

EDITORIAL/OPINION

Fighting for the right

On Friday U.S. District Judge Donald S. Voorhees will give an opinion on whether the anti-busing referendum passed by the voters of Washington is constitutional.

Measure 350, which was sponsored by the "Citizens for Voluntary Integration Committee," was a response to the Seattle School Districts' comprehensive desegregation program. The measure requires school districts to assign students to the nearest or next nearest school to their home.

The refreshing thing about the suit is that the Seattle, Tacoma and Pasco School Districts are suing in federal court to block the state from enforcing the measure.

Here is the Seattle School District in court to fight for the right to continue an equitable desegregation program. In the meantime, the Portland School Board was so frightened by the Washington initiative and the remote possibility of a similar initiative here that they refused to even discuss compulsory cross-busing.

Win or lose, the Seattle School Board has the courage to fight for equal educational opportunities for all its students. Next door, a frightened and timid Portland School Board has joined the opposition and will also find itself in court — but fighting against equal educational opportunities for its students.

Where is Portland State?

What is the role of the university in the Black community? That is a question that has never been answered by Portland State University.

In the white community the role of the university is more clearly defined. The university provides teaching, research and culture.

Every week this newspaper receives numerous press releases from universities and colleges in the Oregon system. From Oregon State University are items on research in forestry, agriculture, lawn and garden care, wind energy, nutrition and oceanography.

From the University of Oregon come stories about research in social science, psychology, music, education, architecture, anthropology, etc. For example, minority students in architecture made several trips to Portland, meeting with local residents, to design land use plans for the Eliot neighborhood.

Out of the Medical School comes extensive research on cancer, lung disease, and other health related problems.

In the center of the urban environment is Portland State University — with an opportunity to become involved with the Black community — and with the minority communities — in research and planning in the areas of economic development, housing, school integration, health planning, planning with the elderly minorities. The needs are there — the problems are crying to be solved. The money is available. Where is the University?

Where are the PSU schools of Social Work, of Urban Studies, of Education? Right here in Portland, the professors and students of PSU could find the best laboratory in the world. Besides offering a much needed service, they could gain invaluable experience in working with the bureaucracy, fighting city hall, organizing communities, experiencing disillusion and disappointment.

Where is the university? That is the question that will be asked in coming months as the Education Center is closed. Will PSU — which is supported by all of our tax dollars — become a more visible and viable influence in the community? Or will it fade away?

Letters to the Editor

Insult to Aaron

To the Editor:

There are many people of good will in Portland, and I believe they are shocked at what happened Saturday, June 9th.

Radio KXL and the Rose Festival Association need to tell why there was no introduction of Grand Mar-

shall Hank Aaron in the official Rose Parade on the premises of the Memorial Coliseum. The unfair omission was *insulting*!!!!
Who can explain or apologize for such conduct???????

Signed,
Mrs. Osly J. Gates

Likes festival

To the Editor:

Thank the Lord for our beautiful Rose Festival Parades, etc. The past 65 years; Portland is truly blessed. I hope some day to see one of our beautiful Black young ladies crowned "Queen of Rosaria."

Sincerely,
Mrs. C. Louise Harris

Rose Festival charged with racism . . . again

(Continued from page 1 column 6) complained about an editorial in the John Adams High School newspaper — "The lack of black in bedsheet white". Hannon wrote the school, stating that the *Unity* editorial written by student Greg Hough showed a "lack of adult leadership and direction within the school's journalism program" and that the editorial was filled with inaccuracies.

The editorial follows:
"Three weeks from now, Rose Festival Princess Lynn Talton will stand before thousands and represent Adams High School in the 1979 Queen's Coronation."

"At first glance, Lynn would seem to have all the qualifications needed of a worthy representative during that ceremony. She is bright, friendly, energetic and popular. With all that to her credit, our Princess also happens to be black. So, if past Rose Festival history can be considered any kind of guide, the chances are that Lynn Talton will not walk away from the June 1 Coronation as Queen of Rosaria."

"The fact is that Portland has had an official Rose Festival for nearly three quarters of a century and there still remains to be a black Rose Festival Queen."

"Of course, large factors have played roles in dictating this fate. For one, it seems that there has been the presence of a black student on the court for just slightly under a third of the 71 Festival years. Also, the ratio of Princesses in the last two decades has been very strongly white over black. So, since the Rose Festival Association says it keeps no file on past Princesses' racial backgrounds, what reasons can anyone find to suggest that the lack of a black queen is due to anything but coincidence? Plenty of them. One need not look any further than the Festival's voting of a Queen. This task is done every year by the Rosarians, an overwhelming white organization who, if not consciously bias toward black Princesses, must at least be guilty of bias that is subconscious. Let's face it, human

behavior in modern society has taught us that whites will be more attractive to whites, with the same going for blacks and other minorities to their own races. If the voting body is bedsheet white, how can a black Princess be elected in this or any year?"

"That question has been raised before, right here at Adams. In the early 1970's, this school refused to let the Rose Festival plant a traditional rose garden here in protest of an all-white Rosarian membership. Back then, Adams even voted against having a Princess at all, claiming the whole procedure was "sexist". Since that time, the protesting on our part has been eliminated. Maybe that's not so good."

"And what about last month's Wilson incident? This was supposedly a circumstance plagued by disorganization, but doesn't it sound suspicious when a black student wins the Princess election and is forced by the school's administration into a runoff with the second place white

Whatever happened to nuclear moratorium?

by Chuck Johnson,
Sanford E. Piller,
and Peter Bergele

We are members of the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance, legislative aides to Representative Wally Priestley, and authors of the "nuclear moratorium" bill, HB 2570. We have maintained silence on the treatment of that bill by the Oregon Legislature. However, now that the bill has been essentially killed by the Senate Environment and Energy Committee, we have decided to break that silence.

We drafted several bills for submission by sympathetic legislators; one of these bills was HB 2570, the nuclear moratorium bill, which would delay construction of new nuclear plants until the problems of storing radioactive waste are solved.

Public support for HB 2570 was massive. According to Representative Nancie Fadeley, there has seldom been a bill which generated such enthusiasm; there were literally thousands of supporting letters, telegrams, and phone calls; over 2,000 persons attended an April rally endorsing the bill; editorials supported the concept of HB 2570 from Portland to North Bend to Medford; and an independently conducted poll showed 80% of Oregonians in favor

of a moratorium until a safe method of waste disposal is found. On May 7th, in response to this support, the House voted 36 to 24 to adopt an amended version of HB 2570 and sent the bill to the Senate.

In the Senate, it was referred to the Environment and Energy Committee, a group whose membership Senate President Jason Boe had already stacked with a clear pro-nuclear majority: Senator Hanlon from the district in which the Trojan Plant is located; Senator Jernstedt from the would-be Pebble Springs area; Senator Powell in whose district Teledyne Wah Chang produces an important element for nuclear plants; and the pro-nuclear Senators Day, Groener, and Ripper. Because a majority of the Senators on the floor (17) were willing to vote for HB 2570, the six pro-nuclear E&E Committee members voted to hold the bill in committee and deny the Senate its vote, even after backers offered a 2-year moratorium as a compromise.

The tactics employed to kill HB 2570 were undemocratic. The full Senate was denied a chance to vote on the issue. Instead of HB 2570, Governor Atiyeh, the utilities, and pro-nuclear legislators want to substitute a meaningless one-year

"moratorium," SB 899, which would permit Pebble Springs to be sited before the public has a chance to vote on a moratorium initiative planned for the fall of 1980, and before the next Legislature convenes.

Governor Atiyeh then put pressure on the House. Six of the nine Republican members who originally supported 2570 — Representatives Schoon, Zajonc, Campbell, Van Vliet, Lombard, and Rutherford — changed horses in mid-stream, suddenly refusing to back anything but a one-year moratorium. They cited as reasons the Governor's threatened veto and a disinclination to "embarrass" him.

The death of HB 2570 must be laid at the door of the Governor, for his unwillingness to compromise and his refusal to wait for the electorate to speak; at the door of the six pro-nuclear members of the Senate E&E Committee, for ignoring the demonstrated preference of a majority of Oregonians; and at the door of the six Republican House members who placed the Governor's "embarrassment" above their own sense of civic duty.

The electorate will have its chance to speak in the 1980 initiative and legislative elections. We hope it won't be too late.



TransAfrica flexes muscles

by N. Fungai Kumbula

On Capitol Hill in Washington, there's a lobbying group called TransAfrica, the only pro-Africa lobby in the country. TransAfrica was born slightly more than a year ago and today has become a group of quite considerable clout.

Over the past few years, Africa has become very prominent in the thinking of American legislators. One can easily trace the development of this thinking from the days when Africa was still very much a Mystery Continent to today when the U.S. is engaged in "peace efforts" in Southern Africa and an "improvement of ties" with the rest of the continent. Africa has suddenly become important not only as a source of raw materials (among them oil) but also as a market for manufactured goods and as an area of influence. The East-West tug-of-war has been mostly waged over Africa lately.

It was amidst this burgeoning popularity that TransAfrica was born. Specifically, its aim is to speak up for Africa, lobby for pro-Africa causes and fight anti-African legislation. The past few years have seen the CIA involvement in Angola, the two Zaire wars, the Soweto uprisings, the endless Namibian headaches and, Rhodesia, just to mention a few examples. So, TransAfrica has been kept hopping almost from the word go.

Randall Robinson, the executive director and Richard Hatcher, the chairman (the same Richard Hatcher

who is the mayor of Gary, Indiana) have provided outstanding leadership considering the organization is so young. For operational funds, TransAfrica has to rely on donations and whatever fundraising events they can come up with. So far, most of TransAfrica's lobbying efforts have been aimed at the White House.

At a recent fundraising dinner and dance in Washington, the topic on the agenda was sanctions against Rhodesia. The Senate had just voted to repeal these sanctions and recognize the puppet regime of Bishop Muzorewa. Referring to this vote, Robinson charged that the "U.S. was sliding towards support of the internal settlement. If Carter heeds that advice, he is not going back to the White House in 1980." Mayor Hatcher made the all important point that Black Americans can make a difference in shaping U.S. African policy.

TransAfrica had joined forces with the Washington Office on Africa to head a "retain sanctions" campaign directed at church, union, liberal and civil rights constituencies. The idea was to explain the shortcomings of the so-called elections recently held in Rhodesia. The argument the other side had been making was that now that Zimbabweans of all races had "freely elected a government of their choice," we should recognize that government and support it.

Andrew Young, the U.S. Ambassador to the UN and one of the

six speakers at the fundraising event welcomed the campaign along with several other administration officials concerned about the potential for disaster the Senate's sanctions ending vote portended. An end to sanctions, they concede, would hurt U.S.-Africa relations and further erode the U.S.'s credibility in Africa.

These joint TransAfrica — Washington Office on Africa campaign apparently paid off handsomely when a few days later President Carter announced that, for the time being anyway, sanctions would stay in effect. He said the Administration had determined that so far there had been no real transfer of power as the conservatives claim. As expected, Muzorewa roundly criticized this decision.

The work of TransAfrica, Washington Office on Africa and all other groups that are concerned about the Rhodesia dilemma is far from over. Senate conservatives are still expected to look for other ways to push for a repeal of sanctions. TransAfrica will, therefore need a lot of support.

It is a well known fact that in representing the interest of Africa and her people, TransAfrica is providing a service on behalf of Black America, a most essential service. Letters to TransAfrica and donations, when possible would show them that they are not alone in this war against a massive conservative onslaught on our sisters' and brothers' survival.

student? Then, after much confusion, embarrassment and speculation, the runoff is not even held after all? It is hard to believe that the people in charge at Wilson could be so inept that they would miss the rule clearly stating a Princess will be chosen solely on her having the most votes. There could be something more to it than disorganization . . . only a very small percentage of Wilson students are black.

"To charge that bias exists within the Rose Festival, one is relying on suspicion-based evidence. It's difficult to get any concrete fact about whether an organization is against minorities or not. But there's enough evidence to believe that a black Princess will never be elected Queen under the present circumstances."

"Perhaps there is no validity in bombarding this larger-than-all-of-us organization with accusations. But until a black queen is elected, there will always be those who use 'Rose Festival' and 'racist' in the same breath."

Hough's editorial does have one error. The Rose Festival Queen is selected from the slate of Princesses by a panel of judges. In much the same tradition as the School District uses to name its Citizen Advisory Committee members — a board member appointing a committee to choose the members — the Rose Festival Association has a member appoint the judges who select the Queen. So,

although Hough had his facts a little twisted, the results are the same.

School supports editor

Adams principal Collin Morse supported Hough, and the faculty gave him a vote of confidence.

Not the School Board

At the Monday night school board meeting, board member Wally Priestley moved that the board ask Hannon to identify and substantiate the numerous inaccurate statements or to apologize to the student, the school and the school district. The motion met with silence from his fellow board members and failed for lack of a second. Priestley also asked his fellow board members to reappraise the school district's role in the Queen selection as again the request was denied.

Hank Aaron Slighted

Hank Aaron, baseball's all-time home run king was invited to be "Grand Marshall" of the Grand Floral Parade, the high point of the annual Rose Festival.

Spectators who paid to watch the pre-parade ceremonies and the parade as it passed through the Memorial Coliseum waited in anticipation for the introduction of Aaron and his wife. According to some disappointed patrons, the introduction never came. The public address announcer, who introduced the many guests and participants in

the parade, described the floats and bands, and gave the interesting but insignificant details, failed to introduce the Grand Marshall.

The Manure Car

Then, to the chagrin of many parade watchers, Aaron and his wife were not up front where the Grand Marshall belongs, but in the words of one bystander they were assigned to "the back of the bus."

The limousine carrying the Aaron's followed a group of horses and the ever present "Pooper Scooper." Not only did the Aaron's car have to stop repeatedly to allow the removal of horse feces from the street, but they literally greeted the cheering crowds within the sight, sound and smell of horse manure.



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