

Ernie Warren arrested, charges police brutality

Ernest Warren spent six years as an Explorer Executive for the Columbia Pacific Council of Boy Scouts and state coordinator for the Explorers' Law Enforcement program. In this position he encouraged high school young people to seek careers in law enforcement and to view police as a positive force in the community, established Explorer career training programs in law enforcement and coordinated police sponsored Explorer groups.

On September 18th, Warren says, he found himself on the ground with a policeman's knee in his back and a policeman's hand in his pocket.

Warren said he went to the home of a white family on N.E. Cleveland to attempt to find his 16 year old daughter who had run away. He had been informed that she was at that address with her 20 year old boyfriend.

"I knocked on the door and was invited in," Warren said. "My

daughter was sitting on the davenport but when she saw me she ran out the back door." Warren said he went through the house to try to catch her but when he saw she had gone he walked back through the house and talked to the young man. Unknown to him, someone in the house had called the police.

As he went out the front door, three police cars drove up. Warren stated that two police officers ran up to him and without saying a word

one grabbed his arm and the other grabbed him around the neck from behind, choking him. After wrestling him to the ground they handcuffed him, pulling and jerking his arms from behind.

During the time I was lying on my face, with the officer kneeling me in the back and pulling up on my arms, this little animal the boy had tied to the porch -- a racoon, I think -- kept getting in my face. The police thought that was funny. They

laughed and joked and said, 'Oh, you seem to have a friend'."

Warren was put in the police car by the same officers and taken to the Multnomah County Holding Facility. On the way he attempted to talk to the officers, to find out why he had been arrested.

"You seem to think I'm the enemy," he said, "I'm on your side." He explained that he was looking for his daughter and questioned police procedures. He

throat hurt where he had been choked and it hurt to talk, but he tried to explain that he is a good citizen and would cooperate if he knew what they wanted.

Finally he was told that it was a citizen's arrest for trespass and that the officers were not interested in the daughter; runaways are a low priority.

"It boggled my mind," he explained. "I couldn't believe what (Please turn to page 2 col. 1)

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(Photo: Richard Brown)

FRIENDS

Ambassadors speak on Africa

Donald F. McHenry, newly appointed U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, will participate in a Great Decisions Conference -- "Southern Africa Faces the 80s" -- in Portland October 12th.

McHenry will speak at 12:45 on "Southern Africa: Negotiation or Violence" at the Memorial Coliseum.

The all day conference will begin with a welcome by Marcy Marks, Great Decision chairperson. At 9:00 a.m. John Marcum, Vice Chancellor and Professor of Politics, University of California, Santa Cruz, will speak on "Southern Africa: The Roots of Crisis". A panel discussion will feature: John Banda, medical economist for the Kaiser Founda-

tion, from Malawi; Chief Justice Arno Deneke, Oregon Supreme Court; Ted Feather, local businessman, from Zambia; Mazisi Kunene, professor of African Literature and Languages, UCLA, from South Africa.

Following the noon lunch, Dorothy Weaver, former USIA office in Zaire and the Cameroon, will discuss the Great Decisions program.

Mazisi Kunene will speak on "Dynamics of Culture, History and Politics in Southern Africa". A panel discussion will include: Penny Auila, Poetry Editor, *The Oregonian*; Fungai Kumbala, lecturer in Black Studies, PSU, and columnist for the *Portland Observer*, from Zimbabwe; Dr. Darrell

Millner, Professor in Black Studies, PSU; and Gordon Matzke, Professor of Geography, OSU.

The morning and afternoon sessions will be held at Willamette Center, 121 S.W. Salmon, with the noon meeting at the Coleseum.

Ambassador McHenry, a former State Department official, has represented the United States on various United Nations bodies concerned with Africa and with human rights. He has been affiliated with Georgetown University.

Mazisi Kunene is a poet and founder of the Anti-Apartheid Movement in Britian. He has served as chief Representative of the African National Congress in the U.S. and Europe.

Owen sues city, asks discipline

Ernest Owen, juvenile counsellor and law student, is filing a law suit against the Portland Police Bureau charging brutality and false imprisonment. "I had heard about police brutality in our community for years but I didn't pay much attention: I didn't really believe it," Owen told the *Observer*. "But now I have experienced it myself and I'm going to fight it. We need to get this type of police officer out of the community and out of the Police Bureau."

Owen is asking \$85,000 damages and disciplinary measures to be taken against the police officers.

This May, Owen was called to visit a youth center where a staff problem was developing. He went to the home late in the evening, drove one staff member home, then drove up Killingsworth toward his own home.

"I was driving down Killingsworth at about 2:00 or 2:30 in the morning when I saw the flashing light behind me. I immediately pulled over. Next they flashed the spot light on me and I saw two officers running up with guns pulled. One yelled, 'Don't move or I'll blow your head off'."

Owen said one officer grabbed him from the car and threw him to the ground, handcuffed him, kneed him in the back. In the meantime two additional cars drove up. He asked one officer if he could get up, but

that officer lifted him up and let him fall to the ground. Then they threw him in the back of a police car and drove him around until approximately 6:00 a.m.

Owen said throughout the altercation he was never told why he was stopped. He said his driver's license, registration and other ID were taken. He was told he was not "Ernest Owen" and that the license did not belong to him. He said his keys were taken and his car trunk opened. Police went through his belongings including the legal and confidential papers on juveniles he counsels that were kept in his briefcase.

Owen was taken to the police station, he said, then later to the Multnomah County Holding Facility. At that time he was told he had been arrested for reckless driving, misuse of operator's license and open container. He was never given his rights.

Owen refused to accept bail but stayed in jail over the weekend. On Monday he appeared before Judge Edwin York. Judge York said he did not know why he had been jailed on a driving charge and released him.

Owen said that about two weeks later he was driving down Union Avenue at about 6:00 p.m. when the same two officers stopped him, arrested him and took him to jail. Again the charge was misuse of

operator's license. This time Owen posted \$5,000 bail. When he appeared before Judge York again, the judge returned his bail and stated again that he did not understand the imprisonment.

On May 30, Gregory Kafoury, Owen's attorney wrote to one of the officers enclosing identification affidavits and asking that the arrests cease.

On September 21, Owen went to court on the traffic charges. The police did not show. The charges were dismissed.

Owen, who works closely with the police and other law enforcement agencies in his work as a juvenile counsellor said he had never had any conflict with the police and never harbored any feelings against them.

"I have a right to drive my car any time I want to. I pay taxes out of every paycheck. I have my rights and the police have theirs. There right is to enforce the law, not to beat me." Owen said he intends to pursue his rights in the courts. "When I said I would file a complaint about the way they treated me, one officer said, 'That's what y'all say but you don't do anything about it.' I'm going to do something about it. We can't allow this kind of brutality to go on. Somebody has to do something about it, so I'm going to be the one to do it."

New rules regulate utility shut-off

Public Utility Commissioner John Lobdell has adopted new rules to guide electric and gas utilities on procedures they must follow prior to terminating service to residential customers.

The rules include a ban on termination of service at any time if it would significantly endanger the physical health of a residential consumer or any member of the consumer's household.

The rules will be effective on October 1st.

The 1979 Legislature passed a law requiring the Commissioner to adopt rules prohibiting termination during winter months. Lobdell said he expanded the directive since it is possible that the health of a customer -- such as one receiving kidney dialysis treatment at home -- could be significantly endangered at any time of the year.

Certification of a health problem could be made orally to a utility by a physician, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or a public or private agency providing physical or mental health care services.

The rules also provide:

- The utility must give 15 days written notice to the customer prior to termination. the termination date must be specified.

- A clear explanation of the reason for the termination must be provided.

- If the customer is unable to pay the bill in full, he may enter into a payment agreement to bring the account in balance within 10 months.

- If the customer is unable to pay, the utility must provide a list of public and private social services agencies that may be able to provide help.

- The utility must make an effort to contact the customer in person at least 72 hours before termination, and once again immediately before termination takes place.

- If a customer appears unable to comprehend the consequences of the notice of termination, the utility must notify the Department of Human Resources and extend the termination date by five days.

contacting the Consumer Assistance Section of the Office of the Public Utility Commissioner. The utilities will be required to provide customers with the toll-free telephone number of the Consumer Assistance Section. If an appeal is made before termination, service may not be terminated without approval of the Public Utility Commissioner. If termination has already taken place, the Commissioner may order restoration.

The proposed rule drafted by Lobdell's staff included a provision that notice of termination must contain advice in the Spanish, Vietnamese and Russian languages. Witnesses pointed out that there are as many as 40 languages used by Oregonians and it would not be reasonable to limit the advisory to three languages.

As a result, Lobdell revised the rules to place responsibility on the utilities for determining if the customer is unable to understand the termination notice for language or any other reason and to bring a social service worker into the case prior to termination.



DARREN BRIGGS



DWAYNE BRIGGS

Good News Brothers: Champs

By Allen Jones

If there is a sport older than wrestling in the history of the world, it is yet to be recorded! Since its glorification during the Roman Empire that offered a soldier, workman, or a mere commoner a chance for fame and wealth based solely on physical strength and endurance.

Wrestling continues to be the world's most participating sport. It isn't as visible as many of the modern day sports are around the world today, but the physical and mental demands are just as necessary - if not more so. A victory is not based on just mere brute strength and muscles - but style and more importantly - technique.

Take the Briggs brothers for an example. Darren, 9 years old, and Dwayne, 11 years old, have had the training, technique and desire to become national champions in their respective weight classes and did it! Both young men have been pounding the canvas for three years now. And according to their coach of 2 years, (Please turn to page 2 col. 4)