More highlights of festive Morgan State graduation



Dr. Earl S. Richardson (left) greets Judge Juanita Kidd Stout, the guest speaker at commencement, and John Griswold, Morgan's 1985 Alumnus of the Year, while faculty members and students don their academic regalia in preparation for the big event.



Being on crutches and confined to wheel chairs did not deter Morgan graduates from coming to the Civic Center on Sunday, May 19 to receive their degrees.



Curtis Jones, the 1985 graduate who served as the Student Government's representative to the Board of Regents, greets Mrs. Thelma P. Smith, a second generation Morgan graduate, prior to the Senior Farewell Convocation.



Francis H. Gates, the newly elected chairman of Morgan's Board of Regents, and Dr. Ben Smith (right), congratulate Dr. Frankie June Ernest Martin (center) for being the only 1985 Morgan graduate to receive a doctoral degree.



During the Senior Farewell Convocation, which was held Friday, May 17 in the auditorium of the Carl Murphy Fine Arts Center, Ms. Gail Harleston received the English Department Chairman's Community Service Award from Dr. Burney Hollis.



R. 'Thunder' Leftwich (center), a summa cum laude graduate, is joined by his parents who came down from New York for the ceremony and his daughter. (Shown (L-R) are Joyce Leftwich holding Neemah Amber Leftwich and Raymond Frank Leftwich, Sr.



Rita R. Haris
Engaged



Kimberly A. Powell
Engaged

CORRECTION: The two young ladies above were incorrectly identified in the May 18 edition of the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper, Engagements and Weddings, Our World Section. Proper identification for them is (from left): Rita R. Harris and Kimberly A. Powell. Both are engaged to be married, Miss Harris in July and Miss Powell on June 1.

We're Looking For Someone To Spread The News!

If You Are
Dependable
Responsible
Honest
and
Live In One of the Following Zip Codes
21206
21213
21218
21224

The AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper
Needs You As A Carrier
ALL Interested Individuals
Male or Female
Please Contact
Mr. Earl W. Jones
728-8200, Ext. 264

BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS REVIEW

KEEP UP WITH THE ACTION

If you want to keep up with the latest action in the world of black college sports... we can tell you where you'll find it...in the ***Black College Sports Review.*** You'll find action-packed



photos of your favorite teams, players and coaches, along with feature articles on the winners and the losers in CIAA, SWAC and MEAC sports. You'll only find one publication dedicated solely to black college sports... we're the one.

Coming in your AFRO Next Friday
BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS REVIEW

EDUCATION '85



Michael Richardson's a 5th grader at Samuel Morse Elementary School filled out a sample civil service job application form as part of his school's Career Week activities.

Black college grads compete well in the 'real' world

By Liz Walters

In order for a student to maintain his competitive spirit which will carry him through four years of college and into the work world, he must possess some inherent character traits. Dr. Earl S. Richardson, President of Morgan State University was asked to shed some light on this subject since he has had some experience with both types of student bodies.

He said that for true competitiveness to bear fruit, "the student should be motivated; be of average intelligence; have the right attitude and possess a sense of aggressiveness that allows him to grow and excel during the formal learning process at the institutional level."

Despite the misconceptions about black college graduates, their ability to compete is demonstrative nationwide. For example, Earl Graves, Publisher of **Black Enterprise Magazine** and Joe Black, Vice President of Special Marketing for Greyhound Bus Services are both giants in the professional arena and are graduates of Morgan State University, a black institution.

All state institutions are subject to certain limitations, and the funds designated to a specific institution are based upon some variables like enrollment figures, the number and types of programs the institution offers; faculty teacher equivalency (FTE) and so on. In this regard, it is unrealistic to make any assessment of the "quality of education" a student might receive from an institution.

Funding being the chief determining factor in an institution's existence, would undoubtedly make such an analogy relative to specific criteria and thus, the institution's overall program, per se, cannot be assessed in isolation. The emphasis to show any degree of comparison in relationship to the spirit of competitiveness, would inevitably rest on the amount of funding an institution receives, the programs it can offer, the student's capacity to absorb the educational process and his ability to mesh the theories with practice upon graduation.

State institutions have had to "stretch" minimum allocated funds for specific programs as a means of survival. When a student selects a technological program of study, the accessibility of technological supplies and equipment (computers, soft and hardware) become absolute necessities for academic achievement and so does spending, to achieve those necessities. But if there is not money to spend, some academic programs suffer and eventually fail.

To foster cohesiveness in the academic program and maintain competitive standards at any institution, Learning Resources Centers and specialized laboratories with individual tutors and specialists in Basic Skills and other disciplines, assist and support the weak and at times, deficient students in becoming proficient. The student who utilizes this support system, works at his own pace and stays ahead of other students. Since most of the staff, particularly at Morgan, are volunteers, retirees or part-time employees, patiently go the second mile to help these achieve, the student who utilizes this support system cannot help but achieve.

Historical Black Institutions prepare their students at the undergraduate level to compete in the job market and to assume rigorous graduate programs at other prestigious institutions, both black and white.

This fact has been demonstrated through the Black Executive Exchange Program and Alumni programs at Morgan, where alumni attest to the preparedness they have received at the undergraduate level and it has allowed them to endure and successfully compete against their white counterparts in the world of work.

Small class size has benefitted the black student and made him more aware of the need to maintain his competitive spirit. It has boosted self-confidence; allowed him to openly articulate his views on issues while entertaining stimulating and provocative

(Continued on page B-2)

Picking a career is a crucial choice in today's job market

By Valerie Smith-Madden

Wondering what career to pursue in this age of high tech computer wizardry? Admittedly, it's not an easy task to determine what career will bring the victor's spoils.

Those careers of yesterday, like law, touted to be the route to economic stability and job security now prove hard to enter.

While a practice in law pays very well, indeed, the American Almanac of Jobs and Salaries says the number of lawyers has swollen so greatly that today there is one for every 400 Americans.

About 70 percent of all lawyers are in private practice, whether working alone or for law firms with anywhere from two to several hundred partners.

Continued growth in the field is resulting in difficulty for young lawyers to find work. The use of paralegals or legal assistants further erodes job opportunities.

The constant change in high technology has had an immediate impact on the workplace. Resulting in an increase in jobs within the booming technology, and a loss of work for those unable to adapt to it.

No longer is hard work enough to make it in some industries. Now, there are other considerations.

Auto workers at General Motors' plant on Broening Highway must share the workplace with automated workmates. Some workers have sought retraining as an aid to their jobs, thus, making them ultimately more competitive in the workplace. Others, have resisted automation, or worse yet, have lost their jobs because of it.

Government service, long seen as a rock of Gilbraltor in employment, has become increasingly unstable in recent years due to a shift in government labor and budget policies.

Every time President Ronald Reagan makes budget cuts, he is, in effect, putting someone out of work. And cuts in government agencies, no matter what the reasons, put government workers out of work.

For blacks, career choices can be especially hard. On the whole, blacks have more limited educational options, face massive discrimination and are hindered by the scarcity of black businesses.

"One solution," said Steven Johnson, former member of the Personnel Association of Greater Baltimore and assistant personnel director at the Baltimore office of the Automobile Association of America, "is education. The more education, the better."

Johnson stresses using some of the tools of the trade; a good resume, "professionally done," he said, a neat appearance and a good presentation.

For many blacks seeking work, the lack of experience is a hindrance.

Johnson suggests utilizing temporary agencies. "They can offer experience while you're looking," he said.

Ms. George Faidley of Kelly Services, one of the nation's largest temporary employment agencies, said her company looks for people who are dependable.

"Basic skills are important; but the most important thing is that you're dependable and reliable. It's the person who is dependable that will be called to work again and again."

Kelly Services, whose workers "run the gamut" from warehouse workers to marketing reps, from typists to hosts and hostesses, is one way to get varied of experience.

Said Ms. Faidley, "Kelly Services serves a lot of different people. We have people who are out of work, people between careers, and people unable to make a commitment to a full time job at the time."

Ms. Faidley said that Kelly Services is able to retain a number of its employees, in part, due to some of the perks which it offers.

The agency also offers employees a chance to improve their skills, thereby upgrading their employment record and leading to an increase in salary.

Ms. Faidley said there is no fee charged to prospective employees of the agency.

Of course, there are some agencies which do charge. Agencies like Futures in Towson, charge a fee for their services. However, the agency does the leg work in finding prospective employers, setting up interviews and the like.

As could be expected, the starting salaries are very good.

Agencies like Futures, are valuable to employers who are looking for an employee of a certain caliber. Agencies like this do an excellent job of "weeding out" those prospects who aren't suitable for the job.

Other places to look for a job include:

The Maryland State Employment Service at 1100 N. Eutaw. Not only do they help you when you're out of work, they can also help to put you back to work. Go early, and plan to spend some time there, but the wait can be worth it.

The City of Baltimore's Office of Manpower Resources offers numerous job training opportunities to city residents, skilled and unskilled. Watch your local newspapers or call 396-3100 for more information.

There is, that old tried and (sometimes) true method; the want ads. The classified sections on Sundays are usually the best, although it doesn't hurt to peek at them during the week.

If you're a student, use every opportunity to gain experience.

If your school offers internships (most do), take advantage of them. It's a wonderful way to gain an entre into fields which normally aren't open.

Another way to get started on a career is to volunteer your time at a place which interests you. The annals of employment history are filled with people who got their jobs as a result of volunteering their time.

Finally, there is the option of starting your own business. Do your homework; learn the things that help make a new business to stay afloat. The government offers various programs to help start new business ventures. Take advantage of them before they're all gone.

Don't forget the library. It's a treasure chest of information for businessmen and women. Talk to people with their own businesses. It will give you a true idea as to how businesses run in prac-

(Continued on page B-3)

M A Y