

'Serious, but humorous' encounter

State Police stop UO Blacks

Editor's note: Black students and others going to and from Corvallis to participate in rallies supporting the Black student boycott there, have reported being stopped and questioned by State Police. The following is an account of how five Black students viewed one of those times.

By **RON EACHUS**
Of the Emerald

From the point of view of some Black students, getting stopped by State Police can be humorous as well as serious.

To five University Black students who were stopped Tuesday night coming back from Corvallis it was just that:

Serious because to them it was obvious police harassment.

Funny because it was so obvious.

Funny because one of the Black students ended up on the hood praying.

Serious because several other carloads of Black students were reportedly stopped Wednesday on their way to Corvallis.

The five Black students told the Emerald Tuesday night of their encounter with the State Police who stopped them on the road between the freeway and Corvallis, where Black stu-

dents have been boycotting classes at Oregon State University.

One student, Ray Eaglin, described the scene as one of "vomiting humor."

According to Eaglin, he and another Black student were both driving cars back to Eugene when they pulled over to the side of the road because a State Police car was behind them.

The police car pulled to the side of the road, too, and two State Policemen approached one of the cars. It wasn't long, Eaglin said, before there were five State Police cars and ten policemen.

And all they did, according to Eaglin, was ask them who they were and where they were going.

Eaglin said no tickets were given.

Students feel harassed

"Everyone just came back and questioned you over and over again," Mike Hill, one of the students said.

As they told of the situation they frequently laughed over some of the things they claim happened.

One of the students said he tried to give an officer a copy of Lerone Bennett's "The Negro Mood," but the officer said he only read TV Guide.

The same student said another officer took him aside and asked if he was being taken captive and needed any help.

Then there was the time when three policemen got out of one car with their hands on their guns. So the Black students walked toward them, raised their hands, smiled, and asked the officers if they wanted to search them.

But the talk of hands on guns brings out the seriousness again.

KWAX to present cross controversy

The now nationally famous Skinner's Butte cross will be the topic of discussion this Thursday night on KWAX Controversy seen on PL-3 TV (cable channel 10) and heard over KWAX-FM (91.1) at 8 p.m.

Opponent to the cross, Chet Taylor and Eugene Attorney Charles Porter will be the guests on the hour-long program. Taylor, a University teaching assistant, was recently arrested for trying to bring the cross down with a pick axe.

The Oregon Supreme Court ruled last Thursday that the Cross could stay atop the butte if the Eugene City Council wished to leave it there. Opponents to the cross have promised to carry the case to the United States Supreme Court.

Mick Geary will be moderator for the program.

Listeners are invited to call in their questions and comments during the program to KWAX, 342-1411, ext. 2418.

To them, they said, it was another part of the harassment they seem so used to.

Eaglin had been driving a friend's car. He said he found out later police had called her and asked if she knew her car had been abandoned on the road near Corvallis.

The others laughed as Eaglin related what had happened. But there was a personal awareness in their laughter. "Man," one said, "they must not have recognized us as beings or entities since there were three of us in the car all the time."

It wasn't hard for them to associate the entire incident with what was happening at Corvallis. "It points out the situation at Corvallis. The man will turn on the digital arm if people won't conform," Eaglin said.

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