

STRANDED

From Page 5

has a bald spot on his head, is very often ridiculed and

made fun of by the driver, said many of the children.

The parents said they can understand if the children are straying late to the bus or are being disorderly, but that leaving them all is inexcusable, the bus driver's attitude should be questioned.

"I can understand if the children are straying to the bus late or are being disorderly, which is sometimes the case," said Dorothy Allen, Secretary of the CIA, "but this was not the case. The driver only picked up one child and left twenty-eight children standing as he pulled off. That's not right! This has got to stop!"

The Sentinel-Voice interviewed Matthew Wallace, Director of CCSD Transportation Department. Wallace was asked about the school district's policies and the allegations surrounding this incident.

"The sole purpose of the Department of Transportation's school buses is to safely transport children. That is our job," said Wallace. He said the incident was untimely and unique to the district, which has over 5,000 stops per day.

"First of all I want it to be

known that the school district does not condone any driver leaving children stranded, no matter who they are, and the driver in question was clearly in the wrong. I want to emphasize, however, where the problem stemmed from. The busdriver was told by a Safety Patrol Officer in that jurisdiction to leave those kids if they were not in a straight line. This is not the district's policy and the Safety Officer had no authority to tell a busdriver what to do. The busdriver, being new, was not familiar with the procedure," said Wallace.

"We make 5,000 stops per day and we have never had this problem...The Safety Officer and the busdriver are being consulted and the situation is being reviewed."

Concerning the allegations of verbal abuse and pulling the bus onto the desert to frighten the children, Wallace said he was puzzled as to why all of these allegations are surfacing at this time when there was no mention prior to this event. He said that due to the nature

of these allegations, he would do a more "extensive investigation" to resolve the matter.

"I have no intention of putting the driver on another route due to a single incident. We would have to deal with the union and the district in order to justify that. But I will see to it that this incident never happens again," he said.

Reliable sources at the CCSD Transportation Department has informed the Sentinel-Voice that there was a second unreported incident of another busdriver choking a student while trying to stop a brawl on the bus. We are following up leads on this story for our readers, but to date there is no conclusive evidence.

The parents of the students involved in this incident said that they had not taken action previously against the district prior to this incident, because the situation had not gotten this far out of hand before.

Sources have also informed us that there have been numerous discriminatory practices in hiring since

Wallace's tenure began 8 years ago. We are following up these leads as well for future presentation.

The parents of the students said they are not going to back down until the driver is reaaigned and that the school district should tighten its orientation procedures so that this will not occur again.

I am sure that they will. We'll have to wait and see. And in the meantime, all eyes will be on bus number 89825.

Cycling Clinic To Benefit MDA

The 7-Eleven Cycling Team is holding a clinic on April 20, 1990, at 7:00 P.M., at the Mt. Charleston Hotel for local cycling enthusiasts. This clinic will discuss topics such as training, equipment, and diet. There will also be an open question and answer forum.

Admission is \$10 and includes an Italian spaghetti dinner. For further information please contact the MDA office at 737-3103.

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**KCEP
A-TEAM
WINNERS**

Here are our winners for April 10, 1990:

Dennis A. Williams II, Melanie Ratcliff, Famous Johnson, Brandon Carter, Jackie Mangual, Michelle Phillips, Amber Taylor, Tanya Fredrick, Julie Gephardt, Gregory Smith, Bernard, Jr., Kimmesha Kelly, Kenyon D. Beavers, Latroy Howard, and our **GRAND PRIZE WINNER IS: ALANDREA JONES.**

Don't forget, A-Team members, Friday is the last day, and if you weren't at the A-Team party Monday, the 9th, you won't be able to enter this drawing. Only the members at the A-Team Party can be in the last drawing. Hope you were there!!!!

to what's happening.

This Saturday on Youth Spectrum and Straight Talk, we will have a one hour show with representatives from the African-American Summit Committee, starting at 10:30 a.m. Following the one-hour special, join Bobbie Troutman, hostess of "For Women Only." This week she will discuss hair styles and fads. For more information on any event or function, please feel free to call us.

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Thank you.
Lawrence Weekly, Jr.
Community Affairs Director

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and Drive**

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From the Desk of the KCEP Community Affairs Director...