

## Hominy Grits?

After my first year in grad school at Harvard, I spent the summer of 1965 at Tougaloo College running the Social Science Lab and Social Science Forum, both inventions of Tougaloo's only famous professor, sociologist Ernst Borinski. At that time, graduate students from Brown University were helping to staff Tougaloo's "Pre-Freshman Program." These were two two-week sessions for students who would matriculate in the fall, hoping to get them closer to college level, since they had just graduated from some of the worst high schools in the United States.

One of these Brown alumni I enjoyed, but he was the kind of guy you can never tell anything to, because he already knows everything, whether he does or not.

On his first morning at Tougaloo, going through the breakfast line, the work-study student asked him, "hominy grits?"

Without missing a beat, he replied, "Two, please!"

Laid 'em out for five minutes!

And I have to tell you, now that hopefully *you* have laughed, I have learned through bitter experience never to tell that story north of, say, Virginia. The audience sits, silently...