

COPYRIGHT 1997

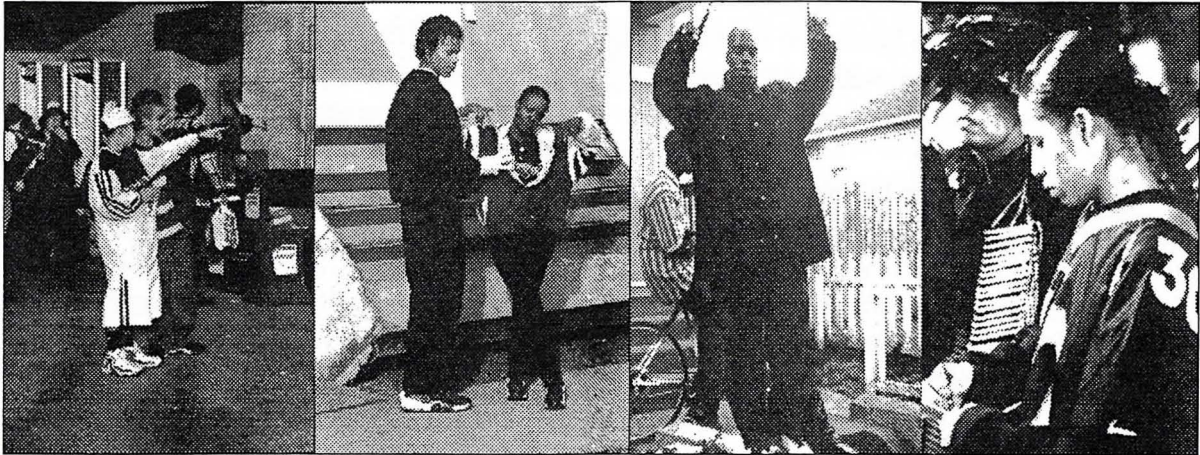
HAPPENINGS ON HILLTOP

NOVEMBER 1997

\$1.00

Volume 5 Issue 4

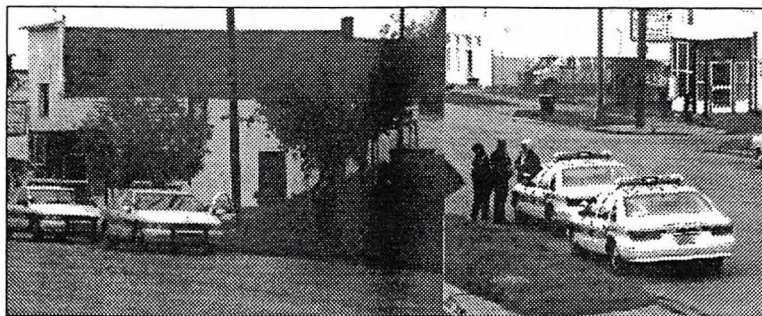
AFRICAN AND NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH...



ARE WE REALLY THAT FAR APART?



WHAT STANDS BETWEEN US?



inside...

CLUB 24 NEWS
 I.M. BLACKMAN
 N.I.E.A./SAFESTREESTS FORUM
 DOIN' TIME

PAGE 2
 PAGE 3
 PAGE 5
 PAGE 6

HOLD THE PRESS!

Well folks, what can I say? When we say "Hold The Press," we mean it. While I do believe in being on time (yea, right!), there are times when the quality of the information warrants extra time. Besides, my computer is so slow, that I'm spending an ungodly amount of time waiting for the information to download. I have talked with Santa and if he is a true "G", he's going to hook me up with a 486, with at least 16 RAM!

In the mean time, we're going to keep turning out some of the best information possible about my favorite subject: "HILLTOP." I want to go out of my way to thank the many people who wrote articles, typed the information and supported this month's issue. GOD has continued to bless us with the determination to continue printing this newsletter, BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY. I think the Almighty sees a purpose for what we are doing.

Recent developments have challenged the existence of a number of programs that support the grassroots neighborhood of Hilltop. Briefly, I have been under intense observation by the City of Tacoma Police Department, Hilltop Action Coalition and the Department of Building Code Enforcement, regarding activities outside my building. While I can appreciate the need for quiet neighborhoods, law abiding behavior and a list of other concerns, I do not feel that it should be acquired at the expense of my (or anyone's) Constitutional Rights! I will speak further on this in December's issue.

In the mean time, let's get started with this (late) issue of HOH. As you read, continue to watch current developments, locally, nationally and global. I think you will begin to see a connection!

The time has come to put away the rum.

Let us clear our minds and clear our heads.

It matters little whether you're a baldy or a dread.

So sit back with a cup of tea or a soda pop.

And let's see what's...

Happening On Hilltop!

CCUB 24 NEWS

Club 24 was founded on June 10th 1946 in Salishan 5, Tacoma, Washington, by four Lincoln High School Students. Their name and office is as follows:

Dana A. Williams (Andrew) was elected President.
James a. Patton (Shorty) was elected Vice-President.
William Easter (Bill) was elected Treasurer.
Roy L. Simpson was elected General Secretary.

1946 Contd.

On December 10th, Roy L. Simpson was elected President.

William (Bill) Easter was elected Vice-President.

John (Jake) Marshall was elected Treasurer.

Ella M. Rainey (Crawford) was elected Recording Secretary.

Mary Jackson (Ross) was elected Corresponding Secretary.

Thelma Bell (Mason) was appointed Chair-Woman of Entertainment Committee.

Rosie Lee Walker (Bennett) was appointed Chair-Woman of Decorations.

Paul Johnson was elected to Sargeant Of Arms.

Aron Cook volunteered to head our Jazz Band.

Naomi Palm (Johnson) was appointed Financial Secretary.

Patricia Bolger was appointed Club 24 Historian

Next Month Chapter Two:

Club 24 Election of June 10, 1947- Club Officers- Club Structure- Departmental Superintendents- Club Adviser and Athletic Division- The Secret Board of Directors- Our NAME.

This historical report of Club 24 is produced and written by Roy Muhammad (Formerly Roy Simpson). To change alter rewrite copy and of the contents here-in without the expressed consent of the above, is STRICTLY PROHIBITED

I.M. BLACKMAN

Well people, it's time for me to assert my opinions on some of the issues that I have confronted since our last issue of the "Happenin's". I guess the first thing that comes to mind is this past election on November 4. Every single thing that I voted for didn't get passed. I was very upset at the poll results even though some of the people that I voted for won their races. This is because it was the initiatives that were the most important to me, and they all were turned down. The single most important thing on the ballot was the medicalization of drug use and the decriminalization of possession of drugs.

I would think that any intelligent, non-bias, thinking human-being would understand that we have a serious problem with our drug strategy as it is today. It is time to try some different strategies that make more sense in terms of savings of money, human lives, and the quality of it. It saddens me to think that we will be going into the year 2000 with an illogical drug policy that is more reprehensible than the policy that supported slavery during our last century.

It is, in fact, the same mentality that supported slavery that is supporting the U.S.'s current drug policy. The constitution of this country forbids the persecution of a person because of his or her status. It does not matter whether that status is that you are: poor, homosexual, a drunk, short, tall, black, yellow, or white. The fact that you are any or all of those things does not give the state a reason to persecute you. The same should apply to the fact of whether or not you are a drug addict. But under today's drug policy, drug addicts have no right to privacy or freedom from harm inflicted upon them by the state's police force if they are suspected of being an addict..... whether or not they are in actual possession of anything. There is no sound reason to treat a person as a non-citizen because of an illness that he suffers. (Note: that the only reason usually given is that it is illegal. But, why is some drug usage illegal in the first place? Hmmm).

Meanwhile, the rest of us continue to take our drugs that we get from the doctor, the state liquor store, and AM/PM and ignore the suffering that another human-being is taking because his drugs are not on our list. And, we expect these people to come out and vote when an issue that affects them shows up on the ballot. But No-o-o-o, just like the slaves in the last century, these people don't have the right to vote and/or they are not a part of the system where voter information is communicated. I think that it is up to us to get out and vote for them and get them involved. The abolitionists got out and worked against slavery, and so should we!! Come on people, get involved! If you are a religious person, put down your drugs and/or praising Jesus and put your life into action as God would want you to. Your action speaks louder than your praising. VOTE, VOTE, VOTE, and get others around you to VOTE.....NEXT TIME!!!

Before I let go of your attention this issue, I would like to go on record as supporting what one of Tacoma's Policemen has been saying and standing for. He was quoted as saying that all of Tacoma's people should be treated with courtesy and respect by the police force and that includes people who are suspected of crimes. The Bible supports that and so do I. This policeman also has said that the police code of silence should be rooted out. I can go for that. I have to support that policeman and treat him with respect. Here's to you Chief. Thank you for speaking up and standing your ground.

"Healing takes time...
Political agendas take your money."

A "right on" and "more power to the people" salute from Mr. Blackman goes out to Detective Holmes for speaking out on a subject that we all know has been wrong and needs fixin'. The "Deadly force review board". I can't recall one case where deadly force WAS NOT justified against a poor, black, or other minority person. Detective Holmes suggests that regular citizens of the city sit on the board rather than the POLICE (Maybe some of us remember Henry).

It is still my feeling that the police and their union have become too powerful and has began using coercion and other tactics to make the people bend to their will. We need to put the cops back into the role of being servants of the people rather than their role as over-seers, ridin' shotgun down in the slave quarters. It is time to put the scare of crime in the proper perspective and recognize that our criminal justice system currently has the rest of our social systems at bay. The Police don't seem to be accountable to no

one except themselves. They are taking up over half of our tax money and are continually asking for more. If you add up all of the money that the U.S. spends on it's protection from all of the terrorist and boogey-men (at home and abroad) I'm afraid that way-y-y more than half of our taxes are involved. It is time to put a stop to this madness. What do you think?? I.M. BLACKMAN.....I'm OUT-E.

To respond to Mr. Blackman,
send your comments to:
Hilltop Community Services
c/o I.M. Blackman
po box 5584
Tacoma, WA 98415

BITS-N-PIECES

“YOU’VE GOT TO KEEP GOING”

That’s what your elders tell you. You know this in your mind. But sometimes your feelings, pride, emotions (or just your kindness) has been played and you feel like; “damn, I didn’t ever think this would happen.”

First you’re mad. Then, it’s not true. Then, if it’s deep enough, straight depression. But through all of these trips and changes, you are supposed to keep on going, for yourself and your kids.

Well some of us don’t have babies and their kids have their own lives, so you can’t burden them. Besides, they thought *you* were tripping in the first place.

But you don’t really care about anything except feeling sorry for yourself. Yet, that time is needed. You re-group, re-think and put your confidence back where it belongs...in your pocket.

And what’s really a trip is that the people who invoked that famous phrase to say, “You’ve got to keep going,” are the first to trip... on how well, “You’ve kept on going.”

by Somebody Goin’ On

THE ETHICS OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (AN EXCERPT FROM THE UPCOMING BOOK BY LARRY NORMAN)

...You may be asking, “Larry, why aren’t you talking about **Morals** of community development instead?” Why indeed. You see, I have figured out that morals have little to do with successful relationships in a community. Now this may sound like the words of a heathen, but let us examine why anyone would dare believe this to be true. I believe that **Morals** are very personal and should be used when determining what is best for diverse groups of people...

...Spiritual preference (morals) has always been held so dearly, that entire civilizations have been destroyed in the name of a person’s **Morals** ...If we have learned anything from our dark past, let it be that using our morals to determine how we get along with others, will ultimately prove fatal to our collective existence...

STAYING FOCUSED

by dion ames



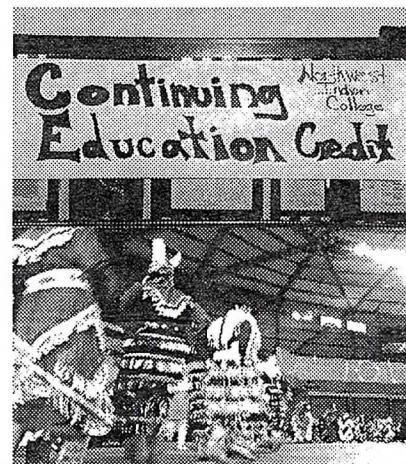
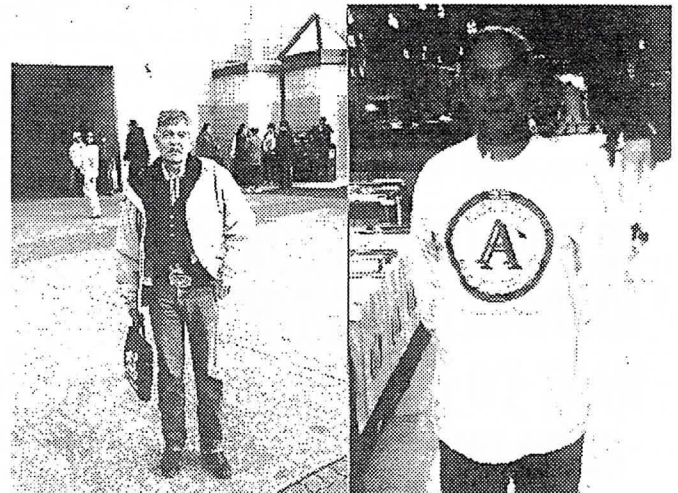
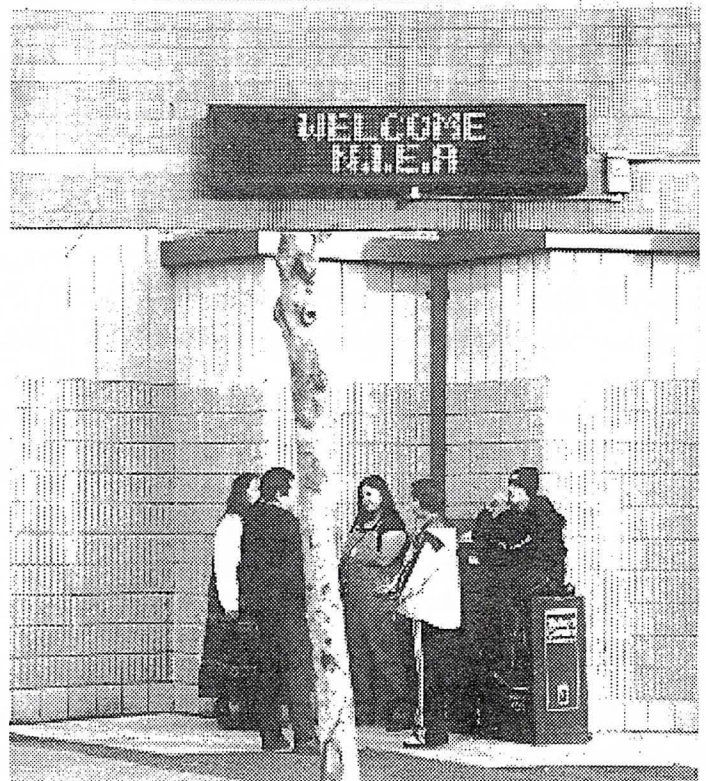
My observations on two recent events I attended.

One was the N.I.E.A. Convention and the other was the Safe Streets forum.

The first group I mentioned is the National Indian Education Association, an organization of Indian educators and students. The one thing I noticed at the N.I.E.A. was the connection of youth participation and emphasis on economics. I have not seen this level of commitment (to youth) at any other conference pertaining to youth, education and economic development. I spoke to a gentleman who was leaving the conference. He stated that there are two student positions on the N.I.E.A. board.

Now I will share my observations on the Safe Streets forum mentioned earlier. One element noticeably absent from this forum was *meaningful youth participation*, unlike the N.I.E.A. Convention, where the youth were the focal point and included in every step of the process.

At the Safe Streets Forum, the climate was much more political. Many of those present, had specific agendas which may or may not have been regarding youth. This is ironic because during the main forum, the major focus for this year was addressing how we can better service our youth. How can groups (such as Safe Streets) be effective if they do not include the youth (they say) they are trying to help?



DOIN' TIME

Norman,

To all, thanks to the brother for holding down the future. If we can have eyes to see with, the proper guidance in life and the love you have given so many, we will find that a heart is a home.

In Life we find strength in our lives by stepping in to help our brothers and sisters without the thought of ourselves. We must learn that if we don't step up, no one will. I must say a mind is power and to all the brothers, there is hope to complete unity for the future. All those left standing will be accounted for. So let's all join in on this key of life. We may have been down but it's not over yet. Life goes on with the blessing of God.

Take Care.

C.L.

P.S....Keep up the faith.

**IF YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU
KNOW IS DOING TIME, WE
WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.
SEND US YOUR STORIES,
LETTERS OR POEMS.**

**WRITE TO:
HILLTOP COMMUNITY SERVICES
C/O HAPPENINGS ON HILLTOP
PO BOX 5584
TACOMA, WA 98415**

Larry,

I'd like to thank you for your support during my sentencing! It kind of brought me to reach on how really unfair the Criminal Justice system can be to a young Black man from Hilltop who's trying to get his life and community together. Jack Tanner kind of left me with the same type of attitude alot of the youth have on the streets today: there is no such thing as justice...it's **Just Us!!!!**

What ever happened to what the flag of the United States of America represents? It states at the end of the salute: "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all". What I see today contradicts this "salute" when it's still only liberty and justice for some. The jail and penn's are full of Black's because they are keeping us enslaved to the Criminal Justice system because of our past and by the time we start trying to clean up our act and get our lives straight, it's too late.

That's why it's a must that we work with our youth in our community, to make sure they understand the values of life, education and things to better their lives while they are still young. This way, they don't have to fall into the category of a victim of circumstances or make a statistic of Blacks in the penn or cemetery before their time!

Me, myself Mr. Norman, I'm trying to make the best of this and finish trying to get what I was after while I was out there. That's a license to be a Counselor. I'm trying my best to get our neighborhood and community recognized as up and coming and a great place to live. I'm working on doing some campaign work with the United Negro College Fund. Hopefully things will work out!!!

It's not over for me either in the Court rooms. I'm drafting appeals and got the A.C.L.U. involved now... I will be in touch!. So, "God Bless" and much luv.....

Mr. Boinky Loc

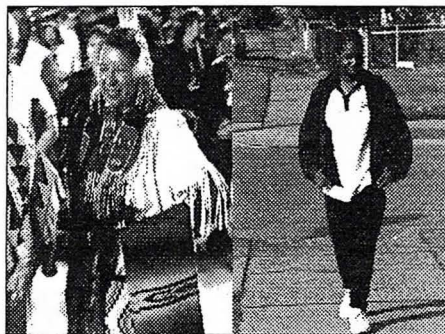
WHAT IS A BLACK WOMAN?



THIS PAGE IS
DEDICATED TO
OUR SISTER'S.
YOU, WHO HAVE GIVEN
BIRTH TO OUR NEXT
GENERATION!



LONG LIVE
THE
MILLION WOMAN
MARCH!!!



What is this woman of color? Really!! She is a strong, enduring, loyal, forgiving individual. And if you're lucky, she'll give the best of *unconditional love* you could ever have.

This woman had to be strong and never give up. At the beginning, she was snatched from her loved ones and brought to a new place. Whether for productivity, price or reproduction. She had to endure from the beginning; mental, physical and sexual abuse! She had to wait on and take care of people and families, even if hers had to suffer and wait.

But this was a woman still loyal to the people and things she believed in. She always could forgive, even those who were to ignorant or just uncaring to understand her.

And to that one special person who she truly loved, they could hold no doubt. For even though everything she does is for others, her heart only belongs to one.

This is, and always will be the Black Woman. Can't we all (as women) try to strive to be a Black Woman?

Why not subscribe to Happenings On Hilltop today?

Annual subscription is \$12.00
(includes postage and handling)

Mail your check and
this order form to:
Hilltop Community Services
P.O.Box 5584
Tacoma, WA 98415

Happenings On Hilltop is...

editor- larry norman
asst.editor/
club 24- james waller

call (253)272-8133

for:
subscription info,
advertising
articles and stories
event calender

or write to:
Hilltop Community Services
PO box 5584
Tacoma, WA 98415

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Almighty GOD (for making it Happen)

DON, NIKI and all my People's (family folk)

The Hill Top Community

GQ & Reggie-Reg

KTOP (23.187 on your dial)

My family from FOI

All my neighbor(hood) Homies

All my people's in the "pen" (stay up!)

The Casey Family Program (thanks for believing in us!)

Club 24

The Late-nite Crew! (AB, Fly, Big Stretch & No Good)

SECURITY! (Focus & Carl's Goat Smellin' Ass)

*The purpose of this newsletter is to provide
motivation, information and inspiration to the
Hilltop Community and individuals of good intent.*