1985 Morgan graduation was among 'most festive'

By Joe McIver

The highlight of the academic year at any institution of higher learning is its annual commencement weekend. Thousands of parents and alumni return to be a part of the gala festivities. The 1985 Commencement Weekend (May 18 and May 19) at Morgan State University was no different. It will go down as one of the most festive and memorable one in Morgan's 118 - year history.

Starting with the Annual Farewell Convocation on Friday, May 17 where the university honored the outstanding achievers of the Class of 1985, and culminating on Sunday evening with the actual graduation ceremonies, Morgan showed just what it is made of by exhibiting the grace and dignity that such an occasion demands.

Dr. Burney Hollis, chairman of the University's English Department, gave a stunning Senior Farewell Convocation Address, stressing the same message that served as Jesse Jackson's theme during 1984 — "Your Time Has Come!"

Dr. Hollis told the Class of 1985 that "by accepting the challenge to leadership, you must first understand that being a leader will not come easy. You must acquire high principles, values, convictions and maintain them against all odds — which will be many. For many people will conspire to frustrate and deny your ascendency to leadership.

"Be steadfast and firm in your mission. Realize that hard work is the gateway to success. The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary. Be persistent in working for what you believe in and have high convictions, morals, intellectual, civic and personal principles."

Some of the outstanding honors received during the convocation, which was held Friday afternoon in Carl Murphy Auditorium, included: the President's Award to Miss Morgan given to Isha R. Brooks; the Student Government Association's Leadership Award given to James B. Butler; the President's Exceptional Creative Achievement Award given to Curtis L. Jones, who was also the student representative to the university's Board of Regents; and the President's Second Mile Award to Latonya S. Cargile and Airuel D. Singletary.

The Senior Farewell Convocation was followed by the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) Commissioning Ceremonies. Second Lieutenant Kandace Means, commissioned into the Army's Signal Corps, won the President's Award to the Outstanding ROTC Cadet.

Second Lieutenant Corvelli NcDaniels, commissioned into the Army's Military Intelligence, won the President Emeritus Martin D. Jenkins Award. The guest speaker for the affair was Maj. General Eugene R. Cromartie, commander of the Civil Investigation Division in Missouri.

The Commencement Exercises were held Sunday afternoon with Juanita Kidd Stout, judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia, giving the commencement address and receiving an honorary degree. Judge Stout spoke on personal ethics and integrity saying, "the quality of the personal ethics of the individual determines the quality of the society in which they live. Conversely the quality of the society influences the quality of the personal ethics of the individuals."

After Judge Stout's address, Morgan State's internationally renown choir, directed by Dr. Nathan Carter, sang Rambod and Clydedale's "We Shall Behold Him." Ms. Elizabeth Hogue was the soloist.

The conferring of the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws to Judge Stout by Dr. David F. Johnson, outgoing Chairman of the University Board of Regents, was next on the agenda. Followed by the conferring of undergraduates and graduate degrees. In all, 534 undergraduate, 145 Master's and one doctorate was conferred during the day, for a total of 680 degrees awarded.

After Col. Ronald A. Copes, chairman of the department of Military Science, announced the official commissioning of the senior ROTC cadets to the rank of second lieutenant in the United States Army, Ernest C. Hammond, president of the University's Faculty Senate, announced the senior honors graduates. The Valedictory remarks were given by Ms. Desiree D. Humphries, who graduated with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Art Education with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. Ms. Jonnitra Walker, a Biology major from Richmond, Virginia gave the challenge to the graduates as the Senior Class president. Ms. Walker reminded the graduates that "we must give back to Morgan what we have just gotten out of it and that means joining and being active in the National Alumni Association and giving to the university's Annual Fund Drive."

The National Alumni Association's "Alumnus of the Year Award" was presented to John J. Griswold, Class of '51 and Philadelphia Chapter president. Griswold was selected for his impressive accomplishments in the field of Equal Opportunity in the United States Department of Labor, along with his civic and community service. Dr. Herman Brown, interim president of the National Alumni Association, presented Griswold the award and inducted the new graduates into the alumni association.

Following the induction ceremonies, Dr. Carter and the choir really gave the graduates and audience something to remember as they sang Lionel Richie and Michael Jackson's "We are the World."

Dr. Earl S. Richardson, Morgan's president, gave his farewell statement to the graduates and then everyone stood and sang the school Alma Mater "Fair Morgan" led by the choir. Rev. Douglas Sands, pastor of Howard Park United Methodist Church and a Morgan graduate, closed the ceremony with the benediction.

The lobby of the Civic Center took on a festive mood after the commencement ceremony as graduates congratulated one another and were joined by their families and friends. See page 28 for more pictures.

Morgan Graduates

The following received the Bachelor of Arts degree:

William C Bailey, Religous Studies; Stewart E Brown Sociology; Lynda F L Burchfield, Sociology; Zachary A L Christopher, Sociology; Wanda A Claiborne, Telecommunications; Gilbert K Cole, Sociology; Roland C Colborne II, History; Farah T Cottman, Spanish; Bridget C Cromwell, Political Science; Aldinnis S Divers, Sociology; Robert O Evans, Sociology; Kim O Fenwick, Telecommunications; Sherri L Fields, Telecommunications; Carol L Green, Telecommunications; Bruce Harding, English; Anthony E Horsey, Religious Studies; Joseph C Howard, Jr., Political Science;

Karen R Jackson, English; Walter D Jackson, III, Religous Studies; Daryl D Jones, Telecommunications; John T Jones, III, Sociology; Deborah J E Joyner, Political Science; Erlinda S Lachica, Spanish; JoAnn Ledbetter, Telecommunications; Raymond Anthony Leftwich, Telecommunications; Rhonda M Vaughan Malhotra, Telecommunications; Lorne D Matthews, English;

Chandra J McLellan, English; Gail B Moody, English; Vernon P Ockenfels, Sociology; Agatha U Okeke, Telecommunications; Martina G Pack, Economics; Aaron A Jacobs, Telecommunications; Ajay Sinha, Philosophy; Mark Stevens, Political Science; Fabian V Stokes, History; Christine M Sweat, History;

Timothy W Sweetwine, Sociology; Michael O Thomas, Philosophy; Wilson Truheart, Jr. Sociology; Vell L Wheeler Theatre Arts; Stanley L Wise, Philosophy; Stanley L Wise, Religious Studies; Velissa Y Woodard, Telecommunications.

The following received the Bachelor of Science degree:

Donna A Alston, Mathematics; Pamela F Atkinson, Mathematics; Donna S Bailey, Accounting; Catherine W Barbee, Home Economics; Jacquelyn A Barber, Business Administration; Tony M Best, Business Administration; DeAnne A Blackwell, Telecommunications;

Dorene L Bolden, Business Administration; Annette J Boone, Mental Health; Janice D Bradley, Business Administration; Paula R Bradley, Secretarial Science; Lucille L Bradshaw, Management; John M Brewer, Accounting; Leslie J Brinkley, Psychology; Marvin M Briscoe, Social Work; Carolyn E Brock, Business Administration; Glenda D Brogden, Business Administration;

Andra C Brown, Business Administration; Diverarl Brown, Sr., Social Work; Jeffrey E Brown, Accounting; Margaret A Brown, Home Economics; Margaret A Brown, Business Administration; Mary V Brown, Social Work; Michelle R Brown, Information Sciences and Systems; Michelle R Broun, Marketing;

Stephanie Bushrod, Economics; Mary E Carroll, Business Administration; Wanda D Clapp, Accounting; Constance E Clements, Social Work; Sharon Coleman, Business Education; Kim L Cornish, Psychology; Mitzi E Dailey, Accounting; Mary D Davis, Psychology; Myrna L Davis, Social Work; Beatrice P Dennis, Mental Health;

Thomas C Dixon, Physics; Wendy D Dockery, Business Administration; Annette M Douglas, Health Education; John P Douglass, Biology; Seyed M Ehteshami, Computer Science; Russell L Epps, Business Administration; Debbie T Ervin, Elementary Education; Kelvonne L Ervin, Marketing; Unaford L Ervin, Urban Studies; Crystal L Flood, Business Administration; Gina A Fortune, Biology; Karen J Foster, Accounting;

Rochel A Galloway, Telecommunications; David G Garner, Business Administration; Lesly Gelin, Business Administration; Denise C Gibson, Marketing; Lois L Gilliam, Business Administration; Stanford J Goldman, Mathematics; Gwendolyn M Goode, Business Administration; Charlie J Gould, Social Work; Pauline D A Gray, Social Work; Raymond Green, Psychology; Paula R Griffin, Social Work; Yolanda M Grinage, Social Work; Sharon R Guthrie, Business Administration; Dawn R Habersham, Marketing; Marsha D Hall, Business Administration;

Farrell H Harleston, Accounting; Isaac S Harmon IV, Accounting;

Eliza D Harrison, Social Work; Adrienne L Hawkins, Music Education; James L Hedges, Accounting; Sharon L Hedges, Mental Health; Tony R Hill, Telecommunications; Geraldine R Hill, Biology;

Gary M Holland, Telecommunications; Shirletta L Holley, Mental Health; Darrell L Hopkins, Psychology; Linda E C Howard, Accounting; Desiree D Humphries, Art Education; Doretha G A Imes, Business Administration; Glenda A Jeffers-Tuve, Accounting; Charisse E Jeter, Mathematics; Janet H Jenkins, Business Administration; Arnold E Johnson, Psychology; Cassandra D Johnson, Telecommunications;

Clyde J Johnson, Business Administration; Elyse Johnson, Management; Carl X Jones, Telecommunications; Curtis L Jones, Physics; Curtis L Jones, Engineering Physics; Rudolph W Jones, Mental Health; Brian W Knight, Health Education; Celestine R Knight, Business Administration; Roland L Knox, Business Administration; Anna L Layton, Business Administration;

Elton S Leonard, Marketing; Elton S Leonard, Management; Aaron R Lewis, Marketing; Keita D Lewis, Biology; Darlene Lightner, Management; Alice T Little, Social Work; Demetrius L Little, Fine Arts; Cynthia B Locust, Mental Health; Virgil L Love, Science Education; James E Lyons, Jr., Business Administration; William L Mabie, Jr., Business Administration; Lois A Marks, Management;

Toni D McFadden, Social Work; Kevin Q McPherson, Information Sciences and Systems; Kandace D B Means, Telecommunications; Sandra McIlerson, Business Administration; Glynse L Monroe, Pre-Prof Chemistry; Leonia G Murray, Social Work; Robert L Nelson, Jr., Biology; Denise H H Northerd, Elementary Education; Joanne J O'Brien, Business Administration; Dorne C Okgara, Accounting;

Anthony A Pitchini, Accounting; Charles C Parker, Telecommunications; Reginald J Parker, Computer Science; Dayena M Peacock, Management; Theron A Perry, Marketing; Brian T Pope, Marketing; Jeffrey B Pope, Information Sciences and Systems; Jeffrey H Pope, Economics; Kevin A Randall, Marketing; Lathone D Ray, Mathematics; Henry E Richardson, Business Administration; Helen M W Roby, Elementary Education; Kevin W Rucker, Accounting; Michael E Ruckle, Social Work; Dayd Russell, Music Education; Angela D Sample, Business Administration;

Carolyn Y Sample, Business Administration; Glenda R S Scott, Business Administration; Jean A Scott, Elementary Education; Sara M B Scott, Biology; Todd T Scott, Management; Kim D Shaw, Telecommunications; Debra M Sheppard, Business Administration; Deborah L Simms, Psychology; Airuel D Singletary, Business Administration; Donald G Singleton, Physics; Donald G Singleton, Engineering Physics; Bonita L F Smith, Social Work; Thelma P Smith, Business Education;

Jacqueline E Stokes, Music Education; Elbert W Struthers, II, Business Administration; Cynthia Tabron-Harris, Business Education; Jacqueline Thompson, Social Work; Ryan L Tillery, Business Administration; Clayton R Tolson, Health Education; Beverly J Turner, Fine Arts; David A Wainwright, Telecommunications;

Rachelle L Wainwright, Home Economics; Debra J Walker, Information Sciences and Systems; Frances E Wallace, Business Education;

Pamela E Warren, Psychology; Eric J Watkins-Bey, Accounting; Adriane D West, Mental Health; Josephine D P West, Social Work; Harry A Wheeler, Biology; Levern C Williams, Psychology; Robert E Williams, Business Administration; Debra V Williamson, Business Administration; Altreda Wilson, Business Administration; Jacqueline M Wilson, Business Education; Karon R Wilson, Accounting; Darlene M Wimple, Biology; Stephanie Woods, Economics; Brian D Worrell, Pre-Prof Chemistry.

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A full decade has passed since the inception of the city's Urban Services Agency. Shown at a recent reception honoring this milestone were from left to right: Councilman Nathaniel McFadden; Mrs. Elva Edwards, a USA executive; City Council President Clarence 'Du' Burns; and Dr. Lenwood Ivey, executive director of the Urban Services Agency.

Twilah Scarborough

TWILAH SAYS. . .

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEALTH START

A series of activities and special events has been scheduled throughout 1985 to highlight the 20th Anniversary of Project Head Start. Head Start is a demonstration program which provides comprehensive developmental services for low - income preschool children.

Since its inception in 1965, Head Start has provided educational, social, medical, dental, nutrition and mental health services to over nine million children and their families across the nation. Launched by the Office of Economic Opportunity, it is now administered by the Administration for Children, Youth and Families in the Department of Health and Human Services.

As an innovative program it has had a significant impact upon the thinking of educators, psychoiogist and other specialists in the child care development field. The Head Start Goals is based on the premise that all children share certain needs, and that children of low income families, in particular, can benefit from a comprehensive developmental program to meet those needs.

The family, which is perceived as the principal influence on the child's development, must be a direct participant in the program. Now the local communities are allowed latitude in developing creative programs.

Local communities are allowed latitude in developing creative program designs so long as the basic goals, objectives and standards of a comprehensive program are adhered to.

The overall objective of the "Head Start" program is to actively bring about a greater degree of social competence in children of low income families. The establishment of patterns and expectations of success for the child, which will create a climate of confidence for present and future learning efforts and overall development.

URBAN SERVICES' 10th BIRTHDAY

Its tenth anniversary is in progress at the city Urban Services Agency. Our own Baltimore City Urban Services Agency held its Open House on Tuesday, May 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. This agency is Baltimore's anti - poverty program. The agency runs 18 neighborhood centers, four senior centers, six day care centers, 10 Head Start centers and a variety of self - help programs, including cultural programs, eviction prevention, family crisis intervention, energy assistance, weatherization and transportation services.

Painters Mill making ticket refunds

Attorney General Stephen H. Sachs has announced that the leaseholders and developers of the Painters Mill Theater have signed a settlement agreement promising to establish a $25,000 escrow account from which it will pay refunds to over 400 consumers who held tickets for shows that were cancelled on or after September 30, 1983. The agreement was reached following a Consumer Protection Division investigation that began when the division received numerous complaints from consumers whose requests for refunds were not honored.

As part of the five-page agreement negotiated by the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division, Chesapeake Theatre Productions, Inc., the leaseholder, and PMI Corporation, the developer, promise to send refunds to all consumers who have complained either to the Attorney General's Office or to Painters Mill, or who file claims in the future, providing their claims are accompanied by a proof of purchase.

Proof of purchase can be in the form of the unused tickets, photocopies of the tickets, receipts, charge card receipts, cancelled checks, or any other credible evidence of purchase, according to the settlement.

Ellis H. Goodman, a Baltimore lawyer who is president of Chesapeake Theatre, Inc. and PMI Corporation, has agreed to personally guarantee the terms of the agreement, according to the settlement, which was signed by Assistant Attorney General Steven J. Cole, chief of the Consumer Protection Division, Assistant Attorney General Lucy A. Weisz, and Goodman.

The agreement provides that if the $25,000 in escrow is not enough to satisfy all claims, the companies will replenish the fund, not letting it fall below $10,000. The companies also promise to publish a notice in each newspaper and put an announcement over every radio and television station that carried advertisements for Painters Mill, alerting consumers to their right to receive a refund for the tickets to the cancelled shows.

The shows that were cancelled include ones featuring comedian Rodney Dangerfield, singer Roberta Flack and trumpeter Wynton Marsalis. Among the specific shows and the dates on which they were cancelled are: the November 14, 1983 performance of George Duke and Stanley Clarke; and the December 12, 1983 appearance of Roberta Flack and Peabo Bryson.

Also the September 2, 1984 show featuring Deniece Williams; the June 2 and October 13, 1984 appearances of Rodney Dangerfield; the January 20, 1985 show with David Allan Coe; the January 19, 1985 concert with Wynton Marsalis; the January 26, 1985 WQRS's 24-Karat Gold Review; the February 16, 1985 Shalamar concert; another February, 1985 Rhythm and Blues performance, and an undated Living Legend show.

All consumers with refund demands have 90 days from the date of the first published and broadcast notices to provide the companies with proof of their ticket purchases, and the companies have 10 days following their receipt to respond, according to the settlement. The companies must give the Consumer Protection Division an accounting of their reimbursements every 30 days, and provide the division an additional $1,000 to pay for consumer education efforts.

In signing the agreement, neither the companies nor Goodman admit violating any consumer law. Chesapeake maintains that, in the past, it subleased the property to another organization for the operation of entertainment productions and that it has now taken back the management of painters Mill from the former operator and will make the refunds in order to reestablish Painters Mills' theatrical and financial credibility. In light of the guarantee of full restitution to consumers, the Consumer Protection Division finds it unnecessary to determine who would be legally liable for the refunds in the absence of this agreement.

Consumers who have already sent in claims accompanied by proof of purchase to either the theater or the Consumer Protection Division should receive refunds within two weeks. Consumers who want to file claims; need to provide proof of purchase, or otherwise have questions should write to the companies, addressing their letters to: Painters Mill Refunds, P. O. Box 2402, Baltimore, MD 21203.

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