA Madison Avenue Center says:

"THE OLD ADAGE" 'You're not getting older. You're getting better,' seems fitting when describing the YWCA of the Greater Baltimore Area's

BERTRAM W. WILSON who retired from Goucher College after 32 years service.

Madison Avenue Center, which celebrates 85 years of service to Baltimore Nov. 2 - 8.

A variety of events will come during the week which has officially been proclaimed as "Madison Avenue 85th Celebration Week" by Gov. Hughes and Mayor Schaefer.

THE PUBLIC is invited to the classes YWCA Aerobics at St. Cecelia's Church, Mondays and Wednesdays (5:30 - 6:30 p.m.) and

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BIG SELLER is the Famous Black Americans poster which pictures 61 noted persons including Marylanders Dr. Aris T. Allen, Alex Haley, Sugar Ray Leonard, Harriett Tubman, Cong. Parren J Mitchell and Frederick Douglass.

Tony Brown's Journal

Fired up — won't take no more

"We came down to the Capitol (yeah, yeah). Because our schools are on the line (yeah, yeah). We need black colleges to train black minds (yeah, Yeah)."

That chant was heard from as far West as Oklahoma and eastward to Pennsylvania and Ohio. "Tens of thousands of black marchers," reported Time magazine, were out cheering for their choice of a higher education.

However, America's leading news magazine in an overall accurate article, made several statements consistent with a white press bias towards black America.

"Fired up, can't take no more. Fired up, don't want no more, Fired up, Don't need no more, Fired up, Won't stand (for) no more."

That chant does more to explain the inner feelings of the thousands of marchers than Time's interpretation the demonstrations were sponsored to uphold "separate but equal education."

Separate but unequal is the current status of blacks and whites and since white America, white liberals and Negro civil rights leaders have demonstrated an inferior-status for blacks is acceptable if it is called integration, it is obvious to most of us "We can't take no more."

The old concept of interpreting black progress in the context of white interests has given way to a realization that by maintaining our own institutions we will guarantee our own equality. Being with or without whites is not the issue; whether blacks can survive is.

Seeing our young people — the college age group that has had to walk a minefield of drugs, self-possession and false promises — chant and - march for a safe place to study and to prepare for the future — is more than heart-warming.

"We don't need no music, All we want to do, Is read and write and study hard, And stay in an all-black school."

Just think, during slavery if a black were caught with a book, he or she would be beaten — or killed. Now our young people are fighting for the right to "book."

Of the 16 states where marches and rallies occurred, I walked with the Pennsylvania Coalition in defense of Cheyney State College.

At the state Captiol in Harrisburg, pledges were made to uphold Cheyney's lawsuit against the state and federal government's insistence that money be diverted to programs for white students at the expense of black students.

Dr. Luther Burse is Cheyney's interim president. It is a shame he is its temporary leader, because he is demonstrating what a black college president should be.

"The Cheyney State College faculty is urged and requested to recognize Black College Day 1981 in active participation and or regard for students who are legally absent from classes to participate."

At the Atlanta March, one of our media conscious "leaders" worked his way to the front line and garnered the white press' accolade of "leader" for doing so.

But it was the student-government presidents in Georgia: Calvin Smyre, State Representative; and Tommy Dortch, Sen. Sam Nunn's administrative assistant and president of the Council of National Alumni Associations, representing 85 of the 110 black colleges.

These efforts will destroy the genocidal gossip of such limited thinking as Kenneth Clark, the darling of Negro integrationists:

"Black colleges perpetuate inferior academic standards for black students and award Jim Crow degrees that do not meet the standards of the average traditionally white colleges."

Just two weeks before Black College Day '81, President Ronald Reagan, on Sept. 15, 1981, signed an executive order that will funnel an additional $9.6 million to the nation's black colleges and allow these institutions to obtain equal opportunities in federally sponsored programs.

By special invitation from the president to a White House luncheon held "in conjunction with Black College Day" — which is sponsored by the Coalition for Black Colleges.

More than 100 distinguished guests, including black college presidents, alumni directors, student government leaders, church leaders, and heads of some of the largest black organizations in the country, aplauded the President's comments on black colleges in a rare showing of — black — presidential support.

"It should never be for[illegible] that when educational [illegible] were denied [illegible] and they did their job well," President Reagan said.

It is through the education they offered that individuals can make themselves into the type of people they choose to be instead of what some central planner says they should be."

TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL, the television series, is shown every Saturday, on WBAL-TV (11), at 2 p.m.