

THE RING-TUM PHI

Washington and Lee University's Weekly Newspaper

Vol. LXXIV

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA, JANUARY 16, 1975

Number 13

Black experience explored

By JOE FITZGERALD

Speakers, a concert, and a "soul food" banquet highlighted the events of Black Awareness Week at W&L this week. In addition, Black Awareness Week Ball will be held Saturday night in the Evans Dining Hall. The purpose of the events, according to the director of the affair, John X. Miller, was to "make the white student more aware" of the black presence and experience in society.

The speakers have included Dr. Samuel Proctor, Dean of Gradu-

ate Education at Rutgers University, Rev. Wyatt T. Walker of the Canaan Baptist Church in New York City, and Edward Robinson, head football coach at Grambling College. The concert was performed by the Virginia Union University Concert Choir.

Dr. Proctor spoke Monday night in Lee Chapel on the subject of the "Black Educational Experience." He spoke of his time at Yale in 1945 when he was one of four blacks in the graduate school there. He said the racism he encountered there "toughened me" and suggested

that today's black students could learn from his experience there.

Tuesday night featured the Virginia Union University Concert Choir performing in the chapel. The presentation, entitled "Music: A Door to International Understanding," featured mainly gospel music and a selection from Giuseppe Verdi's opera, "Rigoletto." In keeping with the theme, the singers wore colorful costumes from various parts of the world during the first half of the program.

The Annual Leslie D. Smith Memorial Lecture was presented

Wednesday night by Rev. Walker. The theme of the lecture was "Contributions of the Black Man to American Society." The lecture is dedicated to the first black graduate of the W&L law school, who was murdered in 1970 in Washington, D.C. while working with the Justice Department.

Eddie Robinson, the winningest black coach in college football, was scheduled to speak Thursday night on "The Black Man in Athletics."

All of the events except the concert were followed by a reception in the Alumni House.

Monday's speech was attended by a small mostly black crowd. The concert was seen by a larger group, composed of both black and white students, as well as faculty and persons from town. Wednesday the audience was again fairly small, but contained more white students than Monday's crowd.

The week concludes Saturday with the B.A.W. Ball. The Ball will be a formal affair sponsored by S.A.B.U. and the Student Activities Board.



Dr. Samuel Proctor spoke on "Black Educational Experience" last Monday as the first speaker of Black Awareness Week.

Photo by Sally M. Mann

Mock Convention group prepares for May of '76

By STEVE YEVICH

With the organizational meeting last Thursday night, the W&L Mock Convention Commit-

tee, most of his group' efforts to date have been spent in preliminary planning and development of specific goals for each

well as one for spring term, but so far efforts have been unsuccessful. At various times Senators Jackson, Kennedy, Mondale, Muskie and Ribicoff have