

Hear It!

The Black Student And the University

by Jim O'Dell

Blacks and the University. Explain it carefully, it's so hard to see why such large new proposals, brilliant additions to the school, such sound and powerful insights, can sound so frightening and irrational to a white community. It all comes from the one principal which will soon be knocking the entire educational establishment on its ear: community control.

Proposal #2 on a sketchy listing of the Afro-American Organization's proposals: "That the percentage of matriculated students reflect the black ethnic percentage of Hartford."

Simple. Radical. Schools in the Black community need Black teachers just as parking lots in black communities already need black parking lot attendants. The parking lot attendants are available in distressing numbers... high school dropouts are abundant. But where will the teachers come from if a corresponding ratio of black teachers to black students and white teachers to white students is not reached. Where do the Black people of this country begin to find breathing room in a suffocatingly racist society if their students do not place themselves in college for generations?

Fact: less than 49% of this University's students are black.

Answering the question of why there are so few black students in this University is easier than answering the question of why there should be an equivalent number of black students: the curriculum and cultural atmosphere of this University are by and large irrelevant to a black student living in the urban de-militarized zone of the ghetto.

LeRoi Jones said a chilling thing when he was last here at the University. He said that the black college student enjoyed by fighting to make it in this world as an individual. Identity crisis and such related "plagues" a luxury?

The Black student, as opposed to the white student, is going to have to make it instead as part of a community, a people fighting to wall in this country.

What he said was straight and chilling; for the same reasons the proposals of the Afro-American Organization may seem chilling to some white students, let alone the Administration. Black students are not going to come to the University until there is something relevant to their lives as members of the black community to study. Relevant.

It is more than just recognizing a largely ignored cultural history, or a much maligned contribution to our society. The lack of any studies relevant to a black urban student in an urban University cannot be comprehended, and cannot be continued.

Specific proposals made by the Afro-American Organization may seem irrational to white students, but when inspected more carefully, the weight of the words themselves are more realistic. Proposal #8 on the recently circulated list: "The establishment of a Black library." Not a whole new building, but instead a section of the library which now contains sections on Russian history, English Romantic poetry, and Existential philosophy. Nothing more than that, but the tone and implications suggested by the proposals, that this University is fundamentally racist, gives the words the ringing tones of overdue prophesy.

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they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters... Power concedes nothing without a demand. We will speak forcefully and truthfully about our plight.

Newark, N.J. - Many jobs in summer camps will be available to college students, nurses and teachers next summer, the New Jersey State Employment Service has announced.

The jobs usually last eight weeks. Salaries run from \$200 to \$600 for the season, plus maintenance, depending upon experience. Camp directors can earn from \$800 to \$1,000 for the summer.

The jobs are at camps and summer resorts in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and the New England states.

Openings are available for persons who can teach various athletic activities, such as swimming, golf, baseball and basketball, or dramatics, dancing, photography, arts and crafts and music, as well as for cabin counselors, camp directors and registered nurses. Most positions are with resident camps. Some positions may be available in day camps also.

Additional information and application blanks may be obtained by writing to the Camp Unit, Professional Placement Center, 744 Broad Street, Newark, New Jersey, 07102. These jobs are usually filled in the spring, so prompt action is essential.

NUDITY NOT OBSCENE. CHICAGO (FRED-LNS) - Last December, George Sells and Jonathan Tuttle of Head Imports, Inc., 2446 N. Lincoln were arrested on obscenity and disorderly conduct charges for displaying the album cover of John & Yoko's record, which shows them nude coming and going. The obscenity charges were dropped by Magistrate Paul Gerrity, who held that nudity is not obscene to young children -- that the same sort of nudity could be found in encyclopedias and in art museums.

However, Sells and Tuttle were fined \$25 each for disorderly conduct because "they were being a little unreasonable in their approach to salesmanship," said Gerrity, and because the complainant was "alarmed and disturbed" at her children's seeing the cover. The convictions will be appealed.

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