Rust College Collects UNCF Scholarship Funds

Mr. Clarence Smith, president of the Tupelo/Lee County UNCF Committee, presented a check for $7,500 to Drs. David Beckley and Ishmell Edwards, Wednesday, February 3. Rust College will be the host of the annual Holly Springs/ Marshall County UNCF Banquet on Wednesday, February 17. The banquet will be held in Shaw Cafeteria, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

“Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste”

Rust to Participate in “Budgetball”; A Sport of Economic Responsibility

Rust College has been selected as one of 10 HBCU participants in Budgetball. Budgetball is an active sport of quick passes, tough defense and bold comebacks designed to increase awareness of the national debt and reward strategic thinking and collaborative problem-solving around the issues of fiscal responsibility.

Sharron Goodman-Hill, Director of the Rust College Honors Program, was asked by Dr. Sheila Fleming-Hunter to apply for the grant sponsored by the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO).

Pasquail Cook, a sophomore Mass Communications major, is the Budgetball Scholar with Goodman-Hill serving as the faculty advisor. Cook is responsible for coordinating Budgetball activities at Rust.

These activities will take place throughout the semester with the Budgetball Tournament tentatively scheduled for April.

Teams are being formed now. Organizations are asked to contact Pasquail Cook for more information.

Goodman-Hill says, “We are extremely excited to have been chosen to participate in Budgetball and look forward to working with the program.”

February 5 is “National Wear Red Day”

The American Heart Association is urging everyone to stand up and speak out against heart disease in women by wearing RED on Friday, February 5.

Heart disease is the #1 killer of women in the United States. Cardiovascular disease (CVD) includes diseases of the heart and blood vessels. Most heart and blood vessel problems develop over time and occur when your arteries develop atherosclerosis, a process that begins in childhood and involves a gradual buildup of plaque inside your arteries.

“Go Red for Women” celebrates the energy, passion, and power women have to wipe out heart disease and stroke. The campaign is a movement dedicated to helping women fight back against heart disease, by putting together passion with positive action. The Go Red campaign is in place to educate women about their risks and help them find their own personal path to better health for life.

For more information about the Go Red For Women campaign, and to learn the signs and symptoms and treatment for heart disease, visit www.goredforwomen.org.
One-Man Show Tells Story of Emmett Till

The Rust College Lyceum Series, along with Going Barefoot, Inc., presented “Dar He: The Story of Emmett Till” on Tuesday, February 2. The star of the one-man show, Mr. Mike Wiley of Mike Wiley Productions told the story of the 14-year-old boy who was murdered during the summer of 1955, while visiting relatives in the Mississippi Delta. Till, who was from Chicago, was killed after he whistled at a white woman.

Wiley’s performance told the story from the prospectives of Till’s mother, Mamie, his cousins, his accused killers, and even Till himself. Wiley also played the part of William Bradford Huie, a reporter for Look Magazine, who interviewed Till’s accused killers, J.W. Milam and Roy Bryant, in 1956. Wiley told the audience later, by providing so many versions of the story, it allows the audience to draw its own conclusions of the truth. He said he chose the Emmett Till story because it was the first civil rights issue to hit national media, after Mamie Till chose to have an open casket funeral to show the country what had happened to her son. It was the first time the rest of America was able to see what was happening to black people in Mississippi.

Wiley is a graduate of University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He is an instructor at UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University. According to GoingBarefoot.com, Mr. Wiley, Formerly of Theatre IV and Shenandoah Shakespeare Express, has more than ten years in theatre for young audiences, plus film, television and regional theatre. Wiley has also entertained audiences with productions chronicling the stories of Rosa Parks and the Montgomery bus boycotts, the Tuskegee airmen, baseball legend Jackie Robinson, and the decision of Brown vs. Board of Education.

The next Lyceum Series event “Who Will Sing for Lena?”, presents a dramatization of the life of the only woman to be executed by the State of Georgia. Lena Baker, a black woman, was sentenced to the electric chair in the 1940s after she shot and killed her employer, a white man. Ms. Baker claimed her employer threatened to kill her in an old mill where he had been holding her captive. The play will feature Ms. Vanessa Adams, and was written by playwright Janice Lee Liddell, a professor at Clark Atlanta University. The production will be held in the Doxey Fine Arts Center at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free.

AKAs Host Assembly During Founding Week

The ladies of the Theta Upsilon chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. celebrated their founders’ week with a host of activities. Ms. Ashley Holbert was crowned “Miss Pink & Green” during a pageant held by the sorority, and the ladies hosted the weekly AUP assembly on Thursday, January 28. Serving as guest speaker was Mrs. Audrey Miller Okhiria, fellow sister and daughter of Mrs. Emma Miller, Director of Church and Parent Relations. Mrs. Okhiria, a graduate of Clark Atlanta University and the University of Mississippi, spoke to her audience about “new beginnings.” She told students her five keys to success, including always being humble and finding the silver lining to every situation. She told students that soon they will have a new beginning and should be ready to take on new experiences after graduation.

“As you prepare for your new beginning, don’t forget your experiences at Rust College,” she said.

The next assembly will be held Thursday, February 4—hosted by the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

H1N1 Virus Still Critical

Nurse Jacqueline Jones of Rust College warns that just because the H1N1 virus is not the leading story in the media anymore, it is still running rampant across the U.S. Nurse Jones says the H1N1 crisis is not expected to end until after April. She is encouraging everyone to get vaccinated against the virus and to get their seasonal flu shot as well.

The Centers for Disease Control estimated that between 63,000 and 153,000 H1N1-related hospitalizations occurred between April and October 2009. The CDC also estimated between 2,500 and 6,000 H1N1 deaths occurred between April and October 2009.

(Source: Centers for Disease Control)