



BULLETIN NUMBER 9 HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY INFORMATION SERVICE JULY 1973

Purpose

This newsletter of the RED TIDE is coming out for a number of purposes. The main reason is to explain the future perspectives of the paper, what that means in terms of ideas, and needs, of high school work in general, to get more people involved in what we are doing.

Another reason is to see who of our former and present high school and junior high school friends and contacts in the area are still around, and/or interested, and thirdly, to raise some of the political issues that we feel are important at this time to be thinking about.

Brief History

The RED TIDE began publication in the fall of 1971 at University High School in West L.A. At that time, the paper was put out by about 15 people with widely different, or no ideas about what the role of the paper was to be, why the paper was coming out, or what the common goals of the paper was to be. Since that time, the RED TIDE has been produced ten times, theoretically, if not practically, on a monthly basis.

Since that time, the RED TIDE has been involved in or at the head of many of the day to day struggles in school, such as democratic rights for students. Issues like freedom to distribute literature free from censorship, and the right of students to hear speakers of their choice on campus (we have presented speakers such as the Vietnam Veterans against the War, Jane Fonda, and Len Chandler). The RED TIDE has also been carrying education and actions about more far reaching demands and ideas as student-teacher control of the schools, an end to the tracking system, womens liberation, workers' power, womens liberation, black history and liberation, the War in Southeast Asia and the basics of socialism.

The politics of the RED TIDE have changed immensely since the first "Yippie!" type issue, to the point now where the paper has developed theoretically and practically into a concrete direction.

Distribution of the RED TIDE is carried on at about ten schools around the city.

Future Perspectives

First of all, we should outline the perspectives for the future of the RED TIDE. As those of you who saw the last issue (Vol. II No. VI) know, the RED TIDE is attempting to expand distribution and operation to the whole L.A. area. This area consists of about 45 high schools and two or three times that many junior high schools.

At the present time, we have been distributing only to certain areas of the city, mainly West and more recently South-Central L.A. Schools where the paper has been distributed in the past include: Jordan, Verbum Dei, Morningside, University, Venice, Culver, Fairfax, Hamilton, Hollywood, Santa Monica, Palisades and Kennedy High Schools, and Emerson and Webster Junior Highs, to name a few.

Our goal is to reach as many high schools and junior high schools as possible. We feel that this is especially important, because of the lack of alternative and truthful education in the schools and the lack of a high school movement (to act and educate students on school and non-school related issues) which we feel we can be instrumental in building.

We Need Participation

However, enlarging the scope of operation means that we need many things that are now missing. First of all, we need to re-new our contact with people around the city who we have not seen or heard of for some time. We need to make new contacts at schools where we have none. People are needed to write articles for the paper about struggles going on in their schools, against repressive rules, administrations, racial and sexual oppression, student government sell-outs, and struggles for democratic education, in addition to such national and international issues as on-going workers' strikes, wage freezes, budget cuts, the War in Indochina, etc.

People from around the city must participate in the writing and reporting on issues such as these. People are needed for distribution of the paper from issue to issue, at their schools and anywhere else.

So, in order for the paper to be able to relate to people across the city, we must have people from all over, contributing to the paper; forming a real network of alternative political education and action.

Inter-School Cooperation

Inter-school cooperation is also necessary if we are to be able to carry out actions, over different issues around the city, either in support of, or in coordination with other schools. We must at least keep ourselves and other students informed about what happens in other schools, so that we can learn from each others experiences. It is very difficult to win or educate about our local or city-wide demands in any other way.

Contact Us!

Because much of our mailing list is old and incorrect, we ask everyone who receives this newsletter to fill out the appropriate blanks on the tear-off in this newsletter, and send it to us at the address there. It is only in this way that we can begin to build the operation of the RED TIDE or of any of the other above mentioned ideas.

Board Rules On Speakers Passed

On July 5th of this year, the Board of Education passed Board rule 1268, which drastically limits the rights of students to hear speakers of their choice on campus. The rules state that the principal of a school must know about and approve of every speaker who students or teachers wish to hear on campus, and that they shall do this by, among other things, judging the proposed speakers "qualifications" and appropriateness to speak. The rules blatantly violate our right to hear views that the administration does not approve of .

The fact that the Board passed these rules (they cleverly chose a time when students are not around) is not really an indication that their policy is changing. The rules on speakers that they had before ensured, as they do now, that speakers that the administration does not like, cannot speak on campus. The reason however that these rules were put in such a formal and concise manner is the fact that students in the past year have been fighting to hear speakers of their choice on campus. Perhaps the most widely publicized of these fights was the struggle at University High by students to hear Jane Fonda discuss the War in Indo-China. This fight took about two months to finally win.

So now the Board wants to make sure that it is clear to all that they will oppose students democratic rights to hear who they want. They are trying to make it virtually impossible to get speakers on campus who challenge the view that we are given in school about every aspect of morals, and society.

If students are to be able to hear who they want in the future, on issues such as the "Energy Crisis", legal rights of students, womens' liberation, gang violence, even U.S. and world history, and a multitude of other issues and questions, then we must be willing to fight for the right. We have seen again and again that this is the only way that we ever win anything in school. And to win we need to be prepared for a long hard fight. We have to stop these repressive and un-Constitutional rules while we have a chance. Meetings will be held late in the summer and in the early fall to discuss stratagey for fighting these rules. The date will be announced at a later date. We must all be prepared to defend our rights, and to do this we must get together and organize.

For more information, and/or a copy of the rules, contact us.

A Few Notes

As everyone knows, the United Farm Workers Union is fighting for its life in a struggle against California growers (See R.T. Vol. II No. I) and the "leadership" of the Teamsters Union. The UFW needs support in the form of volunteers and money. If you can help, call the UFW at 733-7313 or 734-3784.

The RED TIDE may finally have its benefit concert. This time the plan is to have a joint benefit with the LONG BEACH RISING STAR, an alternative h.s. paper in Long Beach, at the Ashgrove. The date will be announced at a later date, so keep your eyes open.

The struggle of the people who fought at the second battle of Wounded Knee is not yet over. Not by a long shot. The longest, hardest and most

undramatic part is yet to come; the trial of the hundreds of people arrested while fighting for the rights of native Americans. Thousands upon thousands of dollars are needed to defend these people. Send what you can to: Ramon Roubedeaux, Treasurer, Wounded Knee Legal Defense Fund 919 Main Street, Suite 112, Rapid City, South Dakota, 57701.

We will be starting study groups in the fall to discuss such topics as Marxist theory, the role of school in this society, and numerous other related topics that we do not have a chance to discuss in school. If you are interested in participating in, or starting a group in your area, please indicate this on the tear-off.

Within the L.A. Women's Union, is a chapter called "Women in Education", which is composed of women who are teachers, students, parents, and others who are interested in changing the present educational system. They intend to compile non-sexist books, films, games, etc., and put together womens studies courses for classroom use at all levels. They have been meeting for several weeks. If you wish to attend these meetings or want more information write to the: L.A. Womens Union, PO Box 3938, Terminal Annex, 90051.

Finances

And here of course is our sob story and pitch for the dough. Although due to ads, we broke even on the last issue of the paper, we will need many more funds to be able to enlarge the press run, the number of pages, etc. in the future, not to mention lay out costs, office supplies and all of the other things that make life worth living. If you can donate any money at all, please do, and we can also use office equipment that anyone has to spare. Even newsletters as crummy looking as this cost money for printing and postage, so do what you can.

TEAR OFF AND SEND TO: The RED TIDE, P.O. Box 64402, L.A. Calif. 90064

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ SCHOOL _____ ORGANIZATION _____

GRADE IN SEPTEMBER _____ (This is just so we know how long you will be in school).

Please check one or more.

I want to build the operation of the RED TIDE in my area.

I am not in school any more, strike me from mailing list.

" " " " " " " " , but I want to help, contact me.

I am not interested, take me off mailing list.

I wish to subscribe to the R.T. (\$3 a year for K-12, \$5 a year for others)

Enclosed is \$ _____ for the operation of the RED TIDE.

I wish to be in a RED TIDE study group.

I have friends who would like to be on the RED TIDE mailing list.

Comments