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WKU Black Student Retention

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THE VOICE

ARCHIVES

THE VOICE

of Western Kentucky University

SPECIAL ISSUE

Working together for Progress

December 1990

Franklin BOYS being taught to 'do the right thing'

by Nakita Stewart

By instilling self-pride and discipline, the B.O.Y.S. of Franklin have replaced negative stereotypes with images of respect and dignity.

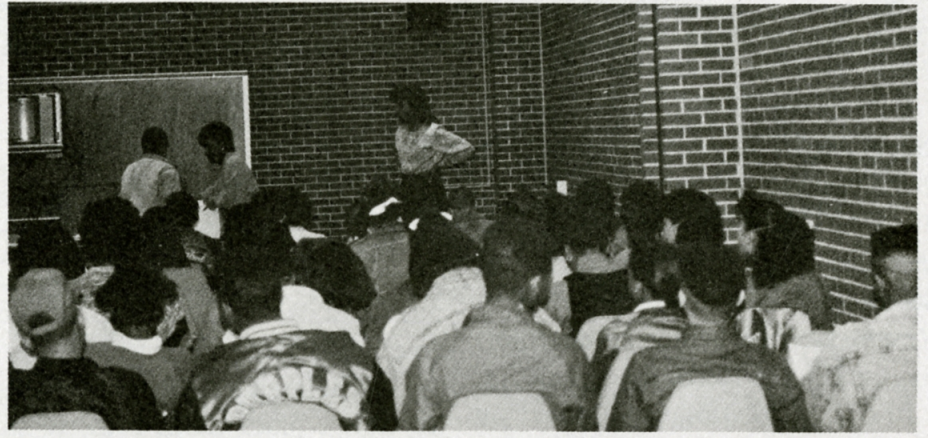
Marcus Flippin, the group's sponsor, established Black Organized Youth Society in January.

"I saw all of the kids looking depressed, looking for something to do," said Flippin.

Using co-founder Wendell Stewart's barber shop, Flippin along with about 20 young black men started their weekly meetings.

"The B.O.Y.S. began based on teaching young men discipline, the duties of a man and respect for elders and making them aware of achieving and being black in America," said 26-year-old Stewart.

Continued on page 3



Phyllis Gatewood, AIMS Program coordinator (l) and Cornelia Stockton, program director (r) conduct a Saturday session with seventh and eighth graders.

AIMS Program strives to encourage youth

By Rita Roberts

Kentucky's minority college students can be a positive influence on today's youth, who have little opportunity to see black men and women in positive roles, said the director of the Activating Interest in Minority Students Program.

A.I.M.S., in conjunction with the governor's Student Minority College Preparatory Program is designed to expose the state's seventh and eighth graders to college life.

About 60 students throughout Kentucky meet with Stockton once a month for planned activities geared toward academics, tutoring, cultural and social awareness and building self-esteem.

Pam Wells and Shannon Floyd are regular assistants in the program and

both agreed that it is rewarding.

Wells, a Guthrie junior, said she enjoys the kid's positive reaction about the program.

"It is also something to keep them motivated to stay in school," she said. Floyd, a Louisville senior and A.I.M.S. program assistant, said she became interested in the program through her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta.

Floyd said role models are vital for today's children.

"Our youth are in a state of emergency, and they need positive role models to help them through whatever problems they face," she explained.

The Voice is a monthly newsletter published through the Office of Black Student Retention. The publication's purpose is to inform and entertain the minority population of Western Kentucky University, as well as its surrounding areas about important activities and contributions.

Continued on page 3

Let your resume do the talking

By Anya Lockert

Will your resume freeze employers in their tracks or knock them out cold?

If the answer is the latter, help is on the way.

"A resume is an inventory of job assets explaining educational background, experience, goals, interests and references used to secure an interview with a prospective employer" according to *The Guide for Writing Resumes*, a publication of the Cabinet for Human Resources.

In *Communicating for Results* by Cheryl Hamilton and Cordell Parker, a resume should include the following items:

1. Name, address, home and work telephone numbers;
2. Objective or position desired;
3. A brief list of job-related courses you completed. If you have a college degree, explain special certification or license. Do not list high schools attended;
4. Areas of knowledge or professional highlights;
5. Job experience, accomplishments and responsibilities. Past jobs should be listed in reverse chronological order; and
6. Military status, professional organizations, publications or patents, job-related hobbies or activities, scholarships, awards or honors.

A neatly typed cover letter briefly explaining your contributions and personality should accompany the resume.

Thousands of dollars in aid available to Western students

By Anya Lockert

If money woes have put a damper on your educational future, do not fear, millions of dollars in financial aid and scholarships is available.

The Office of Black Student Retention in Potter Hall has books listing over 100 scholarships for minority students majoring in everything from communication, engineering and science to education, health care and business. These books also mention over 200 general scholarships for minorities.

The Julius E. Price Scholarship, which is named for the first six-year appointed black member of Western's Board of Regents, is a \$200 non-refundable award presented to an eligible black student.

The scholarship was established by Western's black staff, faculty, students and alumni on April 29, 1983 to help qualified black student pay for tuition, housing or supplies.

Western also offers a variety of general scholarships including the Presi-

dential Scholarship, the Award of Excellence Scholarship and the Regents Scholarship. An ACT score of 28 or above and a 3.9 grade point average is required for these scholarships.

The Agnes Jones Jackson Scholarship, which is given through the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, offers a \$1,000 scholarship.

Brothers of the Ancient Landmark Lodge and the Bowling Green Accepted Masons, recognizes outstanding high school seniors and college students in the Bowling Green area. The scholarships are based on academic excellence, extra-curricular activities financial need and good citizenship. For more information, write to Ancient Landmark Scholarship Committee, c/o Michael J. Mitchell, 1301 South Lee Drive, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101.

Western students sharpen interviewing skills at minority job conference

By Dawn Rutledge

Representatives from 27 newspapers across the United States, including *the New York Times*, *the Washington Post* and *the Chicago Tribune*, and five tv stations, emphasized the importance of internships during the Louisville Minority Job Conference October 10-11.

The two day event, which was sponsored by the Society of Professional Journalists and the American Society of Newspaper Editors, began with the panel discussion, "Getting Your First Job or Internship." Panel speakers included Michael Mercer,

assistant city editor, *The Jackson Sun* in Jackson, Tennessee; Larry Muhammad of the Louisville Association of Black Communicators and the Louisville *Courier Journal* and Laretta Harris, WDRB-TV in Louisville anchor.

Students interviewed with prestigious newspapers in and around Kentucky, as well as broadcasting stations including WDRB-TV, Fox 41, in Louisville and WHIO-TV, Cox Enterprises from Dayton, Ohio.

Graduate student works toward unity on campus

By Darla Carter

A look of disappointment crossed Denise Johnson's face as she watched students trickle into Garrett Ballroom for a Black Student Alliance fashion show almost two years ago.

Though BSA had planned the event for weeks, only a few students turned out for the show.

Johnson, who was then an officer in the organization, turned to another BSA member and swore that she was going to quit.

Instead, the Louisville graduate student stuck with the group and became the student adviser the next semester.

When people don't participate in events, "You start to wonder, 'What are you doing,' 'Why are you trying,'" said 22-year-old Johnson.

But the disappointment never stays there for long, she said, because something from within always moti

vates her to stick with it and try a little harder.

Since her arrival in 1986, Johnson has been involved in numerous campus organizations, including BSA, University Center Board and committees for black-student events such as "The Spirit of Success" and Black History Month.

Johnson was also a resident assistant in Bates-Runner Hall for three years and is currently the assistant hall director for McCormack Hall.

"I never set out to be a leader," Johnson said. "I've just always done what I thought would help the black community."

Getting involved is a trait instilled in Johnson by her family she said.

"We've never been sideline people, and my parents always encouraged us" said Johnson, who has two bro-

ther and a sister.

At a predominantly-white university such as Western, black students have a responsibility to get involved, Johnson said, because that's the only way they can make sure that the needs of the black-student community are met.

No matter how strong the efforts of one person are, it takes a combined effort from all the blacks on campus to really make a difference, Johnson said.

"It's like a football game," she said. "Either you can be a spectator, or you can try on your jersey and get in there."

BSF hosts leadership conference

By Alicia Gilbert

While many students spend the weekends partying, there was one weekend a few were not.

The Black Student Fellowship of Western Kentucky University hosted the Black Student Christian Leadership Training Conference for the state colleges of Kentucky.

This year's theme was "With a Made Up Mind." The seminar at this year's conference discussed such topics as, "Issues Which Affect the African-American Community,"

"Recognizing Your Spiritual Gifts," "The Afro-American Concept of Jesus," and "Demons, Are They Real?"

Other activities included music, banquet and group discussion.

The conference ended on Sunday, October 14 with the election of state officer.

Franklin Boys taught to 'do the right thing' (cont'd from p.1)

The most popular fundraiser is the Arsenio Hall Show, a variety show full of facts about black history. Arsenio, played by 17-year-old Charles Spencer, has special guests like Malcolm X, Jesse Jackson and Martin Luther King, Jr., played by members of the club.

The variety show has been performed in Franklin twice and at Warren Central High School, sponsored by the Afro-American History Club.

Mark Stanley, 15, said he has learned about his history. "I learned things that they (the school system) weren't teaching us in our history class."

Flippin added that he would like to have females join the organization in the future, because they would make the group more balanced.

"The only reason that I haven't done anything about it is a lack of help, female help," he said. "While learning to respect themselves, they (the boys) need to learn to respect black females."

AIMS Program (cont'd from p.1)

Minorities on Western's campus are often contacted about helping with group sessions, programs and discussions. Stockton said it is important for the participants to see and talk to real college students.

"(Black students) can give back something to the community, and it takes so little time," she said.

Any student wanting to help with the program should call Stockton or Phyllis Gatewood at 745-5066.

Bowling Green Community Services

CHURCHES:

State Street Baptist
340 State Street
843-8016

Trinity Baptist
200 Center Street
781-7450

Eleventh Street Baptist
874 E. 11th Street
842-4911

Mount Zion Baptist
175 Thomas Avenue
781-2569

Seventh Street Baptist
210 7th Street
782-8410

Taylor Chapel AME
314 E. 7th Street
842-3891

Cecelia Memorial Presbyterian
716 College Street
782-8141

New Bethel Baptist
801 Church Street
842-5221

BEAUTY & BARBER SHOPS:

PJ's Beauty College
Gateway Shopping Center
842-8149

Jimmy's Barber Shop
Chestnut Street

Link's Barber Shop
6th and Center Street

Billie's Beauty Shop
522 State Street
781-8001

RESTAURANTS:

Mary's Restaurant
211 U.S. Highway
31-W Bypass
842-1447

Ribs-n-More
824 Center Street
782-8044

MISCELLANEOUS:

NAACP
P.O. Box 915

Human Rights Commission
1032 Chestnut Street
782-7900

Greyhound Trailway Lines
331 8th Street
842-5131

Center Street Auto Repair
1271 Center Street
842-3773

Health Department
1133 Adams Street
781-8001

Graves Gilbert Clinic
201 Park Street
781-5111

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THE VOICE

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