Baltimore high school 1980 grads get $½ million in scholarships

Local Virginia Union University alumni chapter sponsors students to win $150,000 grants per year

By Elizabeth M. Oliver, City Editor

The Baltimore 1980 high school graduates who will enroll at Virginia Union University in Richmond, Va. in September have been awarded $150,000 in scholarships for the first year and each succeeding year. The guaranteed grants total $½ million or more for the four years.

The top students who have been given the $150,000 awards for each of four years are:

Cleventon Abrams, Woodlawn; Deobrah A. Anderson, Northern; Angela Boger, Forest Park; Shelia Brickus, Edmondson; Veronica Brooks, Dunbar; Angela Brown, Edmondson; Emanuel Butler, Walbrook;

Angela Dennis, Edmondson; Gregory Folks, Edmondson; Martin Francis, Edmondson; Dorian L. Gray, Lake Clifton; Valerie Gulley, Dunbar; Michelle Hicks, Northwestern; Renny Johnson, Edmondson; Reginald L. Kennedy, Lake Clifton; Andrew P. Palmer, Patterson; Glenda P. Pierce, Western; Glynette D. Pittman, Western;

Gregg Savage, Milford Mill; Barbara Session, Northwestern; Ricky D. Smith, Edmondson; Laurie A. Teasdale, Dunbar; David L. Terry, Edmondson; Michael Walker, Dunbar; Frank Wright Jr., Milford Mill; Myron Price, Lake Clifton; Serita A. Elliott, Edmondson; Gregory Foks, Edmondson;

Guests included the following students already enrolled and returning to continue study at VUU:

Bernard Alexander, Walbrook; Donna Black, Edmondson; Alvin L. Campbell Jr, Edmondson; Chesie M. Davis Jr, Woodlawn; Robert L. Dett, Edmondson; Vincent Drone, Forest Park; Sandra Goode, Eastern;

Pamela Fraling, Edmondson; William Height, Southwestern; Sharon Henderson, Edmondson; Cathy Hill Western; Kenneth Hunter, Walkbrook; Orlando Jackson, Milford Mill;

Valerie Jenkins, Western; Denise Knight, Edmondson; Derwin Lilly, Walbrook; Kevin Lunsford, Edmondson; Carmen Myers, Walbrook; Shawn Neal, Western;

Geraldine Pearson, Edmondson; Scott Phillips, Woodlawn; Ponjola Priest, Western; Stephen Thomas, Walbrook; Dawn Valentine, Walbrook; Bridgette I. Willis, Southwestern;

Baltimore VUU Alumni chapter members and officers are:

Harlow Fullwood Jr., president; David S. Jones, vice president; LaBarbara Fauntleroy, secretary; Martha E. Valentine, corresponding secretary Alvin S. Henderson, treasurer; Harold W. Jackson; assistant to the treasurer,

Bernice L. Allen, James E. Bell, M.D., Spencer C. Bonds, Nellie H. Bowie, Sarah W. Brassfield, Alice L. Brown, Dorthy A. Brown Samuel H. Brown Jr., Emmett C. Burns, Ph.D., Veronica J. Butts, Rev. William C. Calhoun, Sr., Dorothy Carter, Ph.D.:

Sallye B. Carter, Ernest C. Davis, Tucker R. Dearing, Esq. Cynthia A. Distance, Christine J. Doss, Rev. Herman A. Ford, Earlie H. Francis, M.D., Marie S. Francis, Elnora B. Fullwood, Delma M. Gordon, Col. William "Box" Harris, Audrey M. Kopkins, Edward P. Jackson, Irene D. Johnson;

Rev. Maxwell Johnson, Barbara A. Jones, Clifton R. Jones, Ph.D., Emma Madlyn Jones, Aaron C. Kane Sarah T. Kane, Everette P. Logan George McDonald, M.D. Richard L. McKinney, Ph.D. Rev. Baxter L. Matthews Mildred Nelson;

Janice B. Owes, Sarah G. Parker, Osborne A. Payne, Benjamin Pearson, Rev. Wendell H. Phillips, Charles F. Robinson, Frances B. Robinson, James M. Robinson, Jeanette W. Shamwell, Barbara E. Shearn;

Benjamin F. Smith, Ph. D., DeHaven L. Smith, Esq., Dorothy P. Smith, Paul E. Smith, A. Harrison Vessells, Eugene E. Ward, Timothy Watts.

Eugene E. Ward and Annita M. Merriweather

A total of 30 door prizes was awarded to guests, students, parents, school principals and counselors as well as alumni chapter members.

Noteworthy was the presence of two officials of the VUU Internal Alumni Chapter, Miss Mary Redd, president and Mrs. Helen Roberts, secretary, both of Richmond.

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Angela Dennis, Edmondson; Gregory Folks, Edmondson; Martin Francis, Edmondson; Dorian L. Gray, Lake Clifton; Valerie Gulley, Dunbar; Michelle Hicks, Northwestern; Renny Johnson, Edmondson; Reginald L. Kennedy, Lake Clifton; Andrew P. Palmer, Patterson; Glenda P. Pierce, Western; Glynette D. Pittman, Western;

Gregg Savage, Milford Mill; Barbara Session, Northwestern; Ricky D. Smith, Edmondson; Laurie A. Teasdale, Dunbar; David L. Terry, Edmondson; Michael Walker, Dunbar; Frank Wright Jr., Milford Mill; Myron Price, Lake Clifton; Serita A. Elliott, Edmondson; Gregory Foks, Edmondson.

For six years the chapter has led all others in contributions and this year topped the other associations in sending high school graduates to enroll at VUU. Harlow Fullwood Jr. is president.

Among leading contributors are Lenny Moore's Foundation and Osborne Payne, owner of a McDonalds chain and member of the VUU board of trustees. Some members of the Connor Alumni Chapter contribute as much as $500 to $1,000 a year.

The award winning students include seven scholar athletes, Rennie Johnson, Edmondson; Andrew Palmer, Patterson; Ricky Smith, Edmondson; David Terry, Edmondson; Michael Walker, Dunbar; Dorian Gray, Lake Clifton and Martin Francis, Edmondson.

Two of the graduates ranked head of their respective classes, Miss Angela Boger of Forest Park, who had perfect attendance and led on the college prep exam and Miss Michele Hicks, Northwestern

The formal introduction of the students, the salute and recognition took place June 12 at a banquet in Baltimore with the local alumni chapter member as hosts.

Among guests was VUU's new president, Dr. David T. Shannon, himself a nationally noted scholar and educator who has two earned Ph.D. degrees.

Dr. Shannon, speaks 10 language and is a minister with a graduate theological degree and a noted religious scholar.

President Fullwood presided with Mrs. Jeannette W. Shamwell extending welcome. Dr. Shannon delivered the main address. Others included Roscoe Herring of mayor Shaefers office who gave Dr. Shannon Baltimore's honorary citizenship and City Editor Elizabeth M. Oliver, the AFRO award; Dr. Rebecca Carroll, Lenny Moore and William C. March, reflections.

Music was by William Height, Erick Evans and the Soft Tones with invocation and benediction by the Rev. Herman A. Ford, The occasion at Fountain Baptist Church by Nelson Catering Service.

Sponsors of various students included Dr. James E. Bell, Nellie H. Bowie, Sarah W. Brassfield, Alice L. Brown, Dorothy A. Brown, Rev. William C. Calhoun Sr,

Harlow Fullwood Jr.; Col. William "Box" Harris, Edward P. Jackson, Harold W. Jackson, Rev. Maxwell Johnson, Irene Johnson, Dr. Clifton R. Jones;

Emma Madlyn Jones, Everette P. Logan, Dr. George McDonald, Osborne A. Payne, Rev. Wendell H. Phillips, Jeannette W. Shamwell, Benjamin F. Smith, DeHaven L. Smith, Esq., Dorothy P. Smith, A. Harrison Vessells,

MARK GAIL PHOTO

VALUED AT $150,000 total per year are the local 1980 Baltimore High school grads including Cleventon Abrams, Woodlawn; Deborah A. Anderson, Northern; Angela Boger, Forest Park; Shellia Bricus, Edmondson; Angela Brooks, Dunbar; Angela Brown, Edmondson, Emanuel Butler, Walbrook; Angela Dennis, Edmondson; Gregory Folks, Edmondson; Martin Francis, Edmondson; Dorian L. Gray, Lake Clifton; Valerie Gulley, Dunbar; Michelle Hicks, Northwestern; Renny Johnson, Edmondson; Reginaln Kennedy, Lake Clifton; Andrew Palmer, Patterson; Glenda Pierce, Western; Glynette Pittman, Western; Gregg Savage, Milford Mill; Barbara Session, Northwestern; Ricky Smith, Edmondson; Laurie Teasdale, Dunbar; David Terry, Edmondson; Michael Walker, Dunbar; Frank Wright Jr., Milford Mill; Myron Price, Lake Clifton; Serita A. Elliott, Edmondson and Gregory Folks, Edmondson.

PROUD SPONSORS are Harlow Fullwood Jr., president of the Miles W. Connor Chapter, Baltimore, Virginia Union University Alumni Asso., Dr. David T. Shannon, VUU president, Richmond; Osborn Payne, VUU Board of Trustees member and Baltimore businessman.

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS, Miss Mary Redd, president and Mrs. Helen Roberts, secretary, both of Richmond, Va. alumni association.

MORE SPONSORS are Dr. Hilbert Stanley, principal of Lake Clifton High School; Mr. and Mrs. William C. March, morticians; (BACK ROW) Mr. and Mrs. Lennie Moore of the Lenny Moore Foundation and Col. William (Box) Harris, alumnus.

AMONG PRESENTORS at the June 12 Recognition Dinner in Baltimore were (L TO R) Osborne Payne, owner of a Baltimore McDonalds chain; Dr. David T. Shannon, president VUU; Miss Mary Redd, president of the VUU Internbitional Alumni Asso., Rev. Maxwell Johnson, alumnus and Mrs. Polly Dougherty, advertising accountant, McDonalds.

EDMONDSON HIGH SCHOOL principal Mrs. Sue Jones, Mrs. Charlotte Holt, Mrs. Dorothy Wright and Mrs. Dolores Dorsey, Edmondson counselors; Mrs. Jeannette Shammwell, VUU alumnus and only living member of the Class of 1920.

Patuxent inmates 'fulfill pact' at graduation

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

It was a typical graduation. The students were dressed in caps and gowns and listened to the encouraging words of the commencement speaker while proud and happy parents snapped photographs.

It was a typical outdoor graduation with the sun shining in brilliant splendor and the temperatures warm enough for a perfect picnic day.

The only untypical factor of the commencement was the barbed wire fence that completely surrounds the grounds where the ceremony took place.

Thomas Sikalis, one of the class valedictorians, said it best when he stated, "Looking around at the fence I truly know what it means to have a captive audience."

And it was a captive audience, locked inside the confines of Patuxent Institute for the graduation of 24 inmates who received degrees from the Community College of Baltimore. These men were convicted of crimes from armed robbery to murder who in some cases face life sentences but decided two years ago to attend college and get a degree.

"My classmates and I made a pact two years ago that we all would graduate together," said James McClerking, valedictorian who graduated magna cum laude. "Today we have fulfilled that pact."

McClerking has been at Patuxent Institute since June 1977. He was convicted of armed robbery and murder and sentenced to 33 years in prison.

"Being up in age I had to decide what would I do with the time I had left. I could go fighting through the institution and be sent back to the Maryland Penitentiary," said the 89-year-old McClerking, a former alcoholic who started drinking at the age of 12.

In the fall, McClerking will continue his education at Morgan State University to work towards a bachelor's degree with the hopes of working in a federal program, Project Start at the Social Security Administration.

The tall, powerful looking man who spent most of his time on the "block" in downtown Baltimore says he wouldn't have taken the same opportunity to go back to school if he were still on the streets.

Martin E. Salisbury, director of education at Patuxent since 1977, stated, "This program very clearly shows the motivation that exists. It helps continue the progress."

Carl Johnson, the father of a 24-year-old inmate who has been incarcerated since he was 17 after being convicted for shooting a drug dealer, smiled proudly and said, "I think he's going to be all right."

Gary Johnson's degree was a real indication to his father and his family that he was on the way to rehabilitation. His sentence is undetermined and he could be released in two or three years.

Despite the various reasons the inmates were in Patuxent, they all shared one common interest. Instead of spending idle time, locked behind bars everyday, they chose to spend the time in a classroom.

Several of the graduates in addition to receiving associate degrees went a step further and worked for a certificate in air conditioning and refrigeration.

Clarence Hancock, serving a life sentence for murder, is one of those graduates. He says he knew he would need additional skills when he's released. 'I know I needed something to fall back on. Air conditioning is a profitable area and can bring a worthwhile income.

Officials at CCB and Patuxent say they hope to expand the graduation next year and include students from the other programs at City Jail, Maryland Penitentiary and the Women's Center.

VALEDICTORIAN — James McClerking graduated magna cum laude and received his associate degree in human services and a certificate in air conditioning and refrigeration.

CONGRATULATIONS — Gary Johnson (second from left), one of 24 graduates at Patuxent is joined by family and friends following graduation ceremonies and is joined by (l to r) Brynda Walker, Dawn Johnson, Denyse Johnson and his mother, Mrs. Joan Johnson.

Calendar of events

Baltimore Waxter Center for Senior Citizens is holding a gallery exhibit, with the works of John Richard Pigatt on July 1 through July 31, 861 Park Avenue.

The formal opening will be Thursday, July 3, at 3 p.m.

Wine and cheese will be served at 5126 Arbutus Ave., Baltimore, Md.

For more information call 383-6133.

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Seminars to educate women on mortgages and credit laws Wednesday, June 25, noon, Coppin State College, North Avenue at Warwick Street.

Guest speaker will be Berkley A. Savage, Mortgage Loan Officer of Colonial Mortgage Service Inc. Pre-register by calling 367-6500.

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"It's Revolutionary Socialism the Road Ahead for Afro-Americans" will be the topic of a forum, held by the Communist Workers Party on Monday, June 24, 7 p.m. at the Julie Community Center, corner of South Washington and East Baltimore Sts.

For further information, call 235-3853.

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Volunteers to tutor elementary school children in basic math and reading skills are urgently needed for the Johns Hopkins University Summer Tutorial Project how underway. To volunteer call the University Chaplain's Office at 338-8188.

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A nine-part health discussion series sponsored by North Charles Central Hospital, the Action in Maturity Senior Project and the Wyman Park Mayor's Station, is being held every Wednesday through July 30 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Wyman Park Multi-Purpose Center, 501 W. 30th St.

Topics for discussion in June include: nutrition, weight control, parent-child relationships. July topics will be: diagnostic uses of ultrasound, family communication, working in the community, CPR and vision.

The programs are free and open to the public. For more information please call 396-6080 or 889-7915.

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The 13th annual Polock Johnny's Sausage-Eating contest has been scheduled for Saturday, June 21 on the stage in War Memorial Plaza (in front of City Hall) at noon.

For more details call 396-4891.

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On June 29 the Mt. Royal Recreation Center's Parent's Club will hold its first annual Family Tea at the center, 129 W. Mosher St. from 3 to 5 p.m. Joyce Hill of WPFC, D.C. radio, producer of the children's show "Wish I May, Wish I Might" will be guest speaker.

For ticket information contact, Denise Barner Justis at 669-4471

Sale of gasoline, gasohol down

Maryland State Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein said that gasoline consumption in the state continues to decline compared with last year, but noted the rate of decline has slowed.

Gasoline consumption totaled 157,289,187 gallons during April 1980, down 2 percent from the 160,517,541 gallons used in April 1979.

"While the 2 percent decline is less than the falloffs in recent months," Goldstein said, "comparisons are now being made with months in 1979 which were first beginning to reflect significant conservation trends. While the consumption of gasoline should continue to decline, the rate of decline will probably not be as great as we have seen in recent months."

Sales of gasohol during April 1980 totaled 1,655,190 gallons, marking the first time those sales have not exceeded the amount of gasohol purchased the preceeding month.

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GARDENING WORKSHOP

The Bureau of Recreation's Ecology Department is sponsoring a Fall Gardening Workshop beginning July 29 and continuing for three consecutive Tuesday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. Learn fall garden crops preparation for wintering, mulches, fertilizers and general care.

The meeting place is Cylburn Park Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave. The fee for the course is

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Lights. 11 mg "tar," 0.7 mg nicotine—
100's. 17 mg "tar," 1.1 mg nicotine av. per cigarette. FTC Report Dec '79

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