

OPERATION LIFE RECEIVES GRANT

Ruby Duncan, Operation Life, has received a Governmental grant from Community Services Administration (CSA), Office of Economic Development, for \$184,000.

This money is to be used by Operation Life for Community Development Corporation (CDC) with the heaviest emphasis on "Low Income Women."

This money was applied for in December of 1975, and just received.

CDC is organized and controlled by local residents to develop the economy of their own community. The CDC is, in fact, a new community tool created by people in low-income areas to gain influence over the economic conditions of their lives. Their goals are:

1. Identify and develop local skills and talents.
2. Own and control land and other resources.
3. Start new businesses and industries.
4. Increase job opportunities.
5. Sponsor new community facilities and services.
6. Improve the physical environment.

In short, CDC's carry out programs of economic development. But unlike other economic development programs, the CDC approach aims to increase power and influence for the low-income community as a whole not just for a few individuals or groups.

The operations of the CDCs are as diverse as the problems they face and as unique as the communities they serve. Their chief focus is to develop a cluster of profitable business ventures.

There are three basic problems facing CDCs. First, they must get more funds, and the flow of capital must be stable, not dependent upon short term grants. Second, they will always face tough decisions in their attempt to balance broad community interests with success on any one project. Third, they have to maintain a high level of community participation to keep their energy potent.

Each community must recognize that particular social, political, and economic tools it creates for self-development will be different from another community's organization. There is nothing special about the words "community development corporation." The important thing is the process of development and self-determination that a community undertakes, with whatever councils, cooperatives, corporations, or other organizations. The CDC is ONE powerful form of organization to express and achieve community self-determination.

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Ruby Duncan, and her staff, of Operation Life are here to aid the Low-Income Women better themselves through training and education. Ruby says "we are here to aid the community. Our goal is to 'get women off welfare' and 'provide good child care while we are working'."

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VOICE

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"An Uninterrupted Publication Since 1963"

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Doug Williams, 6 foot 4, weighing 215 lbs. can throw a football just about the length of a playing field after setting up - drop kick fashion - in 2.5 seconds.

Like several before him, Williams, of Grambling State University, to a certain extent is not wanted in the NFL.

While he is not worried about that, he believes he will make the pros, because while his Black predecessors were all very good, Williams statistics say that he is the best of all.

In four years Williams has thrown 89 touchdown passes. In 10 games this year, he has completed 161 passes of 314 attempts for 2,961 yards and 34 touchdowns.

Grambling, which this year became a Division I school, is touting Williams as a candidate for the Heisman Trophy. He has been asked to be on hand in New York City on December 8, the day the Downtown Athletic Club announces its choice as the best college football player in the land.

Williams said, "like I tell everyone else, I don't know if I have a real chance for the Heisman, but it would be great to win the award that says you're the best player in college football."

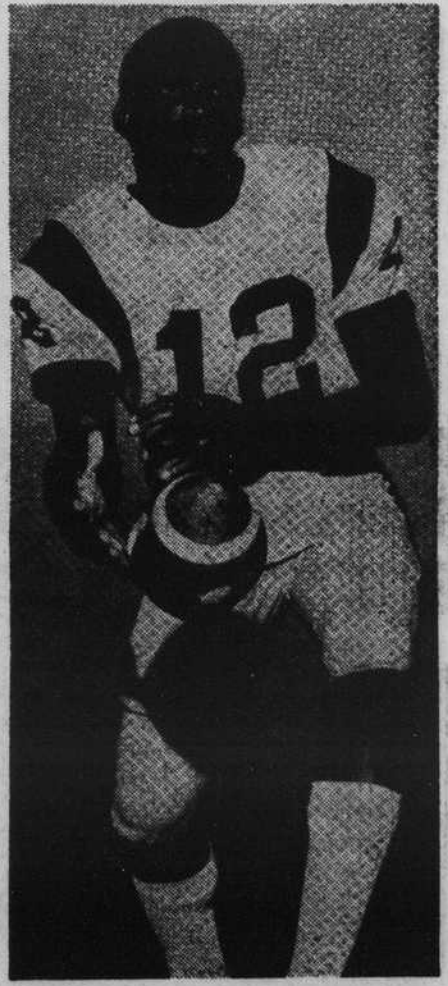
He wants the award more for the school than for himself. "It would mean a lot to Grambling to say that they had the Heisman Trophy. It would mean that we had arrived."

If Williams were to win this trophy, he would be the first player from a Black college to accomplish this feat, even the other great players all attended Black colleges.

Like his predecessors, Williams would rather be designated as a "quarterback" - not a "black" quarterback.

"Being a Black quarterback you have to be extra special because this is not supposed to happen. By being a Black quarterback there'll be so many eyes watching what I do, trying to find out what I do wrong, but not what I do good. But everyone has to have a bad day. Ken Stabler once threw for seven interceptions in one game."

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Douglass hopes his record number of TD passes will bring him the Heisman Trophy and a big pro-football contract.