

Education

SCHOOL TALK

By Dr. Marshall C. Darnell

THE EDUCATIONAL TEAM

When you consider the education of our youth, the emphasis is generally placed on those who are requested to provide the direct instruction. These are the individuals who have the responsibility to reach each child and to provide them with the essential "life-skills" that will be required for these young Americans to become active members of society. There is no higher calling than to be entrusted with the transmission of the American culture and the eradication of illiteracy. The work of teachers must never be minimized, nor taken as a common place occurrence. What these individuals do each day is to direct learning in a most sophisticated environment, what is requested of these trained professionals increases each year, and what they accomplish and have accomplished over the past decades can be observed in our standard of living. While never void of criticism, these individuals have maintained and refined an educational system which is copied throughout the world.

To support this group of trained professionals is a second group of employees that sometimes go unnoticed, the Classified Employee. The Clark County School District has 4,185 dedicated men and women who provide the essential backup support systems for the teaching core. There are those who drive the buses and transport more than 30,000 students to school each day. Those who prepare the food, clean the building, serve as aides to the teachers, maintain the facilities, repair the equipment, and complete the countless tasks that are re-

quired to have an educational facility function effective and efficiently.

Basilo Moran, Director of the Classified Personnel Department, commented, "We have an exceptional classified work force in our district — people who are genuinely interested in the welfare of our students." Moran reported that there are 100 applications for every position that become available. When questioned about the high interest rate, Moran stated that the district has an excellent reputation within the county and many individuals are excited about the opportunity to work with an employer that is concerned with the welfare of its employees.

This is the Thanksgiving Season, a time when we pause and consider the many advantages that we have as Americans living in a free society. That society will survive and grow as long as the many publics support and contribute to the educational systems that are conducted in every section of the nation. It may be well for each of us to remember that the education of our youth is an enterprise with many individuals actively sharing in the progress that our students make each year. While the teacher is critical to the teaching/learning process, this activity would be seriously hampered without the support of those thousands of support personnel who contribute to the training of our future citizens.

May this season be one of pleasant remembrance for you and your family and to all those who work in the Clark County School District let this be a message of appreciation for your efforts on behalf of the youth of this county.

Symptoms Can Mimic Flu

DIABETES STRIKES

1,000 CHILDREN A MONTH

"Each year, type 1, insulin-dependent diabetes, strikes between 10,000 to 13,000 children in the United States, ranging in age from 5 to 16; that's about 1,000 children a month," reported Dr. Fred Toffel,

president of the American Diabetes Association, Nevada Affiliate.

According to diabetes experts, in the next four months, an estimated 4,000 or more children may devel-

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ATLANTA — The chains that hold back Black Americans from realizing their dreams is an educational handicap handed down by history, a corporate executive recently told 100 leaders of historically Black colleges who met in Atlanta.

Marshall B. Bass, senior vice president of RJR Nabisco, Inc., addressed a conference on student financial aid organized by the Southern Education Foundation and the U.S. Department of Education.

RJR Nabisco Donates \$250,000 To United Negro College Fund

CHICAGO — To help put college educations in reach for more Black youth, RJR Nabisco has donated \$250,000 to the United Negro College Fund.

This grant was the first of four payments toward a new million-dollar pledge from RJR Nabisco, which has been the largest contributor to UNCF schools since 1983. Prior to making this pledge, the company had already donated more than \$2 million to UNCF.

RJR Nabisco presented its most recent contribution to UNCF during the Ebony Fashion Fair in Chicago on November 8. Assisting RJR Nabisco in the presentation was actor Danny Glover, who has received critical acclaim for starring roles in movies such as "Places in the Heart," "Witness," "Lethal Weapon," "The Color Purple" and HBO's "Mandela."

"This nation's Black colleges build self-esteem in countless young people," Glover said. "That is of immense importance, because an individual's ability to achieve depends in large measure on what that person thinks he or she can achieve."

He added, "Black colleges have produced many of our leaders, educators and historians. They have been a cornerstone of our culture, and our cultural traditions are what sustain us.

"From Reconstruction to Jim Crowism to the Depression, from world wars to civil rights battlefields — at all those junctures, Black colleges have been a valuable resource," Glover continued. "They have examined the issues of our time, and given us guidance for the future."

UNCF's mission of making college educations affordable for Black students is not just a benefit to the Black community, Glover noted. "The minds enriched at Black colleges do not just enhance the Black community. They make contributions that benefit the whole country, other nations — all of humanity."

Glover also encouraged greater participation in support of educational programs, noting that only 4 percent of the Black community's charitable dollars are directed toward education. "Black colleges have struggled and survived without the large endowments common at other universities," he said. "Like the Black church, Black colleges have always been there for us. Now, we need to develop a strategy to be there for our colleges, more than ever before."

Virgil E. Ecton, executive vice president of the United Negro College Fund, commented on the need for support among UNCF's 42 member

colleges. "On the heels of the civil rights movement, college enrollment increased among Blacks during the 1970s. But since 1980, Black college enrollment has been declining. The causes include cutbacks

GMAT TEST OFFERED AT NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

The Graduate Management Record Exam (GMAT) will be given at National University's Southern Nevada Campus, 2439 Losee Road on Saturday, January 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Regular registration closes on December 21.

Approximately 700 graduate management programs require students applying for admission to submit a GMAT score as part of the application process.

This multiple-choice test is designed to assess general verbal and mathematical skills associated with success in the first year of graduate management school. Verbal skills measured include understanding and evaluating written material and recognizing the basic conventions of written English. Problem solving, interpreting graphic data and the ability to reason mathematically will also be measured using the GMAT.

The fee for the GMAT is \$26. For more information on the examination, call National University.

in federal aid for education and rising tuition costs."

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399-9041

3250 Civic Center Dr.

THE HAIR STYLIST