



PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203

For Additional Information Contact: Tom Burl
Office of Public Relations
375-9845 ext. 44



RELEASE DATE: _____

DR. GRANT S. SHOCKLEY WILL BE FORMALLY PRESENTED TO THE PHILANDER SMITH COMMUNITY AT A SPECIAL WINTER CONVOCATION SERVICE TO BE HELD AT THE COLLEGE ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1980, AT 11:00 A.M. IN THE M. L. HARRIS AUDITORIUM.

DR. SHOCKLEY WAS ELECTED LAST JULY AND ASSUMED HIS NEW DUTIES ON JANUARY 1. HE COMES TO HIS NEW POSITION FROM THE PRESIDENCY OF THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTER, A GRADUATE-PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL IN THE ATLANTA UNIVERSITY CENTER COMPLEX. HE HAS HELD FORMER PROFESSORSHIP AT CLARK COLLEGE IN ATLANTA, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, DREW UNIVERSITY AND EMORY UNIVERSITY.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE 103 YEAR OLD UNITED METHODIST RELATED COLLEGE IS A NATIVE OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA AND A GRADUATE OF LINCOLN, DREW AND COLUMBIA UNIVERSITIES. HE HOLDS THE DOCTORATE DEGREE FROM THE LATTER INSTITUTION. A WRITER, LECTURER AND RESEARCHER IN RELIGION AND EDUCATION, DR. SHOCKLEY HAS TRAVELED OVERSEAS EXTENSIVELY AND SERVED AS A CONSULTANT IN HIGHER EDUCATION ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS AND IN MANY COUNTRIES.

HE IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER DORIS V. TAYLOR OF LAWRENCEVILLE, VIRGINIA. THE COUPLE HAS A DAUGHTER, MISS MURIEL E. SHOCKLEY, WHO LIVES IN NEW YORK CITY.

THE PROGRAM, INTRODUCING THE PRESIDENT, WILL INCLUDE MUSIC BY THE PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE CHOIR DIRECTED BY ASSISTANT PROFESSOR WILLIAM E. JONES. HONORARY DEGREES WILL BE CONFERRED ON THE FOLLOWING PERSONS: MRS. DAISY L. BATES, RENOWNED CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER AND HEROINE AT THE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CRISIS OF 1957; THE REVEREND ARVILL C. BRANNON, PASTOR OF LEVY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; THE REVEREND EDWARD W. HARRIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN CIVIC FOUNDATION OF ARKANSAS, INC.; AND THE REVEREND JOHN B. HAYS, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT, LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT, LITTLE ROCK ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.