

Black Parents Protest Delay Of School Opening

The plight of K-6 students in the metropolitan area is very grave. They are being crushed in the middle of a struggle between courts - the school district and bigoted parents. We call the parents bigoted because their prejudices have blinded them to hard facts.

43% of AMERICAN SCHOOL CHILDREN are being bused every day. Busing is American as apple pie. For 50 years more and more students are being bused. And yet only 3% of these students are being bused for integration reasons.

The news media has been guilty of inciting the issue by using terms like "Massive Busing For Integration." When does 3% of a figure warrant the use of the word "Massive."

Public emotion has grasped on the word "busing" partly because the news media has in-

vited people to accept this word as a meaningful symbol. The result has been to divide people and distract them from examining what is really at stake.

We here in Las Vegas must examine what is at stake. OUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE NOT IN SCHOOL. Some people are stupid enough to follow a group, whose leading spokesman, would rather keep his children out of school (in ignorance) than accept the courts ruling on the Sixth Grade Plan. This group went to court and found a Judge willing (for whatever reason) to issue an order that usurped the powers of a Superior Court, in fact, he granted a stay order that a Federal Circuit Court panel of three Judges, refused to grant.

It seems ironic that the Black community

parents are the only parents who made a protest to the School District, to get children in school by whatever method necessary. Dr. Guinn committed the use of any school within the district that could be staffed by volunteer certified teachers with the provision that if enough students and teachers responded, classes would continue. Matt Kelly is the only school where the attendance of students and teachers has been increasing each day. Monday 130 students - (126 black and four white) were taught by 15 teachers from all over the district. Tuesday, the number of students had increased to 275, with approximately 30 whites. Dr. Guinn stated that unless more teachers volunteered, Matt Kelly would have to be closed.

(See Photos, page 9)

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Jimmy Gay Testimonial Dinner Proceeds Distributed



Assemblyman Woodrow Wilson presented checks of \$501.50 each to the Arkansas AM&N College Alumni and the Seventh Step Foundation from the proceeds of the Jimmy Gay Testimonial Dinner, at a gathering of representatives of both organizations.

L-R - Woodrow Wilson, Jim Pickett, Director of Seventh Step Foundation; Lee Rayford, First Vice-President of the Alumni; Trudy Henderson, Treasurer; Jewel Scott, Alumni member; Bernice Moten, Bus. Manager; Leckerene Scott, Sec.

School Officials Hope For Classes Next Week

School officials say they are "hopeful" that classes for elementary students can start next week after a court appearance before Federal District Judge Bruce R. Thompson at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday in Reno.

Schools are closed now because of conflicting rulings from Thompson and Nevada District Judge Carl Christensen. The latter approved a temporary injunction Tuesday against the school district, stipulating that schools could not be opened using the Sixth Grade Center Plan of integration which was ordered by Thompson on several occasions, the last coming on August 24.

"If we officially open K-6 schools in the metropolitan area at all," claims school board president Glen Taylor, "we are in contempt of one court or the other."

"This is an untenable position for the community and the school district," said Taylor. "We hope Thompson will clear up the jurisdiction dispute Tuesday so we can obey one judge or the other, and most important of all, get our children in school."

Judge's Ruling Stirs Controversy

Approximately 2000 citizens, black and white, gathered at the Clark County Courthouse Tuesday night to await Judge Carl Christensen's ruling on the School District Petition, to have him set aside the stay order he granted that prevented the district from opening school with the Sixth Grade Center Plan.

Mingling with the crowd outside the court an organized group was advocating that should Judge Christensen set aside his own stay order - a plan to destroy the buses was the next move they would make to halt the implementation of the Sixth Grade Plan. Many inciting statements were overheard - like "we will load our shotguns and fight before we will let our children be bused. Judge Christensen stated, he would take the matter under advisement and recessed court with the statement that there were too many points for him to study to make a "from the hip ruling." He earlier made the statement that because of the expediency of many cases judges have made poor rulings. He also indicated he would be guided by the law of the land.

He refused to hear any statements from NAACP Attorney, Charles Kellar or Dr. Kenny Guinn. He made the remark "three days was not long to wait, because he had waited four years to finish school."

In all of the outcry about the neighborhood school concept, none of the leaders gave no consideration to the fact that for five years of the elementary schooling white children

(See Ruling, page 3)

Blacks Petition For High Schools

More than 450 West Las Vegas residents have signed a petition endorsing the construction of public schools, Junior and Senior High, on the Westside. Stating they believed that schools within our community will enable citizens of that community to control the academic education of their children and guarantee them a proper education, to insure the academic growth of our children in today's highly advanced technical society.

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF HOUSING PROJECTS

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