

# Education

• Educator  
• Journalist  
• Consultant  
• Counselor



HILTON

THE CALIFORNIA  
OXFORD OR THE IVIES  
OF THE WEST COAST



KEITH O. HILTON

Can you name the California "Ivy Colleges?" Have you ever heard of the Claremont Colleges? If you ask ten college students to name some of the top private colleges in America, more than likely Harvard, Yale, Princeton or Stanford will be mentioned.

Other top colleges, depending on region, will also likely emerge.

In terms of perceptions and reputations, the East Coast Ivies consistently stand tallest; Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Penn and Brown.

On equal billing going from East to West, are several other outstanding academic records.

In the Northeast, you have such schools as Boston University (MA), Williams (MA), MIT (MA), Swarthmore (PA), NYU (NY), Colgate (NY) and Carnegie Mellon (PA).

In the Mid-Atlantic and South, you have performers such as Johns Hopkins (MD), Howard (DC), Hampton (VA), Duke (NC), Spelman (GA), Emory (GA) and Vanderbilt (TN).

In the Midwest and Southwest, programs at Chicago (IL), Northwestern (IL), Washington U (MO), Oberlin (OH), Rice (TX), Tulane (LA) and Grinnell (IOWA) rank with the best.

In the West and Rockies, you have privates such as Denver (CO), Cal Tech (CA), Stanford (CA), Occidental (CA) and the Claremont Colleges (CA).

The Claremont Colleges, situated in Los Angeles County, consist of five highly selective liberal arts colleges and a graduate school; Pomona College, Scripps College, Claremont McKenna College, Harvey Mudd College, Pitzer College and The Claremont Graduate School.

Those familiar with the University of Toronto or the Atlanta University Consortium; Clark Atlanta, Spelman, Morris Brown, ITC,

Morehouse and Morehouse Medical School, will have a basic conceptual idea of the Claremont Colleges.

Clark Kerr, former chairman of the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education remarked that "If there is a new and better age for higher education, one major center for its creation will be The Claremont Colleges."

Pomona College, the consortium's flag college, was founded in 1887 by a group of educational pioneers who wanted in Southern California "a college of the New England type."

In 1925, the college's president spent the summer in England and returned with a concept new to the United States.

Today, enrollments at the colleges range from 500 to 1,500 students. Student-faculty ratios are as low as 8 to 1.

According to publications such as U.S. News & World Report, the

## AFRIKAN-AMERICANS AND HISPANICS STAND TO LOSE MOST IF RULING STANDS STUDENTS OPPOSE LIMITS ON MINORITY SCHOLARSHIPS

The enrollment of African-Americans and other minorities in college has dramatically declined since 1976. The decline directly parallels the cutting of minority scholarships.

The Administration's newest ruling banning "race-exclusive scholarships" will result in even lower minority enrollment and retention according to the United States Student Association, the nation's largest student organization. Currently, 45 thousand students of color receive minority scholarships.

Hundreds of students gathered in Washington, DC on March 9, the last day for public comment on President Bush's plans to eliminate minority scholarships, to oppose the Administration's ruling and call for increased financial aid for higher education.

A news conference at 10 a.m. on the East steps of the Capital Building preceded an intensive lobbying day by over 400 students from across the country. A 5 foot tall letter...and hundreds of report cards were presented to the Congress to symbolize the impending joblessness facing many students unable to afford higher education. The news conference included many students directly impacted by

Pell Grants and minority scholarships, National leaders such as Reverend Jesse Jackson also attended.

The United States Student Association, the largest national body of college students, spearheaded the effort to preserve the legality of minority scholarships and to increase federal financial aid for all students.

They maintain that cutting aid to college students will hamper the U.S.'s ability to be competitive in a world market and ultimately cost the government more for social services needed to support those unable to get a college degree.

Minority scholarships make up only 3 percent of financial aid, but for those who will no longer receive them it will be a devastating blow. Coupled with severe cuts in Pell Grants, low income and middle income stu-

Claremont colleges are rated as some of the top institutions in the country. The Claremont Colleges and the other mentioned schools are certainly not the only fine private colleges in the country. In fact, we would like to hear from readers about other private and public schools that you would recommend to prospective students.

Any list can get pretty long, but the above mentioned schools do represent geographical and curricula diversity.

For instance, some are liberal arts, some are comprehensive and some are research schools. For further information about these and other schools, we encourage you to write the school's Multi-Cultural or African Studies Center in addition to its admissions office.

HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION is designed to dialogue with college and world readers. Education is ongoing and certainly not limited to classroom study. Let's talk. (714) 899-0650.

dents are being hard hit by the federal budget cuts which have slashed the Federal Student Aid Budget by 8 percent in the past eleven years.

Currently the Pell grant, the staple of federal financial aid for college students, is only available to families making less than \$20,000.

Congress cut the maximum assistance grant to less than \$2,400, an inadequate amount which has precluded many eligible for pell grants from attending college.

The students are pushing for a raise in the maximum financial ceiling to \$40,000 and an increase to \$4,500 for the maximum grant with annual inflation increases.

Currently 2/3 of the students receiving Pell grants come from families making less than \$15,000 a year.

"As students we will not be divided. We want access to higher education for all," and Stacey Leyton, Vice President of USSA. "Students know that the answer to the crisis in higher education is not to abolish minority scholarships but to strengthen the student aid programs so that they serve the needs of low and middle income students."

The students are also pushing for an increase in authorized funding levels for the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program from \$499-\$600 million, for the State Student Incentive Grant Program from \$85 to \$125 million, and for the College Work Study program from \$650 million to \$900 million.

For further information call Gwen McKinney at (202) 737-6225 or Tajel Snah at (202) 347-8772.

## CONFERENCE TO CELEBRATE STUDENT ABILITY

A conference scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 20-21, will help parents, teachers and others celebrate the abilities of special education children and regular classroom children in an attempt to improve all students' success in education.

The conference is scheduled

for 4 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at Cimarron-Memorial High School, 2301 N. Tenaya Way. It is sponsored by the theme is "Building Bridges through Understanding."

Although the conference is aimed at those connected with special education, it is open to anyone. Conference topics are designed to appeal to anyone concerned about education.

"We want to form a partnership between parents, teachers and others affiliated with education to better serve the students," said Ena Casey, chairwomen of SEPAC.

General topics include child abuse information for parents and professionals, practical parenting, no fault parent involvement in education, multicultural issues in education, and what test scores mean. Topics focusing on special education include state issues in special

education, learning strategies for the learning disabled, a look at learning disabilities, special education law, and successful integration in the regular classroom.

Keynote speakers include UNLV professor Bill Wagoner at 4 p.m. Friday, who will address "Challenges for the Future," and Kathy Buckley, a motivational speaker who focuses on her hearing impairment as a strength and gift rather than a handicap. She will speak at 5 p.m. Saturday on "A Celebration of Abilities."

The conference costs \$10. Registration is due by March 13 at Special Student Services, Clark County School District, 2832 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89121. Financial assistance is available to cover child care and conference costs. More information may be obtained by calling 735-2922 or 799-5471.

**NEED HELP  
WITH READING,  
WRITING, MATH,  
& GED—AGE: 16+**

**CONTACT  
A.O.I.P  
647-2117  
1-4 P.M.**

**Kids TR Smart  
LEARNING CENTER**

1001 N. TONOPAH

PH: 647-5712

"A MIND IS A MARVELOUS  
THING TO DEVELOP"