

# New Directions

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## Notes

Editorial Staff

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# From the Editors Notebook

## 2 Commencement 1980

There was a blend of traditional formality and informal gaiety at this year's commencement exercises at the Howard University Stadium, May 10. And the spirit of the university's place as one of the pioneers of Black educational advancement was rekindled in the minds of the Class of 1980 by the convocation orator, the Honorable Judge A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Candidates for degrees burst into predictable elation as more than 2,000 degrees and diplomas were conferred, sharing their triumphs and joys with immediate family, relatives and intimate friends. All told, well over the arena's capacity of 12,000 spectators shared in the splendid occasion under a bright spring sun.

To top it off, honorary degrees were conferred upon the distinguished former anatomy professor, W. MONTAGUE COBB; nationally-acclaimed founding director of the Westside Preparatory School in Chicago, MARVA N. COLLINS; lawmaker MARK O. HATFIELD, senior senator from Oregon; and educator/administrator HOWARD HAMILTON MACKEY, former professor and one time head of the School of Architecture and Planning at the university.

Judge Higginbotham, whose address at the university's 112th Convocation pointed to the direction that the Class of 1980 must follow, also received an honorary degree.

*Commentary*, which appears elsewhere in this edition, was excerpted from the commencement address. □



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