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"The Eyes and Ears of The Community"

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MARK BRYANT



CLIFF ROBINSON

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Next Week
Angelique Sanders Explores the Meaning of Christmas.

Community Residents Claim Kwik-Mart Has Long History of Brutal Tactics and Disrespecting Customers

When 28 year old Charles E. Williams died after a scuffle with employees of the Kwik-mart Convenience Store at Martin Luther King Blvd. and Fremont St., this was just the latest in a series of incidents involving customers and store attendants, according to protesters and some residents of the N.E. area.

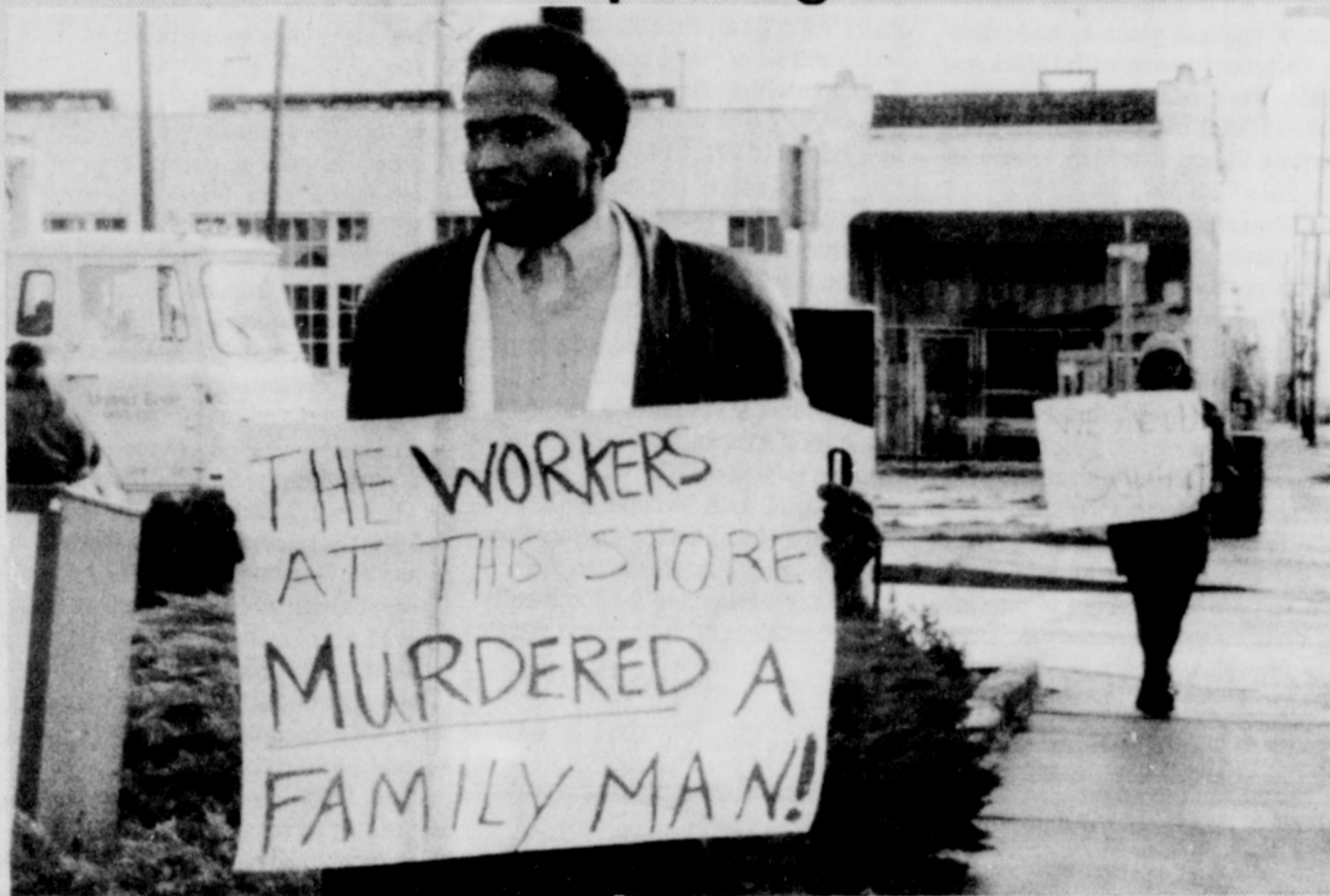
Williams death has been ruled a homicide by the state medical examiner, who said suffocation caused by pressure on the abdomen was the cause of death.

Williams was lying face down over a display of soda bottles when ambulance crews arrived to administer emergency treatment some three minutes after receiving the call. Dr. Larry Lewman state medical examiner, said the pressure on his abdomen caused by the bottles was the reason for suffocation.

While the death has been ruled a homicide, no charges have been filed, pending a grand jury investigation.

Williams is alleged to have offered to sell marijuana to the stores 6 foot 5 inch 300 pound bouncer, who refused and walked away. Williams is then alleged to have jumped on the bouncers back which started the altercation.

According to Cleo Howard who accompanied Williams to the store, he also was beaten by one of the clerks after going inside to see what the fight



was about. Howard claims the clerk beat him on the legs, threw him out the door and locked the store.

Other neighbors, shop owners and community residents in close proximity to the Kwik-mart Convenience Store claims they have been treated rudely, manhandled or insulted by store employees merely because they "Look

suspicious".

Two employees of a local ambulance company who asked to remain anonymous claim they witnessed two of the stores employees assault one customer as he left the store.

"The guy walked past a car that was in the parking lot and the cars alarm went off," stated the ambulance driver. "They

pulled him from his truck and began beating him with clubs. I guess they thought he was trying to burglarize the car", he added.

At press time, a protest movement that began on Monday was picking up as more and more community residents joined with picket signs.

Avel Louise Gordly: A Woman With Vision



BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

Monday, November 26, 1990, marked the date of a very important event. It was a cold and damp night, but there was a very diverse and joyous crowd of people, who had congregated in the IFCC's Meeting room, upstairs, to shake hands with the woman of the hour, Avel Louise Gordly.

In the midst of the chatter and munching, Avel stood greeting her guest, as they entered and departed. The group lingered. Milling around and visiting with one another. I, for instance, ran into scads of old chums.

As the hour grew, Fred White found a lofty place and announced that we should all go into the theatre for the next part of the program.

I know that you must be asking, "What is this all about?" Well...! Avel L. Gordly has retired from the American Friends Service Center after seven years of total commitment to her post. Several persons rose to sing the praises of Avel. To herald her accomplishments. To capitalize on her diplomacy. Those persons who found her there and even those persons who were present, when she initially arrived, all had nothing but good to share and some very humorous episodes which erupted from time to time.

The American Friends Service Center was founded in 1917 so that young people, who did not choose to go into war, would have an outlet-way to work off their assigned military time by doing jobs in the community. Jobs which were located

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First Interstate Bank Invites Children to See Santa

First Interstate Bank again highlights the Christmas season with a special appearance from Santa and his helpers. To celebrate the happy occasion we are inviting children to come meet Santa and have one picture taken with him. Peppermint candy canes will be given to all children.



Date: December 13, 1990
Time: 10:00 - 1:30
Place: First Interstate Bank of Oregon



We invite you to come share this experience with us.

Walnut Park Branch
5730 NE MLK Blvd.
Portland, Or. 97211

College Addresses Student Harassment Charges

Dan Moriarty, president of Portland Community College, today announced the college's plans for addressing incidents of alleged harassment of two disabled students.

"The students filed a complaint with the college Public Safety office last Wednesday, November 28. They stated that they had been verbally and physically harassed on campus by three or four males over the past two weeks," Moriarty said.

"As soon as the complaint was filed, the college sent public safety officers to meet with the students and their counsel-

ors to discuss the incidents."

The students were apparently approached on several occasions by youth who allegedly voiced pro Neo-Nazi sentiments. It is not known whether the perpetrators are students or campus intruders.

"Even though these appear to be isolated incidents, we will not tolerate any kind of harassment of students on any of our campuses. Students have the right to expect a safe environment in which to learn, and we will remove from campus anyone who interferes with that right," the president said.

Baseline Essays Attack

BY PROFESSOR MCKINLEY BURT

Last week I put it that the attack is coming from "all quarters". I was quite right, for in the Friday, November 30 edition the editorial staff of the Oregonian joined the fray. Essay author, Joyce B. Harris, is taken to task for protesting the use of a book the newspaper describes as "Mark Twain's American Classic".

"Stories such as *Huckleberry Finn* reinforced society's view and treatment of black men as boys," Harris stated in a language-arts essay. And the Oregonian article quoted a Dallas, Texas teacher as having severe hang-ups on teaching the book since the text "used this offensive epithet (nigger) about 300 times". Harris further advises, "The negative images these book(s) portray outweigh any literary qualities they have--inclusion of this book in the curriculum should be carefully considered."

The Oregonian did not agree: "And thus, deploying doubtful literary analysis and even more doubtful 'pop psychology' Harris opens the door to closing the schoolhouse door on Mark Twain's American classic." While the

paper's editors beat all around the bush--"Jim, a black runaway, is one of the more APPEALING characters in the book; more honorable than the whites" and "*Huckleberry Finn* was a satirical attack on the racism of slavery"--it is an inescapable fact that had this book repeated 300 times one of the ugly, derogatory epithets applied by racists to Jewish people, it would long since been "banned" from use. And the Oregonian would have been leading the charge.

Enough of the attackers for now, for truly, "the emperor has no clothes." The November 18 article by Bill Graves in the same paper is quite balanced and has merit (see section D1). "Portland developed the Baseline Essays as the first installment in a broader incomplete effort to infuse multicultural education throughout its curriculum" (early 1980s). "The essays serve not as lesson plans or curriculum guides but as a base or reservoir of instructional information. Teachers EXPECTED to read the essays and include information from them in their daily lessons." That's what I thought, too!

It is in this process that the "joker(s) in the deck" emerge. In a

series of articles on this subject, written last spring, I pointed out that, as in the commercial world, "delivery of the product to the shelves for the consumer is what it is all about!--failure to achieve this goal means that all of the time, effort and commitment has been wasted." To emphasize this point, I drew parallels from my experience in this world of commerce. The detractors of the Baseline Essays would not have been nearly so disturbed had they known of the fallout and disruptions (dislocations) in the process.

These operational disabilities were never so clearly highlighted as they were during interchanges at the national convention of the "National Alliance of Black School Educators" held here in November of 1989. While the School District representatives (and some others) were making impassioned pitches for the process as the greatest enhancement of the African American educational experience to date, I was doing something else entirely--I was running a shuttle between this site at the Hilton Hotel and the meeting facilities at the plant of one of these "Partners for Success: Business & Education".

I was already prepared for the mindset I encountered among many of these black educators during three days and nights of exchanging experiences: "But how do you get it into the classrooms?--What use is a Baseline Essay and all that expenditure of time and money if you can't mandate a classroom delivery, curriculum, lesson plans? Your 'monitoring process' is toothless. We are not getting good responses on these questions from your administrators or teachers, there's not much of the goods on the shelves--why in the world would you DECENTRALIZE THE DISTRICT CURRICULUM PROCESS when quite obviously you would need the tightest ship possible to implement such an innovative program?" Believe me, most (but not all) were some of the most astute and experienced educators I have met.

At the other end of my shuttle, at the Beaverton plant of that "Business Partner" in the education process, I was provided with meeting room and audiovisual facilities--the same as was provided for me all during the seventies and early eighties by the U.S. Forest Service. Once again I was speaking of the technological and cultural contributions (docu-

mented) of both Africans and African Americans, but this time I was describing my problems in getting it on the shelf in the Portland School District--and outlining how they could proceed if encountering similar inertia in their district. Several expressed amazement that my book "Black Inventors of America" had been incorporated into curriculum but directive in many of their schools but not in my own district. One southern district administrator, whose system is now my client for the design of multicultural curriculum, cracked: "A prophet in his own land".

It is interesting to note that a number of these educators anticipated the sound and fury of the current attacks on the Baseline Essays. I had just detailed the experiences of one of the principal consultants, Ivan van Sertima, whose book, "They Came Before Columbus", was subjected to the very same type scurrilous assaults in the pages of the *New York Times*. His documentation was super. One of the reasons that I have the schools or districts of these educators for clients now is that I demonstrated that my research over the last twenty five

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