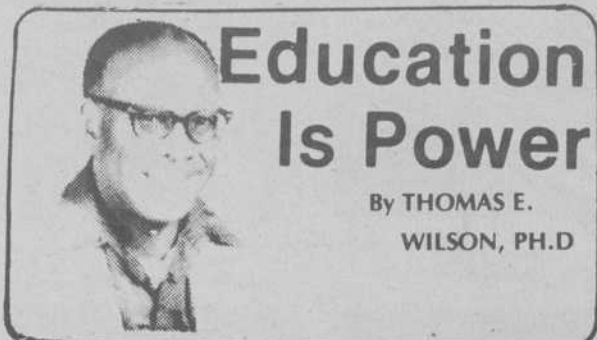


Education



Education Is Power

By THOMAS E. WILSON, PH.D

We often hear a lot about our athletes being dumb, and not being able to read their own names. Having been in education for the last 35 years, this writer has seen some excellent athletes who had academic troubles. However, it is very wrong to lump all superior athletes into this category.

Just as we have seen and known athletes who experienced trouble in their studies, we have also seen many who were honest, sincere, and studious. Several of them have been on their Deans' Honor Roll in their colleges or universities. Others have not been so fortunate, but were average students. A small percentage didn't care at all about academics, and concentrated all of their efforts on athletics.

Coaches are now beginning to understand the importance of their players getting an academic education in addition to their instruction in the fine points of playing a game to win.

A good example of a coach who is concerned about the academic ability of his students is Coach John Thompson of the NCAA basketball champion team, the Georgetown Hoyas. Coach Thompson is a strong and outspoken advocate of education. His ability to win games without causing his players to neglect their academic responsibilities indicates that basketball, football, and/or any other sports activities and books can go hand-in-hand. All of Georgetown's players have to soar scholastically before they can

"THE PARENT PROGRAM"

POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS JOIN FORCES TO CHANGE THE DRUG PROBLEM

The Las Vegas Fire Department has joined with Sheriff Moran's war on drugs "PARENT PROGRAM."

Central Telephone Company of Nevada has installed a special hot line phone at Fire Station #6 Jones and Upland. Over 30 firemen from Station 6 have volunteered to take special training and by February of 1985, anyone having any drug problem or question can call 877-LOVE and they will receive HELP. The PARENT PROGRAM is a pilot program for the area of Bonanza High,

Garside Jr. High, Rose Warren and O.K. Adcock Elementary schools. Detective Bisogno of the Crime Prevention Bureau says if the program works in the test area, Metro hopes to expand it throughout the County in the future. Bisogno says anyone having a problem with drugs will be encouraged to call 877-LOVE where a trained fireman will discuss the situation and turn you onto one of over 20 organizations within the PARENT PROGRAM standing by to help you.

Bisogno says when it comes to drugs, the best way to help your child is to PREVENT them from using them in the first place: ACT NOW, join with the rest of the community; join the "PARENT PROGRAM." As

the program comes to your child's school, you will be notified of the parents' meetings. Attend the meeting, you will be surprised how easy it is to help our youth if we all do our part.

Bonanza High Students Give Overwhelming Backing To Program

The "PARENT PROGRAM" covers all areas of the juvenile drug problem from the first grade through twelfth grades. The goal is to reverse the drug peer pressure facing our youth.

Out of approximately 1,600 Bonanza High School students, 1,527 students signed the following agreement:

I AGREE: That there is a serious drug problem (including alcohol) in our country.

That ALL of us from eight to eighty have a parental responsibility to help the upcoming generations.

That if something is not done NOW about the drug problem it may be too late for our children.

That parents should unite with us and the community in the "PARENT PROGRAM" and help in this fight; by communication and education; not closed minds and hassle.

That drugs and peer pressure MUST change, at least during school hours.

That we should put on a smile, fill our hearts with love and spread the

word "PARENT PROGRAM"; do it for our children, PLEASE . . .

Detective Bisogno of Metro's Crime Prevention Bureau states he is proud of the mature response received from the youth of Bonanza High School. He says the youth have joined the community, now it's the parents' turn.

A series of parent meetings has been scheduled to provide information on drug abuse and explain the parents' role in the PARENT PROGRAM.

In the past there has been much stone throwing, i.e., it's the schools' fault — the fault of the courts, police, teachers. NOW all of them have joined with over 20 other organizations in the county in the PARENT PROGRAM. The community and the children are asking ALL parents of Bonanza High students to attend one of the meetings regardless if they are rich or poor, black or white, single or married, a drug user or a church goer.

If you wait until your child uses drugs — it will be too late.

soar on the court. He reminds himself and his players constantly that a person without an education is about as useful as a ball without air. He keeps a flat and dingy ball in his office to symbolize what happens to the marginally educated athletes who are used and then tossed into society's waste pile when their playing days are over.

Our hats are off to Coach Thompson and to any other coach who is more interested in seeing that their athletes get an education than winning ball games.

Our local university has a plan by which athletes who have academic problems must attend study sessions with qualified tutors, and must maintain a "C" average in order to be able to play. Special care is taken to assure that the quality of their instruction and academic performance is comparable to their athletic prowess. Special sessions are scheduled for those athletes who must have extra help beyond the regularly scheduled study sessions.

We feel that this is a step in the right direction, and that our athletes have the right to a good education. For too long our athletes, especially the Black athletes, seem to have been exploited for their athletic ability, and then dumped without a possibility of making a comfortable living. Let's let our athletes know that we are proud of them, but want them to get an academic education in addition to their athletic training.

Lizzie R. Hatcher, Esq.

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LATE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT CCCC

Clark County Community College will be holding late registration until Feb. 1 for the 1985 Spring Term. It will be taking place at the Cheyenne Ave. campus in North Las Vegas from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday thru Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Instruction begins on Jan. 28.

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