

Education

Federal Support for Community Colleges Drops 16.9 Percent

Federal support for public community, technical and junior colleges dropped 16.9 percent between Fall 1985 and Fall 1986, according to a study by The American Association of Community and Junior Colleges (AACJC). The study indicates that local colleges made up, at least in part, the decline in federal support by relying on tuition revenue to cover a larger portion of their operating budgets.

"U.S. Secretary of Education William Bennett would have the public believe that colleges raise tuition because of greed, not need," said AACJC President Dale Parnell. "Our study shows that this statement is simply not true... and the Secretary is just not in touch with reality." Faced with dramatic cuts in federal and state aid, many community, technical, and junior colleges are forced to increase tuition as a last resort.

"Furthermore, in some states there is a state mandate to link tuition to operating costs as a percentage. It must also be pointed out that 22 states made mid-year cuts in higher education and other state-funded budgets this past college year," Parnell said.

In the Fall of 1985, tuition accounted for 16.4 percent of the average community college's income. By the Fall of 1986, the average community college relied on

tuition for 17.5% of its operating income, a 6.7 percent increase.

Nearly three-fourths of community colleges' budgets are funded through state and local government appropriations, with remaining support coming from federal dollars, private support and tuition. In most states there is a direct link between the state appropriation for higher education and tuition. Between Fall 1985 and Fall 1986, state and local funding increased by just over 1 percent while operating expenses increased 5.7%.

"With state and local funding remaining relatively constant, the decrease in federal aid caused a real hardship in many community, technical and junior colleges," Parnell said. "Colleges were forced to find other means to operate."

"Community, technical and junior colleges still remain the most effective way to cut the high cost of higher education for most Americans," Parnell said. "The average tuition at a public community college is \$642 per year, compared to \$1,278 at a public four-year college and \$5,418 at an independent four-year school. In many cases, students are choosing to stay at home, attend a nearby community college for two years... and thereby reduced the cost of higher education."

CCSD To Hold Annual Auction of Student Built Projects

A student built house, two storage sheds and an aircraft will be sold at a public auction by the Clark County School District at 9 a.m. Saturday, July 11. The auction will take place at Southern Nevada Vocational-Technical Center, 5710 Mountain Vista.

The house, built from scratch as an annual project of the Vo-Tech carpentry class, is three bedrooms with one-and-three-quarters bath and measures 1,294 square feet. The minimum bid price for the house is \$20,100.

The storage sheds, also built by the Vo-Tech carpentry class, measure eight by ten feet. The minimum bid price is \$450 each.

The aircraft is a 1946 Swift, GC-1A. Minimum bid price for the antique plane is \$3,000.

Proceeds from the sale of

the house and storage sheds have traditionally been applied towards the purchase of construction materials to be used by next year's carpentry class — to carry on the tradition of building a house as an annual project.

A copy of the auction procedures and a full description of the house and methods of construction used, may be obtained from the CCSD Purchasing and Warehousing Department, 4212 Eucalyptus Avenue.

Prospective bidders may view the property to be auctioned at Vo-Tech between the hours of 8 a.m. until noon July 6-10, and on the morning of the auction from 8 a.m. until 9 a.m. Keys and blueprints to the house may also be picked up in the Vo-Tech office during the viewing period.

Credit and College Students—The New Indentured Servants

By: Michele H. Dyson
NNPA Feature Writer

For many black families, college may become a thing of the past. The 1987 budget cuts will mutilate programs for higher education by 50%. More students will be left out in the cold, as they begin to see the financial doors of education slammed in their faces.

peacefulness of a young soul once they sign up for the card. Students can now charge everything from food and entertainment to tuition and books. But can they handle the demands of college and credit?

In 1986, consumers CHARGED to the tune of over

Ms. Dyson is President of the Banking & Financial Education Division of CIS, Inc., which provides financial educational programs. She is currently providing educational programs through Howard University SBDC. She is also the author of "Cooking With Credit" and "How to Secure A Business Loan."

The cost of education has continued to rise as teachers demand more pay, schools require more operating capital, and the government loses money on student loans. However, the government feels they are still doing their share. On one hand, they will increase the amount borrowed for guaranteed student loans. But on the other hand, they will reduce the subsidies to the lender.

How will all of this mumbo jumbo affect the student it was designed to help? If you've walked the halls of many colleges, the answer is evident!

CREDIT CARDS have invaded the serenity of education. Not only will you find books that will feed the mind, you will also find credit card booths that will strip the

\$157 million with defaults and bankruptcies off and running. Now we're allowing our youth to get in on our youth to get in on the act. The cries from students who have signed on the dotted line are beginning to rise as quickly as tuition costs. A new era of debtors is on the horizon...

If we are going to make credit cards a part of campus life, we MUST introduce programs to educate our youth. Otherwise, when we speak of 'college credit' in the future, it will no longer mean a PASSING GRADE towards a degree. It will be a reflection of our inability to guide our youth through the MAZE of financial responsibility. It will be a legacy of debt to the future of THE NEW INDENTURED SERVANTS.

pregnancy rate. The Plan's sponsors agree that tackling the male side of the teen pregnancy problem is "crucial to the development of both men and women," says Smith.

He hopes that his program will help the youths who participate to avoid fathering a child until they are at least eighteen years of age. By exposing youths to their role in pregnancy prevention and

decision-making, "we look at what male responsibility is," says Smith.

A session on "Preventing Teens From Becoming Father," for example, raises the difficult trade-offs involved in having a child too young. It challenges the youths to develop their own insights and judgments, while showing them that there are alternative to

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Marian Wright Edelman

Amos Smith knows that in the inner-city black community today, boys sometimes grow up too fast. Many "become (sexually) active around 13 or 14," he notes.

That is why Smith, a black man and an experienced counselor and social worker, has designed a special

CHILD WATCH

By Marian Wright Edelman
President
Children's Defense Fund

Teaching Responsibility to Boys

program targeted to reach boys ages 8-13 in the black community of Hartford, Connecticut. In his "Always on Saturday" program, youths gather weekly to air their feelings about difficult issues like drugs and sex and to learn how to make sensible decisions about their own lives.

The program was launched in October of 1985 by the Hartford Action Plan on Infant Health, a business-led initiative which seeks to reduce the city's teen

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