In Action:

Trustees Consider 11 Black Demands

By Grant Fjermedal

Barb Parker, speaking on behalf of the Obi Society, told the Board of Trustees, “In years perhaps all of the courses will be integrated. You will find it cheaper then — there will be no need for separate courses.”

Agreement on seven of the eleven demands was either fully or partially made. Some of the agreements included:

—New black studies courses in literature and political science.
—Increased efforts to recruit minority students.
—A commitment of $8,000 for tutoring disadvantaged students.
—A prohibition on carrying firearms or chemical weapons by campus security policemen during daylight hours, except in special circumstances defined by the president.

The major point of debate concerned the Obi demand for a black studies course to be a requirement for obtaining the associate degree from TCC.

Board member John Binns expressed a fear that people would shy away from a school with such a requirement. Binns said, “I’ve often wondered how many have been driven out of certain schools by required church courses?”

No board member voiced opposition to the need for every student to have background in Black studies. Board member John Binns said, “This will definitely help not only black students, but all students.”

It was reported at least 13 new instructors, preferably black, would be needed to instruct a required course in Black students,