

USDA offers national scholarships

Special to Sentinel-Voice

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has released its names of scholarship recipients for this year and is looking for applications from next year's winners. The "USDA/1890 National Scholars Program" is an undergraduate program for students studying agriculture or other related subjects at the seventeen 1890 land-grant historically black universities. The aim of the program is to place future graduates in successful careers in the USDA.

"This is an important program that provides assistance to so many talented students," said Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman. "By partnering with these institutions,

we are helping to increase the numbers of students who pursue careers in agriculture, food science, natural resources, computer science and other related fields."

Candidates receive full tuition, fees, books, personal computer use, software, employment, and employee benefits for each of the four years they are working toward their bachelor's degrees. Room and board are also provided, with students agreeing to work one year at USDA for each year of the scholarship.

For more information, call (301) 504-2223, or visit the website at <http://1890Scholars.program.usda.gov>.

The deadline to apply is January 15, 2002.

Dumb

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We are so disorganized as a community that we are not capable of holding CCSD accountable for the improper use of these funds.

On second thought, I better take back my most amazing comment about the foregoing. The most amazing thing is that CCSD has black and brown administrators selling this "crap" as candy to the community.

Based on personal association with these apologists for the system, I know for a fact that all are of the age where they should understand that there comes a time in everyone's life when maintaining your personal dignity for your race is more critical than maintaining your job.

Believe you me, the system has a way of readily identifying people of color who are willing to sacrifice their dignity in order to have a j-o-b!

Administrators of the tax-supported institution of UNLV/UNR are proposing to the Board of Regents that they change the entrance requirements for entering freshmen to include a 3.00 GPA.

The rationale being used by these "intellectual dwarfs" is that they want to move the two campuses to research-based institutions, and in order to do this they need to attract a more academically prepared student body.

The system already has research institutes in the only two possible areas where it would have a comparative

and competitive advantage over other institutions- regionally and nationally. The institutes are in the areas of gaming, which is the state's number one industry, and desert research, which, based on location, gives the system an advantage over other institutions.

To suggest that by changing the admission requirement to 3.00 is going to make the Departments of Education, Engineering or Nursing world-class centers of learning and research borders, no make that is on the outer limits of sublimity.

Further, this intellectual elitism is being pushed in a state that has the lowest percentage of its students going to college than any other state

in the entire country.

Needless to say, the system has a colleague of mine, who happens to be of color (remember my earlier comment about the system), as a point person for pushing this "dung."

I guess the infantile reasoning is that the black and brown constituents will be hard-pressed to call the proposal racist in its intent, if a sister is carrying the message to the people.

If this is the system's guess, it has another guess coming. Come the Regents' December meeting, your boy is going to be all over the Regents like a cheap suit (I will be wearing one as well), for even considering this dumb recommendation.

Chuck Berry

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"Even the Kennedys had difficulties," he says. "I'm not an angel."

Berry hasn't made an album in nearly two decades, but he still draws crowds. On the road, he plays hour-long gigs in venues ranging from ballparks to casinos, amphitheatres to armories.

"I'm glad to be anywhere," says Berry, who has four children and six grandchildren. "I'll be doing the same thing as long as it doesn't hurt anybody, especially if it brings somebody happiness."

He isn't worried about his legacy, and casts himself only as a man "trying to do my best."

"I have very little concern for sure about time and age," he says. "If I feel 14, I act like it. If I feel old, I'll lay down."

"My grandfather smoked a pipe when they found him lying deceased in his bedroom. I'm hoping I'll have just finished a practice in my room, with a guitar in my arms. That's the way I want to go."

Walk-a-thon

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blood pressure checks and other health screenings were available for participants in the fund raiser. There were fun things for children to do, with games and prizes available.

Honorary chairs were Congresswoman Shelley Berkley; Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman, and City Councilman Lawrence Weekly and Councilwoman Lynette Boggs-McDonald. Medical Honorary Chair was Dr. Michael P. Banks, DDS.

The Links, Inc, Las Vegas chapter, is part of a national organization of more than 11,000 African-American and African women. The group donates scholarships to graduating high school seniors and works with students from Kermit Booker Elementary School and Charles I. West Middle School.

"The Links are a vital part of the Las Vegas community," said President E. Lavonne Lewis. "We will continue to work to improve the condition of those in need in our midst."

Consequences

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parable weapons to take us head-on in any arena, they are converting their bodies into weapons in the fight against us. Flying the airplanes into the Twin Towers in New York and the Pentagon are examples of using their bodies as weapons.

The same is happening in Israel. They wrap their bodies in bombs and blow themselves and Israelis to kingdom come.

A basic goal of this War on Terrorism ought to be that of not increasing the flow of young Arabs into the arms of those who teach them how to do nefarious acts against us and/or how to use an individual's body as a weapon against the actions of this country.

As one who lived through the Civil Rights Movement days of the late 1950s and 1960s, I can see how the action of White Southerners could have developed that type of movement in this country if changes weren't made.

It was clear to many of us in the movement that the passive resistance espoused by the Rev. Martin Luther King could only be maintained if it brought progress. If the gov-

ernment had tried to keep the status quo situation all across the South and physically mistreat the passive resisters to boot, many of my peers would have been recruited into active resistance squads. As it was, just a few bubbled up.

As I see it, our bombing of Afghanistan now and Iraq a decade or so ago is shifting the Islamic mass toward the radical Islamic side. Naturally this increases the flow of Arabs into the militant sections of the radical Islamic movements.

That's how it was during the movement days. Southern White power structure actions moved Blacks all over toward movement activism.

People are people, be they Arabs or African-Americans. Knowing or seeing an incident of mistreatment because

of race or ethnic identity is hard written in their memory.

A few weeks after the Rodney King affair in Los Angeles, I drove my daughter down Western Avenue for her to see if a particular service station that mistreated Black customers was still standing. It wasn't. She was happy.

I wonder how many Arabs shifted their view of us when a Red Cross building with winter blankets was accidentally bombed as food packages are being dropped by airplane to Afghanistan.

Nevertheless, the War on Terrorism's unintended circumstances will be an inflamed Islamic movement that will cause us long-term security, commercial and safety problems at home and abroad.

Cancer

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M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, said the two studies show "a small relative increase in breast cancer risk, but nothing to become alarmed about."

More study is needed to precisely define the risk of shift work and how that compares to other known breast cancer risk factors, such as family history, smoking and obesity, said Singletary. But she said the finding does suggest the need for women who work night shifts to be particularly prudent in getting regular mammograms and medical exams.



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