

RELIGION

Tapping The Source

BY JUNIOUS RICARDO STANTON

All of us desire power. If we knew of a ready source of power most of us would avail ourselves of it. Well, there is and we can. The process is simple. It's a method that has been around for millennia. Unfortunately the impression is given that this power is outside of ourselves. Not so! It resides within us. We tap into it through introspection, prayer, meditation and contemplation. All the great spiritual teachers and all religions stress the efficacy of prayer and communion with divine beings to enhance the quality of our lives. They are correct.

Prayer is the key. The reason so many prayers are ineffective is because 1) people lack faith in the process; 2) their prayers are misdirected; 3) those praying lack un-

derstanding of mental and spiritual laws and 4) there are mental or emotional (conscious or unconscious) blockages within the individual. When I assert that people lack faith in the prayer process I don't mean that they ascribe to the wrong religious creed; I mean that they aren't confident that prayer really works. They don't believe they are deserving of divine intervention or they really don't believe "God" how ever they perceive God to be, will respond to their needs.

We have been mislead to believe that the word faith has strictly dogmatic connotations that prescribed rituals or sayings are the only way to get God's attention or curry divine favor. Not so. Faith is a power that is resident within all of us. It is part and parcel of our imagination. It is the ability to "see" what we

desire in our mind's eye. It is the first step in the creative process. Without faith nothing could exist. Think about the implications of this statement for a moment. Without faith nothing could exist! It is faith that determines our goals and objectives and our willingness to pursue them, to bring them into being and make them a reality. To pray effectively we must "see" or visualize what we want as if it already exists (actually it does exist in your mind's eye) and have the mental and emotional confidence that what we want is possible. The more tranquil the mind, the easier it is to tap into and commune with the divine intelligence within us. The more we are able to tap into this source, the more power is at our disposal. The more power is at our disposal, the more productive we will be.



The Williams Brothers, will perform on the massive Power '98 Tour that will blanket America. The power '98 Tour will showcase the best gospel music with concerts in 80 U.S. cities. It will kick off Jan. 14, 1998 in Charleston, S.C. and close May 10, 1998 in Houston, Texas. The Gospel Greats Tour 80 Cities will be in Portland, OR at the Civic Auditorium on April 8, 1998.

The Williams Brothers

Power '98 Tour

Episcopal Bishop Establishes Commission To End Racism

The Rt. Rev. Robert L. Ladehoff, Episcopal Bishop of Oregon has appointed a Commission to End Racism. Bishop Ladehoff appointed: Herb Amerson, Marian Ferguson, Mabel and The Ven. Lincoln Eng, The Rev. John Nesbitt, Jose Martinez, JacE Macy, and Anne Scissions, sitting members of the Task Force on Racism to the Commission. New appointees include The Reverends Alcena Boozer, Constance Hammond, and Margo Marriss.

In appointing the Commission Ladehoff stated: "We recognize that establishing a commission will not end racism, but we be-

lieve that such action will raise the level of awareness of the clergy and people of the Diocese of the need to take concrete steps on a daily basis through prayer and action to confront racist behaviors and policies where ever they are encountered."

Co-chair Nesbitt added that this is a sign that the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon is ready to "move beyond guilt trips and political correctness to acceptance of all persons as brothers and sisters in Christ."

Co-chair Boozer commented that "the Diocese has a remarkable opportunity to exercise the prophetic ministry as it relates to

matters of justice and equity."

The inaugural event will be an "Anti-Racism Workshop" to be offered Friday, December 12, 7:00-9:30 p.m. & Saturday, December 13, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Trinity Cathedral 147 NW 19th Avenue.

Workshop presenter will be The Rev. Canon Ed Rodman of the Diocese of Massachusetts. Canon Rodman is well known nationally for his work in anti-racism education.

Registration fees are \$12 in advance [includes lunch on Saturday] and \$15 at the door. Scholarship assistance is available. For more information, contact: St. Stephen's Parish 223-6424.

Buffalo Soldiers

Produced by and Starring Danny Glover

The Buffalo Soldiers 9th & 10th Horse Cavalry Association and The Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church Youth Ministry in cooperation with TNT Networks presents the feature film Buffalo Soldiers.

Produced by and starring Danny Glover, at a Benefit Premier Screening and Pancake Breakfast; Saturday December 6, 10am at the Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, 3138 N. Vancouver Avenue (across from

the Red Cross).

Donation: \$7.00.

The Portland based Buffalo Soldiers of the Northwest is an affiliate of the Army sanctioned national 9th & 10th U.S. Cavalry Association.

It is a self-governed, nonprofit, educational and community service group.

The group seeks to help document and foster the Buffalo Soldiers' tradition of outstanding service to community and coun-

try, and to help educate the public about black military history as well as other aspects of African-American life and culture.

The group also is committed to helping young people...especially African-American young men...develop into strong, skilled, responsible and productive adults.

A question-answer session with the Buffalo Soldiers will take place immediately following the screening:

Escape cocaine:

THE DEATH OF A DOPE FIEND

A cry of pain rushes out to you but few understand the things that you do, a bottle of wine, a bag of dope its all the same insidious hope...

The sickness of wine swallowed like a treasure and the feeling it entails is so impossible to measure Late night, neon signs and 'sho nuff to the curb your body trembles for Irish Rose, Tokay or the Mighty Thunderbird!

Today is like the first day of your life as you cuddle the "Spike" just like you would your wife! There's no turning back and nothing seems to be in sight just another dope fiend, just another night...

Sheer madness rushes across your mind, institutions, jails or death you're so sure to find young crazed kids selling rocks right up the street and one more hit and your dead on your feet...

It's impossible to really define in words but this Dope thing isn't just a fantasy or something I heard, it's a slow murderous death that hits you like a charm a pipe in your mouth or a spike in your arm...

Young babies lay hungry and alone in the bed, no food on the table, not even a piece of bread. The pipe, the spike, a wine bottle intact, one more day of madness for an addict...

The Ho Stro' and young pretty tenders on the go, the street life, mini skirts, and pretty fine bodies to show. But there's a turning point and no real hope back on the track and another Bag of dope...

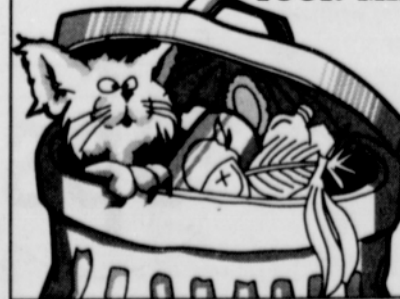
A death wish turns the tide around and the promise of death has you wired for sound, what's really going on; and you didn't even think and now you're searching for your last dying drink...

A Graveyard is now your resting place, a few tears here and there and dirt thrown in your face, but you Reap what You Sew and you made your life real man and now you've seen "The Death Of A Dope Fiend."

-Savon Lindsay

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"In Thee, O Lord, Do I Put my trust:

Let me never be put to confusion"

Psalms 71:1

G.G.

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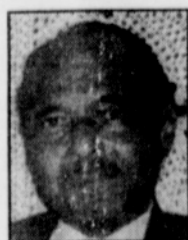
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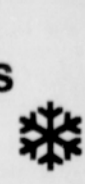
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