

Point of View

Editorial

The jury announced that it had reached a verdict. The courtroom was quiet as the jury foreman read the verdict. The wheels of justice were turning. Patrick Henry Lizotte displayed an attitude of stoicism.

The verdict read was that a teenager must spend the rest of his life behind bars for the killing of his high school teacher. He is also to be sentenced on two counts of attempted murder. The two teenagers survived the shots.

Perhaps the verdict was a just one, and was entered into after much deliberation. However, we cannot help but wonder how many other teenagers out there are on the verge of committing the same or similar act and are not getting the help they need.

The young man seemed to have been pleading for help, and there was no one to help him. His previous activities should have been noted and appropriate actions taken before he resorted to these extreme measures to get the attention he needed.

Our collective hearts go out to the family who was deprived of its husband and father by the action of this teenager. Our hearts also go out to the families and victims of the murder attempts.

We would be remiss if we did not say that we also feel for the young man who did not get the help he needed in time to prevent him from committing these acts.

In order to prevent this kind of thing from happening again, we suggest that students be given help at the first signs of major problems.

To Be Equal

JOBS FOR YOUTH

By John E. Jacob

Fifty years ago, in the midst of the Great Depression, the Civilian Conservation Corps was launched. President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to pass a bill that put young, unemployed men to work on conservation projects and within weeks, camps were officially established. They did things faster in those days.

Within two years, the CCC was putting half a million young men to work on valuable projects. By the time it was phased out in 1942, 3 million people had worked in CCC camps at one time or another.

Now, in the midst of

the Great Recession of the 80s, there are new proposals for putting young people to work on rural and urban conservation projects. One such bill recently passed the House of Representatives and others are

national parks with urban conservation jobs, repairing and improving city parks, public buildings, and other facilities.

This is the right plan at the right time. Youth unemployment is still at

more especially, of urban facilities. So it makes sense to put the two problems together in

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pending before the Senate.

The House bill, which passed overwhelmingly, would create 100,000 jobs for unemployed and disadvantaged young people in refurbishing parks and forests. One of the Senate bills would boost the number to 300,000 and combine conservation work in

historically high levels -- over 22 percent; double that for minorities, and triple that for many urban black neighborhoods.

And there is work to be done. Decades of public disinvestment in public facilities have resulted in marked deterioration of national parks and forests and



John E. Jacob

a program that creates jobs for young people on rural and urban conservation and repair projects.

But the plan is coming under fire. One objection See JACOB, Page 15

THE ADVANTAGES OF A BLACK PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

This is the concluding half of an article written by Rev. Jesse Jackson, National President of Operation PUSH, on the need for a black presidential candidate in 1984.

In last week's portion of the article, Rev. Jackson dealt with the need for renegotiation of the fundamental relationship between blacks and the Democratic Party, and gave five reasons why a black should run for President in 1984. This week, he deals with four additional critical questions to be considered: What would such a candidacy require? What would be the advantages; What are the arguments against such a candidacy? and Who would be the candidate?

By The Reverend Jesse L. Jackson

Another argument has been made that a black candidacy would split the Democratic Party and hurt the party's chances of regaining the White House in 1984. Specifically, some say a black candidacy will divide the South. Yet, no one points to former Florida Governor Rubin Askew, Arkansas Senator Dale Bumpers or South Carolina Senator Ernest Hollings -- all of whom are active or potential candidates who have a southern base -- and says that these campaigns are divisive. Should we not measure all of the campaigns by the same standard? How could a black candidacy that

stimulated increased Democratic registration and participation be accused by Democrats of being negative? It, in fact, would be a positive new asset. The very idea of a black candidacy being divisive smacks of suggesting that blacks should be passive, that blacks should "go quietly along with the program," and that they should wait and not push too hard -- that that is the proper "place" for blacks in 1984. Blacks should reject all such arguments out of hand.

The argument that a black candidacy would split the progressive forces and allow a candidate less sympathetic to the concerns of

progressives to capture the nomination is not valid either. It is a static, not an organic, view of the possible political options. It assumes that those who have been sympathetic in the past



Rev. Jesse Jackson

will remain so and that, given the option of a broader political base to choose from, other candidates would or could not grow and move to capture a large progressive political bloc of voters. And at this point all of the current and speculated candidates are ignoring the concerns of blacks, women, Hispanics, peace activists and the poor.

To illustrate the points, Lyndon Johnson's

record was more conservative than John Kennedy's, but when presented with new political options, he was capable of growing. On the other hand, in Chicago the two politicians in the Democratic party who are considered the most progressive, Edward Kennedy and Walter Mondale (liberal number one and liberal number two), not only failed to endorse and work for the most progressive live option, Harold Washington, but endorsed and worked for his opponents. Even more than that, their contempt, disrespect or disconnection from blacks and Hispanics was so great that they came into a city that is 42 percent black and 15 percent Hispanic in a local primary election without even talking with or consulting the three black congresspersons; State Comptroller Roland Burris, the largest vote-getter in the state in the November election; Richard Hatcher (in neighboring Gary, Indiana), the vice chairperson and highest ranking

black at the Democratic National Committee (DNC); and local or national black and Hispanic indigenous leadership. Even now, after all of these abuses and a long train of grievances, Charles Manatt, chairman of the DNC, has not even sought to convene a meeting with black leadership or potential candidates to discuss the concerns.

Lastly, the issue of a black candidacy is rapidly becoming a matter of valid interest and great speculation in the black community. Already, with only the proposition and the advantages of such a candidacy being discussed, the Democratic Party, the candidates and the media are developing a greater appreciation of the power and political potential of the black vote. Naturally, all of the discussion and speculation has led to the question, "Who would be the can-

didate?" Former New York congresswoman, Shirley Chisholm; Gary, Indiana Mayor, Richard Hatcher; Congressman Walter Fauntroy (D-DC); Congressman Louis Stokes (D-OH); Atlanta, Georgia Mayor, Andrew Young; and I have been among those mentioned as having the necessary qualifications and, thus, of possibly becoming the candidate. This decision is too serious to be made hastily, and the best evidence of the seriousness with which the black community is approaching this matter is the elaborate and broadbased dialogue and consultation process that is currently underway. Never before has the black community engaged in such a national grassroots political debate and strategy formulation. Even though it is the proposition that is currently being advocated, obviously at

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