

The Sheet

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The truth shall make you...

Contrary to what the Barometer reported earlier this week, the Black Student Union was never even contacted about an all-school convocation to discuss the current situation. The whole affair is an indication of how the administration and the Barometer have distorted the truth to their own purposes.

According to Dean of Education Keith Goldhammer, administrators were "unable to find the officers of the BSU" in order to contact them. Goldhammer made his statement at the Faculty Senate meeting yesterday. He said the BSU did not show up because of a "misunderstanding."

The "misunderstanding" was created by the university administration, which decided to capitalize on its mistake as propoganda in the Barometer by pointing out the absence of the BSU, implying that this organization didn't want to talk.

The following is the actual sequence of events:

5:20--Dean of Faculty David Nicodemus called Carl Helms, Director of Minority Student Affairs, asking for a meeting with the BSU concerning an all-school convocation. Helms was not at home, so a message was left asking him to call back.

7:20--Helms returned the call and was asked to have the BSU at the meeting in 10 minutes.

9:30--Helms called back, saying he had been unable to contact the BSU. He said it would be impossible to get them to a meeting that night.

Nicodemus called President Jensen to the phone. Five minutes later, Dr. Jensen returned to a group of 30 faculty members and administrators and said the BSU did not want to talk.

The members of the gathering decided that, since nothing was accomplished at the meeting, the proceedings were to be off the record. However, Dr. Jensen told a Barometer reporter present at the meeting that the fact that the BSU was not there could be printed by the student newspaper.

As faculty members left the group, they grumbled about how disorganized the administration was and how this meeting was an indication of how the administration had bungled the whole affair.

Where was the BSU all this time? It was meeting with a group of white students, trying to work out a plan for an all-school convocation to discuss the situation.

The rise of the Athletic Department to power has been a real Cinderella story. Every night at 12 o'clock, the Great Pumpkin turns into a coach.

There will be a rally today at 1 p.m. at the free speech platform on the University of Oregon campus. The rally is in support of the OSU Black Student Union's demand for the adoption of a human rights proposal.

Hold that line!

Oregon State University today goes into its second week without having addressed itself to the issues of human rights which are fundamental to its existence. ASOSU Senate--haltingly, and under protest--has affirmed the need for the boycott and for the administrative proposal. It has not been heeded. The American Federation of Teachers has taken the same action, with no better results. Support has also come from the Foreign Students' Association, the Student Action Committee and the Kennedy Action Corps. None of these student appeals, however, has been effective. Faculty Senate, stymied by one reticent member, died Monday night--presumably to rise from its tomb on the third day in support of the Cervantes measure.

We are left with the sorry spectacle of a university whose figures of authority are being openly defied by persons whose usual concerns extend no further than jock straps and Tartan Turf. We have heard some coaches claim they will never abide by the decisions of an arbitration committee established by the university president. We have heard locker-room rhetoric from men whose concern with winning ball games extends far beyond their concern for the ethical values and goals of the university at large.

It is time to put a halt to the Athletic Department's ball-control tactics. It is time to put a halt to this blackmail--blackmail conducted in the name of a collective discipline and tradition which are corrupt.

The boycott of classes must continue. The persons involved in hassling out a solution during the next three days must be shown that the students and faculty intend to see this issue resolved. The Athletic Department must be shown, without ambiguity, that its programs deserve and will receive the support of students only to the extent that its policies do not conflict with the greater concerns of the university.

The Black Student Union has never made outrageous demands. It--not the various hard-liners in the Athletic Department--has always been backed by a concrete proposal emanating from the university establishment. That plan--the administrative proposal--has been available from the outset; created and supported by a faculty-administration committee appointed by the president of this institution. Its implementation has been blocked only by concerted efforts on the part of supporters of the school's athletic program.

The boycott of classes must continue because the issues of human rights

affirmed by a university committee deserves the backing of every student. The boycott of classes must continue because too many persons have failed to take the action necessary to effect a conclusion to the conflict. The boycott of classes must continue because the students of this university must demonstrate their willingness to hold the line for human rights--not merely human rights for the majority, but human rights for all.

Faculty Senate--which on Thursday will again consider the Cervantes proposal--must be convinced of the depth of concern by students in this issue. Student Senate--which tonight may attempt to renege on its earlier backing of the boycott--must be apprised of its responsibility to the ethical values stated in the Administrative Proposal and backed by each boycotting student. Faculty members who are in sympathy with the goals of the boycott should be encouraged to continue their support; those who do not should hear only echoes in the classroom.

It is true, as the president has stated, that this institution should get on with its business of education. But we must demonstrate that that business cannot be continued unless and until the university has adopted a satisfactory policy relative to human rights for all students.

Students in sympathy with the boycott should be exercising their rights, too. Those who have substantial reasons to attend class should make their concern felt in other ways. Members of both student and faculty senates should be contacted by their constituents and be notified of support by their peers for the BSU position and the Administrative Proposal. Athletic events should be boycotted until satisfactory response to the proposal is forthcoming from the coaches.

There is to be no coercion by boycott proponents directed at other persons; there never has been. But each student, in the popular athletic jargon, should have the dedication and desire to support the boycott in whatever way he feels possible. Only one kind of coercion is possible and necessary: that uncommitted students coerce themselves to support the values of human rights raised by this conflict; to join the boycott in the assurance that together we can prevail against policies which have no place in this university.

Portland State Support...

Andrew Haynes, newly-elected student body president at Portland State University, released a statement in support of the OSU student boycott early this morning.

Haynes, a 1963 graduate of Howard University, is the first black student to be elected student body president at an Oregon college.

In his statement given to the Scab Sheet by telephone, Haynes said:

"In view of what has happened at Oregon State University, I feel that I must extend my support to the students who are fighting to implement a firm and permanent policy of human rights that allows cultural freedom and expression in dress, hair styles, facial hair and language. I support the movement to the extent that the issue is not Fred Milton's beard, but is instead student rights as individuals.

"The aims of human dignity are very dear to me, and I am convinced that we have the ability to get human rights and also provide academic excellence. I would hope that the conflict at Oregon State can be quickly resolved in favor of the administrative proposal.

"If there is any way in which my appearance on Oregon State's campus can help the progress of student rights and the resolution of the campus conflict, I will make myself available as a speaker and in whatever way my presence may be deemed effective.

"The progress of the conflict at OSU is being closely watched by the people in Portland. We are concerned that something more positive than a policy on shaving will be forthcoming."

Boycott Progress Report...

According to a survey yesterday by the Scab Sheet, 67 professors are now boycotting their classes. This does not include 36 others who expressed sympathy with the boycott and the Administrative Proposal, but felt they could not boycott. Faculty members boycotting represent many departments from math to Modern Languages. The entire Art Department is now on strike, not only in support of the boycott, but because of a budget cut in the department.

Individuals supporting the boycott range from two-time Nobel Prize winner Linus Pauling to Olympic gold medalist Tommie Smith. Yesterday the Oregon Council for New Politics and the Kennedy Action Corps publicly added their support to the growing ranks of organizations supporting the boycott.

This brings the present total of organizations supporting the boycott to 12. These organizations are the Black Student Union, ASOSU Student Senate, Student Action Committee, Foreign Student Association, American Federation of Teachers, Kennedy Action Corps, President's Advisory Committee on Minority Affairs, Students for a Democratic Society, the Black Student Unions at the University of Oregon, Portland State University and other west coast schools, and at least two OSU sororities--Kappa Alpha Theta and Sigma Kappa--as well as the Oregon Council on New Politics.

Five student body presidents have thrown complete support to the boycott--John Fraser, OSU; Thom Gunn, University of Washington; Dick Jones, U of O; Bob Olsen, OCE; and Andrew Haynes, Portland State University.

Faculty Stalemate...

An emergency session of the Faculty Senate last night adjourned without a vote on the proposal made by assistant professor Fred Cervantes and four other faculty members. Their proposal might have resolved the present stalemate between different factions of the university.

Groans went up from the visitor's gallery, jammed with students and faculty numbering about 1,000. Shouts of "continue the boycott!" filled the Home Economics auditorium as the spectators, who had waited for nearly three hours for a vote, filed out.

One of the five faculty members who had called for the special session said later, "We're dead. They keep giving us a lot of talk about 'more time', but there isn't any time left."

He referred to the call for more time which came from L.W. Gay, Forestry Sen., after two hours of debate on Cervantes' proposal. This finished all debate and put off the vote until Thursday's Faculty Senate meeting.

The proposal asked for establishment of an arbitration committee whose decisions would be binding. It also called for holding in abeyance any punitive action taken against students --meaning that dismissal from athletic teams or action taken against students who boycott classes would be suspended until the committee had completed its investigation and made a decision.

"The President (Dr. Jensen) really wanted us to pass it. He's with us," one faculty member said after speaking with Jensen. No announcement has yet been made whether Thursday's Faculty Senate will also be open to students.

Fred Milton, a junior from Richland, Wash., is a member of the Oregon State University football team. He also sports a "Van Dyke" beard. Athletes at OSU are not allowed to have beards, long sideburns or too much hair on their heads. These restrictions are part of a "disciplinary code" laid down by the coaches. Any athlete who fails to adhere to these rules is simply dropped from the team.

Football coach Dee Andros has given the word to Milton: "Shave the beard or you are off the team." To Dee Andros it is just that simple.

But to Negro students, including the black athletes, it is not that simple. To the Negro everything in America is white-oriented or white-controlled and it has been that way from the very beginning.

No white youngster has been discriminated against because of his color. If any white youth failed to make it in this fiercely competitive society in America, he can't blame it on his color.

Until recently, the Negro has passed his mode of dress, style of hair and his beliefs on those of the white American. Apparently these white standards are the basis for the black athlete and student unrest at OSU.

The unrest has led to protests in the form of boycotts. Black students say they will boycott classes and athletic events and black athletes say they will not perform on OSU teams until coaches drop their insistence that black athletes be judged by white standards.

The fuss at OSU has been developing for some time and many OSU students see it as a bigger problem than friends of the university would like to admit—a racial fuss not limited to the Athletic Department.

It has been the feeling of OSU alumni and Negro Oregonians (a feeling based on different reasoning) that Negro athletes were not as acceptable at the Corvallis campus as they were at the University of Oregon in Eugene. And a look at the record certainly seems to bear this out. Oregon State University is known as a conservative school.

Some white athletes, notably Dick Fosbury who won an Olympic gold medal in the high jump, see the move by black students as a good thing. They view the coaches' complete authority (often based on personal tastes) over an athlete as arbitrary and a denial of the athlete's human rights.

Bill Russell is a Negro. He also is the first and only black man to coach a major professional sport in this country. He is coach of the basketball Boston Celtics. And although Russell sports a goatee, has kinky hair and a mustache and dresses in a mod style of his own, there has been no breakdown in discipline or morale on the Celtic team.

Let the Oregon public face up to the reality of life today. It is good for this country and it is good for the Negro to have identity. It has been a long time coming. The way a Negro individual wears his hair has no bearing on his character or his ability.

It is a simple matter for Dee Andros, Paul Valenti and Ted Wilson (basketball coach at Linfield College) to rap "discipline breakdown," but it is not as simple to be a Negro in a white society.

There will be a Rally, Tuesday, March 4 at 1 p.m. at the Free Speech Platform on the University of Oregon campus. The rally is in support of the OSU Black Student Union's demand for the adoption of a human rights proposal.

Beaver Coach Raps...

Oregon State head football coach Dee Andros has rejected a proposed arbitration committee submitted by OSU President James H. Jensen.

In an interview last weekend, Andros said,

"I'm not going to sit here and let some committee that knows nothing about athletics draw conclusions and make accusations about something they know nothing about."

Andros was quoted by the Eugene Register-Guard as having said,

"We feel any man has to be willing to sacrifice something--that's the price of being a champion. If you can teach discipline, you can teach anything."

Andros said he has more than ample scientific evidence that shows long hair, beards and mustaches are medically unwise for football players. He said long hair makes a helmet fit improperly--endangering the athlete--and added that

"No matter how well you wash it, a beard will carry germs."

"I'm a full professor here; I think I'm a professional man and I feel I should be treated as one," the poly-poly skipper said.

He said he considers such one-sidedness an "insult" and promised to "correct" the situation by speaking personally before yesterday's Faculty Senate meeting.

However, Andros and the rest of the coaching staff sat silently during the meeting without offering any comment at all.

Commenting on the possibility that the university's decision in the matter might go against the Athletic Dept., Andros said,

"If it goes against us, I don't know what we'll do. There's no reason why I have to continue to coach this sport--I'm on tenure. I can go ahead and just teach."

"I won't quit," Andros promised. "If they want to get rid of me, they'll have to relieve me."

Rally Tomorrow...

There will be an OSU student rally tomorrow at noon in the MU Quad in support of the student boycott. Speakers will include Dick Jones, student body president at the U. of O.