

Organ  
of  
the Office  
of  
Afro-American  
Affairs

the  
**Black  
Student  
VOICE**

## EDITORIAL...

Bill Armstrong: A Study in Raccoon Coats and Stutz Bearcats

William Armstrong, vice-president and executive director of Indiana University Foundation, in a July 18, 1968 article in the Indiana Daily Student exposed, perhaps inadvertently, the crux of the problem that displaces students in the multiversity community.

Mr. Armstrong asserted that organized alumni "must act to prevent the destruction of their institutions by a few misled, misinformed, and misguided individuals." Mr. Armstrong is like most multiversity bureaucrats who have more concern for an archaic, hypocritical, brutalizing set of practices, than he does for the uninhibited development of the human mind. He also shows the same tendency toward ignorant, misinformed verbal ejaculation that is characteristic of a group of alums who could conceivably consider a state university theirs.

Mr. Armstrong is perhaps unaware of the results of all polls taken and studies conducted on student politics. Not only is there the fact that most student activists rank in the upper quarter of their classes, but that this segment of the academic world is involved and makes significant social contributions beyond the campuses on which they live and study.

Billy Boy also states that what we really need is discipline which he further clarifies as "controlled behavior." "At universities where the authorities are permissive and timid, the students riot. Where the authorities are strict, the students behave themselves." It should be clear what Mr. A is getting at. The June announcement of the Board of Trustees, threatened student activists (read Blacks especially) with expulsion for participation in a demonstration where "violence or the threat of violence" occur, is the corollary to Mr. A's shrill, hysterical rantings. What we must all understand is that the university is, and has always been, in-

terested only in the mass production of the compartmentalized, well behaved, uninquisitive mind necessary to man the crumbling structure of this society's status quo.

Mr. Armstrong and the alums are not the sole inhabitants and owners of this state university. He and his machine minded cronies must come to understand that there is now a generation of black people who will not participate in laboratory experiments in controlled human behavior which programs them to aid and support a racist system that destroys them and their black brothers and sisters in the communities from which they come. He and they must come to understand and deal with the fact that values and practices that no longer serve the needs of today's world, are no longer held sacred by today's young people.

Most importantly Mr. A must recognize and deal with his own raccoon coat, stutz bearcat mentality that is no longer remotely relevant to today's crises. For oppressive, dishonest, hypocritical, issue avoiding measures of control will not stand up to a level of commitment that suggests liberty or death--freedom for everybody or freedom for nobody.

Move on over Billy Boy, or you, me, the local police, and the National Guard are going to have to do it to death.

### AFRICAN AND AFRO-AMERICAN

### THE NEGRO AND THE

### AMERICAN PROMISE

### BRAZIL: The Vanishing

### NEGRO

AUGUST 1

FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

## HUMANISTIC REDRESS

The black students of Indiana University are not exempted from or immune to the fierce cultural and economic revolution being waged by black people in this country. They may not be actively involved, or in some rare cases not even consciously aware of their ipso facto involvement in this war on the basis of skin color. But they are black persons who experience the full spectra of black oppression abstractly or actually, either here at the university, or before they venture very far from its grounds into the Bloomington community.

The demands made by the concert of black students this spring and summer have been, for the most part, academically confined. These demands have been concerned with the structure of the academic system of this university, and with working within those confines at its limitations to obtain the alleviation of oppressing conditions. This drilling for water has afforded the black students just what we drilled for, academic, systematically pretentious, ineffectual, false, committee-stricken WATER. It seemed to us, at a very emotionally charged period in the late spring, that it was most expedient to operate within the system to hurt ourselves the least and to obtain maximum compliance with our perspectives, by being so functionally DOCILE. Perhaps our concerns and perceptions of our condition, here at I. U., and nationally, would have been conferred more respect had we not attempted to gage our cause into the very system which creates our oppression.

The administration is nothing more than an extension of the very Greater System, the Racist United States of America, which slaughters the dignity and humanism of all poor and/or black persons. It is a highly organized and profitting system which cannot anymore be geared to freedom and equality than Dow Chemical or Standard Oil: were it so, it would certainly perish, or be destroyed by the One

Living God, Racist Society.

Enough masturbation on our part. The white verbal jungle culture is one which also encravates the sources of action, the One Living Redress to oppressive conditions for any group of people. Verbalism is another very highly organized form of sublimating the truth and destroying commitment. One is what he does. We are what we allow ourselves to be.

The administration's officious setting-up of committees is not a process of addressing itself to the problems of black oppression, which is as severe in academic disguises as it is on the highways of Selma.

Unless there is some immediate reciprocity, humanistic reciprocity in terms of our relationship with the University, our problems here cannot ever be alleviated or solved.

Therefore, some policy of non-academically-oriented humanism toward the oppression of black citizens and black students (who are black citizens) must be initiated by the University very soon.

The university has already failed to carry out its promises of May, 1968 to the black students.

There will be a severe confrontation if the administration continues to act in bad faith and refuses to take direct action to redress the very valid and humane grievances of black students. We have waited too long.

The only valid segmental phase of direct action and its consequences is the most primary thesis: the action itself, and the split-second reaction by the opposing force, which is the end and result of that action taken. Committee work nullifies the very forcefulness and functional purity of the primary stimulus, of the original demand. Committees and the labyrinth of critique and verbalism and propositions which appear, indeed as a foul afterbirth, are in fact the Bowels, the infertile feces of the pure, primary action of the thesis. They have no value. We are not do-

(continued on next page)

ccived by the lofy prostidigitation done in committees and in dialogues sponsored by the administration. We want action not talk. Now.

## To THE EDITOR:

The following letter to the editor reprinted here is an attempt to show the very kind of racist confrontation concerned black individuals must deal with, behind the scenes of our humanistic white-and-black-committee dialogues and the "we-share-and-espouse-your-cause-white-sympathy-episodes," après the great white-black "humanins."

There are deceitful Administrative Crocodiles grinning in our faces and demanding that we show our black, controversial selves at their heretofore, 'clean, white and sterile' gatherings. And then they write us letters such as this one. In this particular case, evidence phoned in to us by persons aware of this individual's reaction to our last publication has led us to believe that this person is, indeed, a staff member of the athletic department, and not merely a concerned white citizen. This automatically predisposes the quality of our response to and concern for this picce of racist effusion:

"To the Editor of 'the Black Student' (and here note, the name of our publication is The Black Student Voice, and the implications which can be drawn from this slip)\*

Just a little note to all of you. If I were you, the black students, I wouldn't threaten the Athletic Department here at I.U. or anywhere else! You Black fools! Any decently run university would call out the militia to keep you bastards, who despite your black alleged beauty still impress the majority of decent whites of this university as plain old greasy

traditional NIGGERS, out of our schools and off our teams. You just find out that fewer scholarships will be given out to the Negro, and (NEGROES YOU ARE), and that you are not as indispensable as you think. Any colleague in the United States could get along better without having Negro athletes in their programs. I'd think it over if I were you.

One final note. In answer to your Question of the Week for this week: Maybe no Negroes have been appointed to the position of Chancellor because none of them are qualified. It sure looks that way. Whenever a qualified Negro appears on our scene, I am sure that he will be appointed to such a demanding position as Chancellor of a great white university such as ours. In case you are wondering, this is my contribution to the 'Black Student' and to the black student."

An interested white man

We are not shocked or stunned or insulted. But the concert of white persons who are sincere in their efforts to help us and to reconcile the young black students of I.U. with its faculty and administration bear the full atrocious insult of this assault to white and black competence and dignity. Anyone who is not convinced that there is serious work to be done on the administration of Indiana University.

One final note: we know who he is. We will have to deal with him when the proper hour, soon at hand, arrives. We can no longer tolerate such antisocial behavior.

read:

SOUL ON ICE  
by Eldridge Cleaver

A Ramparts Book  
McGraw-Hill

v.1 no.4  
The Lilly Library  
E 185.61  
A 25 July 29/1968  
Indiana University