

# Point of View

## Editorial

### IT AIN'T OVER 'TIL IT'S OVER

These are classic well remembered words that perhaps fits well with our current political scene. With these remaining days the over-riding picture will break loose. Just remember that you saw it here "first."

For openers, let's throw out some thought provoking questions: Are we going through an identity crisis? For example, all of a sudden we are plastered with political signs never heretofore matched in numbers. The Governor leads the way by saying: "All I need is one big sign." Harry Reid has a few in some select locations. Former Assemblyman Marion Bennett has fewer this time around than heretofore. His campaign strategy appears to have taken on a different "more polished" look. The answer is that he has aligned himself with one of the most recognized political strategist and advertising agency in town. It's the same agency that "handled him" the last time--but now there is a big difference and it's showing through.

Assemblyman Gene Collins "blew the community's mind" and jumped to the Republican Party. When it happened, there appeared an earth-moving puzzling event that still has some camps reeling with anxiety. Could it be that he who laughs first, laughs long?

Candidate Wendell P. Williams takes out his sounding board on a platform of Accountability and Respectability and who will by the time the ink is really dry on this issue of the Sentinel-Voice will have completed his 24-hour walking trek in District 6. Who's buying the shoes? What do you make of that?

By the way, Vernon Williams is running for the Assembly seat on the Democratic ticket in District 6. Are you asking of us to say more? Like what???

Let us not forget that Assemblyman Morse Arberry is running again. Against whom? Ask him.

While all of this political air is fluttering, just look over your shoulder and take the lesson from the real "political pro"--one who ranks at the top--State Senator Joe Neal. Need we say more?

By Norman Hill

The recent Supreme Court decision on affirmative action (Wygant v. Jackson Board of Education) is barbed with legal complexities. The justices invalidated an affirmative action plan in Jackson, Mich., that called for laying off white teachers with tenure in order to preserve the jobs of non-whites who were still on probation. In so doing, the Court issued five separate opinions, and raised issues that went beyond the particulars of the case and touched on other aspects of affirmative action. Sifting through the torrent of legal opinions, opponents and proponents of affirmative action both cautiously claimed a measured victory.

This much is clear. It appears a majority of the justices would, in some cases, support the use of goals and timetables in hiring if this remedy were necessary to correct past discrimination, and would reject the Reagan Administration's position that affirmative action can be used to help only the actual

victims of discrimination and not a class. It is also clear that the recent decision will do little to discourage the Justice Department from interpreting affirmative action in a narrow way by rejecting the concept of broad societal discrimination as a criteria. The court will decide two more employment discrimination cases this term, and its decisions will, it is hoped, further clarify the issue.

As the court deliberates on the constitutionality of specific affirmative action plans, the concept itself continues to be eroded by the Reagan Administration. For example, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, without a vote or public announcement, has abandoned the use of hiring goals and timetables in settlements with private employers accused of race or sex discrimination. Moreover, the Administration has long wanted to revise

Executive Order 11246, which bars the government from doing business with contractor who fail to take all the necessary measures to eliminate bias and to encourage the employment and advancement of minorities.

The Reagan Administration's persistent assault on affirmative action is just the tip of the iceberg. The last five years have seen a steady attempt to dismantle the gains of the civil rights movement and to thwart black social and economic progress. The Administration has cut the guts out of scores of employment-training and other social programs that have enhanced equal opportunity for blacks, women and other minorities. It has dragged its feet on civil rights enforcement in education and housing, undermined public education, and ignored provisions of the Voting Rights Act. But perhaps

more importantly, it has pursued economic policies that decimated this country's industrial and manufacturing sector, leading to unacceptably high unemployment, particularly among blacks. Because black economic progress is intimately tied to the economic health of the nation, increasing economic difficulties for blacks are linked to the general failure of the economy to perform well for American workers in general during the Reagan tenure. Today's economy is plagued by high unemployment, wage stagnation, sluggish job growth, declining purchasing power, high trade and budget deficits and deflation, which has led to decline in this country's goods-producing sector.

Therefore, while its indeed important for the civil rights movement to focus on such issues as affirmative action,

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## THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO PREPARE



NNPA FEATURE

## COPING

by

Dr. Charles W. Faulkner



## Finding Hope in an Unhappy Marriage Before and After

"Dear Dr. Faulkner: Here is my distressing situation: I got married at a very young age because my parents wouldn't allow me to date until I was 18. They protected me from everything. I married the first man who asked me, just so I could get away from home. My father was opposed to me getting married, especially to the man who proposed to me.

So I married against my father's wishes. (He had told me that my husband was going to cause me a lot of heartache because he was so immature). Well, he was exactly right. My husband is very immature. He does not

want to discuss any matter at all unless you agree with his way of doing things. Whenever I disagree with him, he screams at me to shut up.

If I argue with him, he hits me. He is very, very violent and has struck me several times. Once he beat me so badly I left home and moved back with my family in another part of the city.

My husband begged me to come back but the worse pressure came from my children who did not understand the problem. Al-

though my husband promised he would not hit me

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