

'An awful calm' in America Bond warns of black despair

By TOM WOLFE
Of the Emerald

Civil rights leader Julian Bond says the "me first" attitude of 1978 America has helped "move blacks from the back of the bus to the front of the unemployment lines."

The Georgia state senator stood before a packed Oregon State University auditorium Tuesday night and addressed a crowd of several hundred students in slow, precise tones.

"An awful calm has settled over America and no amount of litigation or legislation seems capable of keeping blacks from becoming a permanent underclass in our society."

Bond cited the Bakke reverse discrimination case and tax measures that strip back public

aid as examples of a resurging social conservatism. He said that attitude is rolling back rewards to blacks toward the advancement of great human profit for the perpetrators.

"Measure 13-like legislation is the opening shot in class warfare," warned Bond. "What some see as a populist prairie fire is actually social arson."

"It means that Americans are no longer willing to pay the inconvenience cost of fulfilling the American dream. Blacks are left with the feeling that they are doomed never to stand equal."

The 38-year-old senator acknowledged that significant civil rights gains had been made, especially between 1963 and 1968, but said he feared those

advances were eroding under the weight of a system designed to educate and train blacks into positions of inferiority.

"Too many blacks now believe that the prize will never be won. They're sitting on their doorsteps in Watts and Detroit and New York City and wondering why their American dream is a nightmare."

Bond said 37 percent of blacks no longer believe in voting and that young blacks have never even heard of most 1960 civil rights leaders.

"A college-educated black man can look around and see the average white male, who never went to college earning a greater income."

"Their (blacks') response has



Photo by Tom Wolfe

"Americans are no longer willing to pay the inconvenience cost of fulfilling The American Dream," said the civil rights leader.

been to turn from protest to petition. Blacks see themselves in every ad on TV and can't buy the product — the actors become empty shadows. An increasing proportion believe that no number of black faces in high places will

change their position."

Bond helped found the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and is known for his activity in the south, both as a civil and human rights leader during the 1960s.

EMU Board picks chairer, hears budget

Barry Pilip took over the chairer position of the EMU Board Tuesday afternoon, but not without a big assist from outgoing chairer Dusty Rhodes.

Pilip and current vice-chairer Barb Selby tied for the post with five votes apiece in the meeting held in Room 337 in the EMU,

leaving Rhodes to cast the deciding vote for Pilip.

"That's only about the second time I've been able to vote all year," said Rhodes, who was recently elected to the Incidental Fee Committee and therefore was ineligible to remain as chairer. The ASUO Constitution

prohibits anyone from holding both posts, but Rhodes will remain on the board as one of two IFC representatives.

In other action, EMU Board house committee chairer Amy Tobias proposed to continue weekly musical presentations in the EMU Skylight area, provoking a debate over the purpose of that area.

Rhodes disagreed with the plan, which has already been tried on occasion this term.

"The way students make use of that area (studying) means they have a right to that area," said Rhodes. "I've had considerable complaints from students who want to study in that area."

Board member Tom Christ disagreed, citing the "social atmosphere" of the Skylight area. "It's

not the hard core bookers who use the Skylight area," he said. "Those people always go to the library."

Tobias then proposed a plan that would set up both live and recorded musical programs in the Skylight area on Tuesday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. Board members approved the plan 9-0, with Rhodes abstaining, and further agreed to operate it on a tentative basis until the end of winter term.

Bob Schutz, business manager of the EMU, presented a budget report for the 1977-78 fiscal year, revealing a \$50,500 deficit for the building's five "revenue producing" areas. Schutz reported that the EMU Recreation Center lost \$39,500, while the Print Shop ran up a deficit of \$9,100. Another heavy loser was the Main Desk,

which operated \$8,200 in the red.

The Board also approved \$4,500 for renovations to accommodate the Office of Student Advocacy, which is moving from the EMU basement to Rooms 333 and 334 in the same building. The Chicano Student Union will take over the OSA's former office. The move will be made sometime during the Christmas holiday.

Finally, board members agreed to pursue negotiations with the Post Office for a rental increase. The Post Office now pays the EMU about 14 cents per square foot of space, but EMU director Adell McMillan hopes to increase that to 25 cents per square foot. McMillan also hopes to add a 6 percent inflation clause to the new contract that must be signed by April of next year.

Educator to recount success of Cuba's war on illiteracy

Nationally renowned educator and illiteracy expert Jonathan Kozol will speak on "Children of the Revolution," tonight in the EMU Ballroom.

Kozol's 8 p.m. free speech will

examine the startling success of Castro's Cuba in wiping out illiteracy.

Kozol's criticism of America's educational system began in the Boston public school system in

the early 1960s, when he was fired for teaching materials not on the city's reading list. His book, "Death at an Early Age," recounts his experience in Boston.

In 1976 and 1977, Kozol met with Cuban educational leaders to study that country's school system. His new book, "Children of the Revolution," deals with Cuban success.

"Cuba's success is known throughout the world," Kozol writes in his book. "Cuban educators are being asked by other nations to assist them in setting up effective literacy programs."

"The key to the success achieved by Cuba was the government's decision to establish reading as the number one priority," Kozol says.

On his nationwide speaking tour, Kozol says he is dissatisfied with the high level of functional illiteracy in the United States. Functional illiteracy — the inability to read or write well enough to be productive in society — now encompasses one-fifth of the American adult population, according to a report by The New York Times.

"It's time to put the idea into action," he says. "We have the money. We have the power. But we still refuse to recognize the problem as a national disaster."

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