



We see the world
through Black eyes

Monitor program

The Portland School District has been assured by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare that it will receive its Title VII Emergency School Aid Act funds for this school year. The district had been found in non-compliance with federal regulations by using practices in discipline that discriminate against minority group children.

Title VII funds, which are referred to as "desegregation funds," follow minority students to the "receiving schools" and in those schools can be used to aid any child who needs remedial help. Other uses of Title VII funds are to prepare students, families and staff in the receiving schools for the transfer of minority students into their neighborhood schools.

The School District has assured HEW that suspension will last no more than five school days. Students will be notified in writing of their right to attend school after the five days unless further action is taken; letters will inform parents of the length of suspension and automatic reinstatement.

At the end of the five day suspension, the student will be reinstated. If the student does not return, the school will attempt to reach the student and parents to resolve the problem.

Administrators will work with counselors and teachers to ensure that students are not suspended as a means of dealing with primarily academic problems. Six Desegregation Specialists will be available to assist communication between the school and home on the matter of suspensions.

The commitment to these stipulations will in part depend on Black students and parents being aware of their rights and insisting on the policy being enforced. This will be no easy task without communication and support within the community.

We recommend that a suitable community group -- the NAACP, the Albina Ministerial Alliance, the Oregon Black Educators, etc. -- become a focal point where complaints can be received, communication with the school district supported, and the results monitored. Only then will the public know how the new program is functioning.

A test of faith?

Judge Walt Edmonds of Bend sentenced Billy Whitmire to fifteen years in the penitentiary for attempted murder. (See page 3, "Behind the Wall.") If and when Whitmire receives parole, he will have another five years probation tacked on. It is possible that this was a fair sentence to Whitmire -- a sentence that fits the crime he committed.

What is disturbing is that Judge Edmonds, a professing Christian, did not send Whitmire to prison to be punished for his crime or even for rehabilitation. He sentenced Whitmire, who claims to have been converted to Christianity while awaiting trial, to prison to test his Christian faith.

All of us who have adopted the Christian faith can certainly be glad that Jesus himself did not extract this measure of test from us. Although there are many who have suffered and died for their faith, few are asked to serve up to fifteen years in prison.

The Judge explained that he had three options for Whitmire: probation so he could take advantage of a Bible School scholarship; a year in the county jail and then probation and Bible School; or the penitentiary. He felt that placing Whitmire on probation before he had time to "grow in faith" would not equip him to meet the stresses of school. He did not think spending a year in the county jail would adequately test Whitmire's faith. Only the horrors of O.S.P. would be a true test.

So Whitmire will spend at least seven years in O.S.P., where he is to strengthen his own faith and minister to others.

We have heard much recently about using religious conversion to stay out of prison; we have never before seen it used as justification for sending a man to prison.

Reading the transcripts, complete with Bible references, it is difficult to determine whether the judge was sincere or whether he was being sarcastic; but we have been assured that Judge Edmonds is a sincerely religious man. We cannot judge another man's belief but we can't help but wonder how he'd do at O.S.P.

We also wonder what happened to the separation of Church and State.

Letters to the Editor

Where does the money?

To the Editor:

The Multnomah District Attorney said that 56 million dollars was spent on program for prisoners in Oregon in 1976. Whether that included millions in Federal grants or whether that was all tax money from Oregonians, I don't know. I wonder if the cost for the salaries of hundreds of guards, the cost for tons of food, the cost for clothes, medical attention and maintenance in 1976 were only 56 million dollars. And I wonder how much of it trickled through the several layers of bureaucrats.

It was shower day in O.S.P. when I read that statement by the D.A., and I went down to the basement shower area. No one forgets a shower day at O.S.P.

The shower schedule is run with the same order as a feed lot for steers; first

come, first served. The easiest way to visualize it is to imagine 100 stalls available for feeding and 200 steers trying to get to the stalls. The staff runs about twice the number of men into the area as there are showers. So you undress and stand in front of someone and wait. There's a lot of tension, fights break out, and several disciplinary reports originated in the shower room. Disciplinary reports that create work for several staff members who depend on them for a livelihood. There are always a half dozen or more guards standing around watching men shower and making comments. And there are always long lines of men at the clothing window, hoping to get clothes that have been lost so they can get in the shower lines.

Every week there are many shower nozzles that don't work. I've seen the

same showers remain out of order for six months or more. It might take 56 cents for a washer, and it might take five minutes to fix a shower, but apparently the staff has to wait for orders from above. I imagine a work order has to be submitted, sent out to the front offices to be typed in triplicate, signed by someone who has the authorization, sent back in to the plumbing superintendent and scheduled. Whatever the procedure is, it must be easier to ignore, because that's what happens.

While I was sitting in line, I wondered about that 56 million dollars and where it went. It seems a shame that 56 cents couldn't be found to put toward a problem that affects 1,400 men every week, twice a week. Maybe when the people who give out the money next time will make some provision to use some of it where it is needed most: down where the prisoners are.

"Corrections" is a multi-million dollar industry, one of Oregon's largest industries. There is a status quo that a lot of people don't want upset. Anytime someone tries to look in-depth, tries to get some answers about where the money goes, or tries to get answers about the treatment in here, they are met with hostility, and are offered meaningless excuses -- their investigation is cut short. The people who tried to cover up Watergate should have studied Oregon's "Corrections" division; they might have gotten away with it.

Sincerely,
Donald Danford

Charges discrimination

To the Editor:

A Native American has been held since June 3, 1977, without bail, on seven bank robbery charges which occurred in Portland, Oregon between December 7, 1976 and April 21, 1977, in which every witness, save one, identified the robber as a white man. The one exception identified the man who robbed her as "approximately six feet tall, 250 pounds, husky, muscular build, brown eyes, approximately 25 years of age and appearing to be of Samoan nationality." The person arrested was me.

In an F.B.I. report by the agent in charge, Michael R. Sanders, the following description of me is given: "Name: Peter Brent Zauner; Race: Indian; Sex: Male; Date of birth: July 2, 1949; Place of birth: San Francisco, California; Height: 5'7"; Weight: 238; Build: very heavy set; Eyes: brown; Hair: black, shoulder length. Characteristics: very heavy set with broad shoulders with large protruding stomach, with heavy thick thighs and legs, wears hair parted in the middle and had long braids on each side."

Though this description, true and accurate in every detail, matches my eyewitness reports on the robber, former U.S. Attorney Tommy Hawk (yes I'm serious), now in private practice, was able to have me arrested, indicted, and my parents on a 1966 Oregon conviction (the only other arrest in my life) revoked. This action was only his final attempt to have me jailed after I helped focus public attention on his attempted frame of A.I.M. members, Russ Redner and Ken Loud Hawk on charges later dismissed, Court House, 620 S.W. Main, Portland, Oregon.

I ask all who claim they support freedom and justice to contact radio, television and newspaper reporters demanding they provide information about

my statements. I have contacted both The Oregonian and Oregon Journal newspapers as well as all three local television stations without response.

I can be contacted by writing to: Pete Young Buffalo "Zauner," Rocky Butte Jail, 9755 N.E. Hancock Dr., Portland, Oregon 97220.

In Struggle,
Pete Young Buffalo
aka Peter Brent Zauner

Bakke Case



Eliot II housing breaks ground

(Continued from page 1 col. 6)

were installed. In August of 1977 the property was transferred to the Housing Authority of Portland, which will build the public housing project. The \$1.8 million construction project is funded through a 6 1/2 per cent loan from the First National Bank of Oregon. The bank loan will be repaid and the project operated through rents subsidized by HUD.

Controversy has risen over the construction contract with Walsh Construction Co. Christensen-McDonald was the low bidder on the project and has filed complaints with HUD and HAP because they were not awarded the contract. According to Beryl Currier of

C-M, Walsh, who was second lowest bidder, was allowed to rework his design and bid to meet HAP expectations but his company was not. Jan Yocom, Chairman of HAP's Development Committee, explained the choice. "While it is true that Christensen-McDonald was low bidder on a total cost basis, HAP must also give weight to other considerations, principally, the well-being of the residents. For example, the Walsh proposal provides 12 per cent more space in each unit. Further, the building will be an attractive one as opposed to the institutional appearance of the C-M design."

Currier explained that although the Walsh design might have been more attractive, it was also more expensive and his company was attempting to

follow the HAP guideline of minimum cost. He claims that it is customary for the builder to negotiate with the lowest bidder and that if his company had been given the opportunity that Walsh received, they, too, could have altered their plans to fit HAP's expectations.

Minority contractors are concerned that Walsh Construction was set aside approximately \$135,000 or 13.5 per cent of the project for minority enterprise and that their efforts to work with this company in the past have been fruitless.

Located in the heart of Albina and planned and built with federal funds, they believe minority business should earn one-third or more of the money and that minority workers should make up a high percentage of the work force.

School Board questioned

To the Editor:

I've been watching with increasing interest the school board's interactions with the interested members of our community. You can tell that you're on to something by the unjustified and somewhat puzzling response by a body of people who are ostensibly committed to facilitate the education of our community's young people. Maybe some of the (our?) board members are not so committed. Maybe in reality they don't care at all about our young -- I do hope there are none of the board or none behind the scenes with puppets on the board who are actively opposed to the quality education (and therefore advancement) of the people concerned. Yes, their motives should be suspect, unless it is to be believed that it's simply a matter of egos -- some board members being offended by the community's desire to be involved and make suggestions in regard to our young. No, it must be something deeper than that.

I have some words of encouragement for those community members who are insisting on community involvement in relevant board decisions and school board accountability to the community -- STAY ON THEM!!!

(Name withheld at writer's request.)

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