

# Blacks and Whites March to Presidents Office



Black and White students marching to Dr. Thornton Ford's office to present 11 Obi demands.



Blacks and Whites in Dr. Ford's office watch James Walton present the demands.

Seventy-one persons filed into the president's office at Tacoma Community College Monday and presented a list of demands about black students and courses.

The group, composed of both blacks and whites, then walked silently back out of President Thornton M. Ford's office.

The 11 demands were presented by James Walton,

president of Obi Society, an organization of black students.

The demands included establishment of a department of black studies and a requirement of at least one black studies course for the Associate Degree.

The four-page document that Walton presented contained no reference to a time limit.

## Prosecutor Says:

### Law Fair, Says Panel, But Not Equally Applied

By John Terrien

"We have a good law system, but it isn't equally applied," Ron Hendry, Pierce County prosecutor, told students at a Law Day panel discussion on campus May 1.

Lawyers Jack Tanner, Henry Haas and Tom Fogg made up the rest of the panel which dealt with "Racial Equality in Law."

Fogg, who acted as moderator, gave a brief introduction defending the relevancy of the Constitution today.

"The system hasn't worked perfectly, but it has worked," he began. "The Constitution was made difficult to change. This gives time for mature thought."

This, said Fogg, prevents the majority from passing unfair



LAW DAY PANEL — From left to right: Tom Fogg, Ron Hendry, Henry Haas and Jack Tanner.

laws against the minority because it gives us government by law rather than by men.

Jack Tanner, speaking on the struggle of minority groups under the law, warned against overnight change.

"There's nothing wrong with changing the law," he said. "The laws need to be changed. . . . But students want to throw out the baby with the dirty water."

Tanner said that the establishment should be attacked but warned that instead of just criticizing the establishment, the attackers should "suggest a better system."

Ron Hendry, speaking on the criminal aspect of racial equality, criticized adults for not having a greater racial understanding. Often quoting the Kramer Commission Report, he blamed the human element rather than the laws for unequal treatment of minority groups.

Hendry said there was a disparity of sentencing in the United States because the attitudes of judges differ. He cited the fact that from 1930 to 1959, of the 3,666 prisoners executed in the country 1,972 (over half) of them were black.

The prosecutor presented three reforms our system needs:

(Continued on Page 8)

## The Collegiate Challenge

Volume IV, No. 20 Tacoma Community College, Tacoma, Wash. Monday, May 12, 1969

### Walton Terms "Worthless"

## Trustees, Obi Meet; Demands Reviewed

A non-converged meeting between Tacoma Community College Board of Trustees and the Obi Society, a Black culture organization, appeared "very good" to the board, but "worthless" to the Obi delegates.

The meeting with the Board

of Trustees at 1:30 last Friday was in response to the request made the day before to TCC President Thornton M. Ford by Jim Walton, chairman of the Obi Society. He requested the meeting while more than 50 students silently sat about the president's office in support of Walton.

### Rough Beginning

The meeting appeared doomed within the first 10 minutes. Mrs. Maxine Myers, chairman of the board, announced the meeting was not a legally converged meeting of the Board; therefore, no actions could be taken today.

(Continued on Page 4)

## Akins Tells of Struggle At San Francisco State

The Black Student Union at San Francisco State College started negotiations for a Black studies program in 1967. Their struggle and subsequent boycott of the college in 1968 gained national prominence.

The propaganda minister for the BSU at the Bay Area college, Solomon "Scooter" Akins, spoke to some 70 students at TCC Tuesday. He spoke of the incidents leading to the strike and then the strike itself.

Akins stated the original negotiations, in 1967, stemmed from the fact that the area in which the college is located is 70 per-

cent Black. At that time only one-half of one percent of the student body was black, added Akins.

Then president of the college, Glenn Dumke, promised a Black studies program would be implemented the following term. Akins claimed when the program did start only three or four more Black students were admitted, \$4,000 in grants and scholarships were awarded, and one and one-half teaching positions were created. After this, and a series of unkept promises, Akins disclosed the campus boycott was put into effect.

Akins said the Students for a Democratic Society have been

"sophisticated" enough to do their part in the fight as followers of the Black leaders.

The BSU is not merely interested in obtaining a Black studies program at the college level. "I'm fighting for the kids," asserted Akins in reference to a tutorial program the BSU has established. The program, affecting some 1,000 school drop-outs of all ages, is based on the hypothesis that the public schools teach in a manner which the ghetto children find irrelevant and uncomprehensible. The results of this program, declared Akins, are that the children being tutored are three to four years ahead of their counterparts in the public school system.



# EDITORIAL...

## Administration Racist?

"Let America be America again/Let it be the dream the dreamers dreamed/Let it be that strong great land of love where never kings connive nor tyrants scheme/That any man be crushed by one above."

Langston Hughes,  
*Let America Be America again*

The racist administration of Tacoma Community College is playing the part of a tyrant trying to keep the voice of the students from objecting to policies and procedures that the college has followed since its beginning.

We, the participating members of the May 5 demonstration, in an effort to right the wrongs existant on campus, have committed ourselves to bring the problem to the attention of the people of the community. For years now the problem of racism has existed in Tacoma but it took the students until May 5, 1969, to reach the level of commitment needed to stage a peaceful and successful demonstration.

The demands presented to the college administration are basically the same demands presented throughout the United States. Institutional Racism abounds throughout the campuses in our cities where students are manipulated through apathetic reactions on campus.

It is our purpose, through peaceful efforts, to present Tacoma Community College's OBI SOCIETY'S demands to the people in order to better inform them of existant conditions on campus.

—Chairman, Jim Walton

## Library Not Providing Service

The Tacoma Community College Library is not providing this institution's students with the services they deserve. The library has an obligation to have on loan a minimum of one copy (possibly at the reserve desk) of all books and printed material that students are forced to purchase for a class. The library should also provide all the books that accompany, or that are extra reading, for classes.

The library is a student service and should provide materials to help students save money while still providing the reading materials necessary to receive the best possible education. This situation should be corrected before spring finals and must be incorporated into permanent library policy.

—Don Swanson



### The Collegiate Challenge



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## Letters To the Editor

### Safeway Boycott

Letter to the Editor:

#### Safeway Boycott

The student body government has backed the SDS proposal to boycott Safeway stores. This boycott is in response to Safeway buying grapes from California companies who employ Mexican-American pickers. By boycotting Safeway store SDS feels that they can force California companies to pay their workers more money.

This could be right or wrong but where in the hell does the student government get the right to vote and pass the backing of an off-campus political issue without the consent of the student body. I think that the student government has over-run its bounds and should immediately retract its support from this off-campus issue. I attend TCC for an education and not for some people in the student government to tell the world that I as a student am backing an issue without my consent.

—Scott Stephen

### Dissention

Letter to the Editor:

Due to the recent printing of some literature asking for your support in boycotting Safeway Stores, Inc., I feel it should be made clear that the Political Science Forum of TCC did not support the boycott (even though its name appeared in the literature).

It's true that as Poli-Sci's AC Rep. I was instructed to vote for it at AC, (and did so)—but, afterward I learned the Forum's membership had not — and did not — support boycotting Safeway.

When I tried to find out what opinion of club members actually was, I was told the boycott was supported by a small margin. As it turned out the supporters of the boycott did not have a majority. Poli-Sci Forum, therefore, does not support the boycott — although some individual members do.

Those of us who do not support the boycott of Safeway take this position only because we feel Safeway is not the proper target for protest against injustices that have been thrown onto the California grape pickers. We have been dish up a lot of obvious propaganda intended to stir our emotions and direct our anger at Safeway, (after all you have to start somewhere). But if the grape pickers strike is not recognized by the Teamsters Union, and the Teamsters haul grapes across the nation, how can Safeway be blamed for buying them?

Norman DeRoux  
AC Rep.—Political  
Science Forum of TCC

## There Has Been Progress?

Dr. Thornton M. Ford, president of Tacoma Community College, declared Tuesday that many of the 11 demands presented to him Monday by members of the OBI Society are projects that the college has been working on throughout the year.

"The faculty has been making a real effort to translate these concerns about opportunities for members of minority races into reality," he said.

At the same time, he said, the college has a responsibility to all of its more than 3,000 students and cannot jeopardize its operations by hasty and ill-considered actions.

"I think we have made real progress," he said. He listed these developments that have taken place in the last year:

1. Dialogue between Dr. Ford and black students was initiated last summer at the president's request. Formation of the OBI Society was a result.
2. Increased employment of black persons on campus.
3. Development of new credit courses dealing with minorities. Courses which have been approved by or are before the Instructional Council are Afro-American History, African Civilization, Afro-American Writers, Chinese Civilization and Urban Affairs Practicum.
4. In addition, non-credit community service courses have been offered on such subjects as Afro-American history, the Black revolution, African culture and white racism and American social systems.



Dr. Thornton Ford

5. Development of a new kind of curriculum (General Education Program) especially for persons not ready for conventional courses. It will feature heavy efforts in counseling and improvement of basic study skills.
6. Compilation of the most extensive bibliography of black authors and artists to date, with the TCC library staff spearheading the project. Many books in this area have been purchased.
7. Recruiting efforts for trained instructional personnel have been expanded, including the temporary relaxation of some conventional employment qualification requirements.
8. Establishment of the New Careers program, a federally financed, experimental effort to provide both jobs and instruction for disadvantaged persons.
9. Assistance to the development of black-owned businesses by TCC, working with the University of Puget Sound and Pacific Lutheran University.
10. Budget requests for the next school year call for increased efforts in the direction of adequate instruction for minority students. The requests have not yet been approved but are under consideration. They include:
  - (a) A black studies instructor, \$7,000-14,000.
  - (b) Visiting black lecturers, \$7,000-14,000.
  - (c) Consultants and in-service training personnel to aid in curriculum development and faculty orientation, \$6,000.
  - (d) Additional counselors to augment the present student counseling program on campus, \$7,000-24,000.
  - (e) Project Outreach (a program which would not only provide services to minority students on the campus but would bring educational facilities into disadvantaged neighborhoods.)

Dr. Ford said he is willing to discuss the college's past efforts and future hopes in this area with anyone with a sincere concern.

## help!

Mrs. Mable Kiniry, TCC cafeteria cook, has been hospitalized with internal bleeding and is in need of at least 12 pints of blood.

Blood can be donated to Mrs. Kiniry in Tacoma General Hospital and at the Blood Bank at 1211 South 12th Street.



# OBI DEMANDS

1. That OBI Society be allowed use of present OBI funds to extend financial aid to those students presently enrolled at this institution who demonstrate need of this aid.

**Explanation**—That OBI Society be allowed to extend financial aid to those brothers and sisters presently enrolled at Tacoma Community College whose position as students in this institution is being threatened because of financial difficulties.

2. Recruitment of 200 non-white students for the coming school year, 1969, with OBI being the major recruiter.

**Explanation**—That the chance to attend an institution of higher education be extended to 200 non-white students for the year 1969.

3. Financial aid be made available to those students recruited who demonstrate a plausible need for this aid.

**Explanation**—That those students who are in need of financial aid in order that they might be better able to attend Tacoma Community College be extended that aid.

4. That necessary funds (\$25,000) be made available to help these students through counseling and tutoring in order that they might effectively benefit from their educational experiences.

**Explanation**—That funds be made available to supply counseling and tutoring services for these students to aid them in furthering effectively their education.

5. That requirements for obtaining an Associate degree be changed to include one Black Studies course.

**Explanation**—That all students applying for an Associate Degree be required to take one Black Studies course to fulfill requirements for this degree.

6. Institute a class or classes dealing with Black Literature.

**Explanation**—To initiate courses at Tacoma Community College that are specifically oriented

to Black Literature and poetry.

7. Institute a Political Science program dealing with contemporary Africa and the problems encountered by the Blacks there.

**Explanation**—To initiate a program whereby the students are helped to become better aware of the problems of the Black in present-day Africa and also to aid in general and over-all education.

8. The immediate inclusion of the Black man in courses dealing with people: Sociology, Psychology, History, English, and Economics.

**Explanation**—That the necessary importance of the problems of the Black in present-day Africa be achieved by instituting classes immediately which definitely illuminate his role.

9. That there be a department of Black Studies. That this department chairman, faculty and staff have the sole power to hire faculty and control and determine the destiny of this department.

**Explanation**—That the Black Studies Department, chairman, staff and faculty be allowed to recruit, hire and fire course instructors without the interference of the racist administration and President. In order for a brother or sister to teach a Black Studies course he or she must go before the assigned department head to receive permission and teach, which clearly shows that the power lies with the departments and the racist administrators, not with the Black Studies Department chairman, faculty and staff.

10. Dismissal from their teaching positions of all incompetent and bigoted instructors.

**Explanation**—That all instructors who are guilty of racial prejudice and are not capable of functionally and effectively teaching a course in Black Studies be relieved of their positions.

11. That the security officers on campus discontinue use of all weapons and chemical products, to include such things as mace and tear gas, and that these security officers come under the jurisdiction and control of both administration and students.

## Explanation of OBI Demands

One year has passed since the OBI Society presented the school administration with proposals we thought necessary to eliminate the racist conditions that exist on this campus.

One year later and the most important proposals have not been met. Now they are demands. The Administration has been non-responsive to these very necessary demands.

The one thing that the OBI Society would like to make known to the student population: There has been ample time for the Administration to make some worthwhile progress to our demands — but they fail to respond.

Tacoma Community College has the reputation in the community of making great strides in the area of human relations — we know this to be a lie. They have refused to hire black instructors. They refused to include black aspects in the existing courses until such time that separate courses can be set up. They have refused to provide financial aid to needy black students.

The demands that OBI is making at this time are not new, but we refuse to let these necessary items go unresponded to.

We stand ready to discuss the above with anyone at anytime.

## Student Activist Sincere

Much has been said about the current rise in student activism and dissent. Unfortunately, most of it is wrong.

Student activists have been called everything from "destroyers" to "Communist-inspired bastards." They are neither. They want to build, not destroy. They are concerned with social change and with solutions to the great social problems of our time. They want to solve the white versus black crisis, end poverty and make war obsolete. Students can no longer stand by and watch the people of our nation soothe their own consciences and try to mold ours by pretending that the solutions to these problems will either never be found or else lie somewhere in the far distant future.

These problems are solvable and if the time is not right now, when will it be right? Next year, 20 years from now, 200 years from now? No, the time to begin solving America's and the world's problems is right now. Students have a duty to try and solve them. We accept that duty

and demand that right. For this we are called "destroyers" and are branded "Communists?" We aren't. We are just human beings that care about other human beings. Has the older generation proven by their actions that they feel the same?

—Tom Rice

## SHELTER HALF

TACOMA'S NON-PROFIT

Coffee House

General Issues

WELCOME

5437 South Tacoma Way

## Move on Demands Or Action Required

What type of action can the OBI Society expect from the list of demands presented to the administration on May 5? Judging from past experience, the OBI Society can expect nothing except tokenism, unless direct action with halting the procedures of the school until all demands are met is taken. The school administration does not have enough guts to move on its own recognition, to make this college a community of learning which benefits all students. We are still in an era of accepting without question what anyone hands down. The administration must move on the 11 demands of the OBI Society peacefully or next best measures by the OBI Society should be taken.

—Frederick Lowe

## Pot Taxed \$100 Ounce

Did you know that there is a Federal tax of \$100 an ounce, or fraction thereof, on an illegal transfer of marijuana? The law further provides that if a person is found in possession of marijuana and cannot prove that he acquired it in a legal transfer from a person authorized by the Internal Revenue Service to supply it, he shall be deemed to have engaged in an illegal transfer.

Further, the tax on an illegal transfer applies to both the person found with the marijuana and the person from whom he acquired it.

If an individual is convicted of illegal possession, the law says the marijuana shall be confiscated by and forfeited to the U.S. Government.

Two California men who were arrested recently for flying a ton of marijuana into this country from

Mexico were assessed tax of \$3,203,000 by the I.R.S.

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# EDITORIALS...

## Muhammed Ali Suspended

I am beginning to clearly understand why Muhammad Ali was suspended from the Muslim religion because of his desire to return to the ring. I thought it was unfair at first, but since then I have given it some deep thought.

The black man in this country has waged a life-long struggle for manhood and survival. He must penetrate barriers and overcome opposition in order to assume a masculine posture. By contrast, the white man does not face these barriers; the first principles of manhood are settled at birth by the possession of a penis and a white skin.

There are two areas where the white man has allowed the black man to function with little or no restrictions. These are the bedroom and stage, be it platform, gridiron or hardwood. This was allowed because they could be used to suppress him. From this kind of suppressive practice came the stereotype — over-sexed superior athletic type of black man.

The field of athletics has been very helpful to a large percentage of black people who otherwise would have been relegated to an impoverished way of life. But there is a much larger percentage of black athletes that were not the superior Jim Brown type that was just used to entertain the white capitalist devils and then cast back into the ghetto and become just another "nigger."

The white "hustler" who is hired as the coach has to specialize in luring blacks to his campus by dangling a worthless scholarship in their faces. The only stipulation is "Keep your mouth shut and your nose to the grindstone." One has to be doubtful of a system that produced the likes of Jessie Owens, Willy Mays, Floyd Patterson and Willie Turner, just to name a few.

I was quite pleased to see the action the University of Washington's BSU took against the OSU racist athletic system. I hope it will open the eyes of some of the black athletes at TCC.

I hope that until black people can be accepted in all walks of life by the white devils, we refuse to entertain them and fatten their pocketbooks.

—Jim "Baraka" Walton

## God Is Dead

God is dead! The Christian religion is a fallacy created by the white man to sanctify this racist society. Pray to the great beyond, nigger, for your deliverance from this living hell while the white man prays to make it more of a hell for you. What God do you pray to, nigger? What God do you pray to white man, justifying sending millions of dollars and tons of food to all parts of the world except to the ghetto across town; send a man to the moon and let a black child starve.

If Jesus walked the earth now in the land of plenty, we would have to kill him to save ourselves. Christianity is a lie which has captured the American public like an uncontrollable disease which dehumanizes its victims. Christianity is a white sheet in which the Caucasian race can hide behind, steal, rape and legally kill, gather material possessions on earth and tell the poor starving masses in the same breath, wait till you get to heaven, it will be better there.

Christianity is politics. George Wallace received the support of 10 million white Christian Americans who wanted to save America. Christianity is masses of people struggling to reach the top putting a price on nature and his fellow man to justify his own existence.

God is dead. He died when the first black man came to America, not as a man, but as property forever marked and placed into a caste system sanctioned by the local church. While ministers speak empty phrases of brotherly love to the empty and closed minds of their congregations, we may wonder, "Has the idea of Christianity ever really been tried in America or was that idea abandoned because too many Christians left the church because they objected to it?" What other reason better justifies this society?

## Enrollment Reaches 2637

Total enrollment in credit classes at Tacoma Community College during the spring quarter reached a record 2,637. Records Officer Joseph Kossi reports.

The comparable total for the spring quarter 1968 was 2,276.

In addition, 575 persons enrolled in adult education courses at Lincoln High School and 497 were enrolled in non-credit community service courses at TCC.

Dr. Thornton M. Ford, TCC president, noted the college served an average of 2,632 full-time equivalent students during the 1968-69 year. The FTE figure is computed by adding the number of credits for which students enroll and dividing by 15.

He observed that TCC was over-enrolled this year as in the previous three years in terms of state support. This year TCC received support for only 2,325 FTEs.

# Obi Formed to Combat Racism

By Charles Canada  
vice minister, Obi Society

The Obi Society was formed to combat institutionalized racism. This was the main reason the society was formed. To date we have failed in this endeavor. We have failed for one reason. We have no power to start the programs we have thought up. We have no power to spend our money where we see fit. If we want more black students, we cannot give financial aid to these people unless we go through miles and miles of red tape.

We have to utilize the very system that keeps us down in the first place if we want to accomplish anything. We have come to a decision: We will succeed on the first level. We know that we are being used by the "Man." There are many students here that don't know that they



are just a pawn in the power struggle. The decadent system is bashing my head with his left hand and yours with his right hand. It is up to us — the students — to bring about a significant change. By uniting, we can muster a greater power than the Man can deal with.

At the beginning of this year, we went to the administration to bring about a few changes at

TCC. As a token, we received a Negro history class, half a professor and the promise of a class in African culture for next year. Many of us won't be here next year. I have no doubts in my mind that next year with the alleged cutback in funds there will be no programs.

We have been lied to, cheated, tokened-to-death and God knows what else. We need to act now! We need to show people exactly what is being done on our campus. We need to show people exactly what is being done in the community. We need to show people that we are not a bunch of kids who want to just make trouble.

WE ARE GOING TO SHOW THIS CAMPUS THAT WE CAN AND WILL ACT TO CHANGE THE CONDITIONS AT THIS SCHOOL.

# Obi Demands Reviewed

(Continued from Page 1)

Walton said he had been sitting in such meetings since last July and he wanted action today. Walton said, "If you are not in a position to act, we are wasting our time."

Mrs. Myers assured Walton, "Mr. Walton, we would not be here if we were not sincere."

Walton said, "I question that; I see sincerity through action."

The Board's legal advisor, Bob Felker, said the Board could not legally act upon anything but topics could be put on the next meeting's agenda, May 29.

### Commitments?

Alvin Hart, an Obi representative, asked the Board, "Could we go down the list (of 11 "demands") and get a yes and no response?"

Mrs. Myers responded, "You could get reactions." She further said, "We are here and we would like to listen — that's about as far as I can say."

Hart then asked Mrs. Myers if she had read the demands. When Mrs. Myers replied, "Yes," Hart responded, "Then you should be able to commit yourself."

TCC President Dr. Thornton M. Ford said, "I don't think it is hopeless to come up with a commitment." He asked the meeting be "informal and friendly." Walton said he would play their game one more time. He read the demands:

### Action

—The Board members seemed favorably responsive to all of the demands, but little action

was taken. Dr. Ford announced one of the demands (for a Black literature course) had already been taken care of. He said, "The class will appear in the catalog this fall."

—It was determined that State money could not be used to pay the tuition for three Blacks who were attending school on the promise to pay. Frank Cooper, outgoing Board chairman, suggested Obi use funds already given them — and they re-budget for this purpose.

Walton said, "The composition of the student government makes it impossible." Walton mentioned anti-Obi groups, "such as SCALE," who would lobby against any such action. The first bit of humor was seen in the sometimes tense meeting when Mrs. Myers asked what "SCALE" stood for ((Students Concerned About Legislative Equality). Walton answered, "Something about 'Whities' last stand."

Mrs. Myers determined it was the consensus of the Board to send a letter to the student government urging them to make every possible effort to concur with the needs of Obi.

—Bob Rogland, a faculty representative, read a resolution the faculty had unanimously adopted the day before. The resolution asked for non-white students to be employed to recruit underprivileged and minority students for the following year. Rogland emphasized the fact that White instructors had tried to recruit Black students in the Hilltop area and had failed.

—Dr. Ford said institution funds could not be used for granting scholarships in such a recruitment project. He emphasized the need for more scholarships to be offered by the community, specifically earmarked for the disadvantaged.

Lynn Hodges, executive director for the Human Relations Commission, agreed with Dr. Ford and said of the establishment of such funds, "Any community that could have a 'Now, Mr. Lincoln?' could supply the needed money."

—It was reported Dr. Paul Jacobson, dean of instruction, has an appointment with Carl Brown, a Black instructor, who had earlier been ruled out because of political convictions.

### Disarmament

—Miss TCC Bonnie Winston spoke for a demand to disarm campus cops during daylight hours. She said, "There is no reason to keep it (fire arms and chemical weapons) on their person. Accidents do happen and guns are fatal — very fatal."

Frederick Lowe, an Obi representative, told the Board of a present campus patrolman who had waved his mace to a student and said, "This is all I need." Lowe mentioned alleged bigoted statements made by the same officer and said, "These are the people we have protecting us."

William Muse, TCC instructor and Obi advisor, made it clear to the Board that the request of disarming campus police was not a Black-originated demand. The same had been attempted by the student government earlier in the year. He expressed a fear that some Whites would look at this demand as a conspiracy by Obi to rob the campus.

Board member Charles Edmunds said, "I will go on record as favoring disarmament except for night hours and while transferring money from one building to another."

At the conclusion of the meeting Jim Walton said, "There is going to be an educational change in America and at TCC — through burning, books or bullets. We favor books."