

N/L 9/18

Rebel Issue Before Board

The Dade County School Board will be confronted late

today with two questions involving South Dade High School's controversy over the use of 'Rebel' name and symbols.

Braddock, Lehman Split On S. Dade

The Dade County Board of Public Instruction meeting scheduled for today could end in a split between its members over the question of South Dade High School's racial problems.

Two members of the board expressed opposing views this morning on whether the students of South Dade should give up their Confederate symbols.

Helmes Braddock said this morning that it would be wrong for the Board to override the decision that the students of the school made to keep their symbols.

"If the school board overrules their decision it will be evidence of bad faith to the student body since we told the students in the beginning that it was their problem to solve. I still think that it is their problem and that they should solve it themselves."

Braddock went on to say that changing the symbols will not solve the problems. "The people in the schools and the people in the community will still have to live together no matter what is decided."

William Lehman, another board member, said that the Confederate uniform and the flag should be dropped from the school. I think the flag and the band uniform are a harmful symbol and should be done away with now. And eventually the name and the song should be phased out also.

Mr. Lehman expressed a desire to see the problem settled by compromising and not by militant action taken in the community.

"I don't think a planned boycott of all the schools will accomplish anything. I don't like militancy. I like to work things out and this is how they will have to handle the situation at South Dade.

The two questions are: (a) whether it will permit representatives of the black community to present their complaints, and (b) whether it will continue its policy of permitting the students and faculty of South Dade High to decide what school nickname and symbols shall be used.

A Mrs. Hepburn, representing a group of blacks, called school officials several days ago, asking for a hearing before the board.

Her request was too late to get on the official agenda of the board.

Mrs. Joy Shaw, information officer for the board, said that in order to be heard this afternoon, the Hepburn group will have to get a unanimous vote of the board after making a written request at the meeting.

This written request is referred to the board, and if board members decide to hear the group, a time for the hearing will be set near the end of the meeting. If the vote is not unanimous, no one will be permitted to speak.

Mrs. Hepburn asked for the board to hear Mrs. Corrinne Mays and an unnamed student of South Dade High.

Mrs. Mays has been active in protest meetings of a Negro group in South Dade, which is demanding that the school's 'Rebel' symbols be scrapped and replaced with symbols less objectionable to the black students and parents.

A long-standing policy of the board has been to permit a majority of the student body and faculty of all schools to choose their symbols and nicknames. However, the school board has the power, if it wishes to exercise it, to change this policy.

Reminders Make It Hard To Forget Civil War

Editor, The News Leader:
I'm writing this in regard to two recent letters to the editor. It was stated in one, "Forget the Civil War." I agree 100 per cent, but how can any person, black or white, forget anything when they have things in their presence that won't let them forget?

WHEN I hear Rebel and see the Rebel symbol I think of the past, and what the name and the symbols meant to my people. I think of the Civil War and how my people were held as though they were obligated to work on plantations and pick cotton.

Some were made to do this to make a living, but I feel as if I have to make a living let me choose my own way of making my living because I have this right as an American citizen.

As stated before, if I am

being asked to forget, then get rid of the things that won't allow me to forget and I'm sure I could forget.

I agree that changing the Rebel name would hurt the whites too, and being a member of SOUL I do consider white students. But I feel if a thing is wrong, no matter who it hurts, you can't take a wrong and make it right.

I've often heard that in the process of making things right someone has to be hurt. But this is not to say the white students are wrong because this is the way they felt and as an individual I respect cause man's opinion and I ask

that mine be respected too.

BUT I still feel that you can't make wrong right, and if a thing is wrong then make it right no matter who likes it or dislikes it, white, black, or any color.

As a member of SOUL, I feel that we are asking these things for the welfare of our school.

All I ask is that the things said here be judged on an individual basis because they are my personal feelings on this situation.

RONALD MAYS
Junior, South Dade

Whites Can't Know How The Blacks Feel

Editor, The News Leader:

After reading many letters to the editor I have decided to write.

I found that a lot of white students say that there isn't any sign of discrimination against the blacks. Don't you think it is out of place for them to say this?

THEY CAN'T feel the discrimination because they aren't black.

It's like a mother who has lost a son in Vietnam and has one there now. No one but that mother knows how she feels. That is how it is with the blacks and whites. The white man can only imagine how the black man feels.

Whites must awaken from their long sleep; this is a new day and age. World situations have changed while you slept. We as blacks are willing to pay the cost so that we have equality.

A black student can't bring an American flag to school,

which means liberty and justice for all. When whites brought Confederate flags for a week and a half, nothing was said to them. Is this not a sign of discrimination or prejudice on behalf of the administration?

Need I mention that a rifle was found in a white boy's car on Sept. 12? If the student had been black, it would have made headlines.

I AM wondering where you pick up all your unfinished reports. Can it be that you only get the white man's report? And are you afraid that if you write the entire truth your paper will stop circulating?

I definitely think that the nickname Rebel should be thrown out. And don't come up with "If you don't like South Dade ship out." Because my parents pay taxes just like anyone else and just as much. The school is no longer their school, but ours too.

A. ROSALYN MOSS

Overcrowding Of Schools 'Disgraceful'

Editor, The News Leader:

How many is too many? Are school boundaries arbitrary? What does it take for the school board to shift children to help relieve an extremely overcrowded elementary school?

* * *

I AM speaking about the 1,354 students at Cutler Ridge Elementary compared to 530 at Perrine and 597 at Gulfstream.

It seems to me that it would be easier and cost less to shift children to the less crowded schools than to move portables or wait for more to arrive, if there are any available.

The situation at Cutler Ridge Elementary is disgraceful and something should be done immediately.

Boundaries have been changed for less pressing needs but this situation is disgraceful.

I won't even go into the deplorable situation at Cutler Ridge Junior High. It keeps getting worse each year and nothing is done to relieve the overcrowded mess.

* * *

WHAT DO you parents think? Perhaps if more parents started thinking and did some acting, we would have one step started towards quality education.

A CONCERNED PARENT

That 'Threaten Peaceful Education'

Board Proposes Curb On School Nicknames



Promises To Mediate At S. Dade

By **GEORGIA MARSH**
Herald Education Writer

Dade's School Board stepped into the South Dade High controversy Wednesday, calling for a new policy eliminating any school nicknames that "threaten the peaceful education of students."

The board also said it would mediate discussions of a group of parents of black and white students at South Dade, where the name "Rebels" and Confederate trappings caused Negroes to protest.

—Herald Staff Photo by BOB EAST

Mrs. Thomasina Hunter Pleads for Nickname Change
... 'make a decision before it is too late'

School Board Proposes Curb on School Nicknames

From Page 1D

The board did not vote on the new policy on school names, instead merely asking Superintendent Dr. Edward L. Whigham to draft the statement. It will require two votes before it becomes policy, by Oct. 16 at the soonest.

If it passes, South Dade High School will have to stop using the Confederate symbols which have become the focal point of the school and community's racial troubles.

Board member Jack Gordon proposed the policy statement forbidding use of offensive symbols.

A majority of the seven-member board indicated they will support it. Gordon, William Lehman, Mrs. Anna Brenner Meyers and Ted Slack told The Herald that they would vote in favor of it.

C. T. McCrimmon, board chairman, Mrs. Helene Vosloh and Holmes Braddock said they want to study it further.

The select 20-member biracial committee will hold its first meeting Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the high school. There will be at least one student of each race from the high school on the committee.

Odell Johns, South Dade bail bondsman and political leader, was the spokesman for the black parents who will select the committee members.

Jack Levy, a white parent, and City Manager Olaf Pearson, said they would select the white membership.

The board took its action after hearing pleas from Mrs. Thomas to change the school's nickname "Rebel," and eliminate use of the Confederate flag, band uniform and song "Dixie" before the "lid blows off down there."

Breaking down in tears, Mrs. Hunter said, "Our children are tired of waiting. They won't listen to us anymore. We are begging you to make a decision before it's too late."

Mrs. Hunter said black parents had tried to stay away from the controversy and let the students work it out but had been "dragged" into it by white parents who claimed "we were fighting something they've had for 15 years."

She also said black parents couldn't get anywhere at bi-

racial meetings because they were so outnumbered.

The board was faced with overruling a Monday vote of South Dade High School students in which more than a 1,000 of them supported retaining the Confederate symbols. Black students boycotted the election.

Board members pointed out they had asked the students to try and solve the

racial problems themselves after Negro students appeared at a board meeting Aug. 7 asking an end to discriminatory policies at the school including the use of confederate symbols.

"Had I known there would be a vote taken," said Mrs. Meyers Wednesday, "I would have requested there not be."

Gordon said, "Maybe it was a mistake to urge the students to work out the problem themselves. "Maybe it once was possible, but it no longer is today, for white

people to understand the depths of feelings black people have about many things."

"We probably should just have told the students to get together and try to agree on a new symbol," he said.

We made a mistake, let's correct it."

Dr. Whigham said the school administration has not left it solely up to the students to solve their racial problems.

Whigham said school officials from both the district and central offices have been meeting with individuals and groups trying to solve the problems.

"We requested the students to try and solve their problems, but we've been down there talking, too."

Mrs. Hunter blamed most of the racial tension on parents and begged the board to make a decision.

"Once you settle the school issue, we can handle the community problems," she said.

Johns called upon the board to "pick up the fallen banner of justice," and termed Monday's student vote a "Spectacle and mockery of the Democratic process."

"We have no desire to allow our children to be governed and dominated by their peers because those peers are the majority."

"We don't desire racial love but we do require a proper atmosphere conducive to education. Some 2,000 hostile white youths innundate something less than 200 black students."

Johns warned the board's inaction could be the "spark to ignite fumes to blow the lid off Dade County."

Gordon later responded that the board should take action not because of the threat of violence, which could occur no matter what the final decision, but because "we have the authority to take a stand for the people we represent."



—Herald Staff Photo by BOB EAST

School Board Hears Odell Johns ... spokesman for black parents

MIAMI
NEWS

9/19/68

Policy Sought To Bar Divisive School Symbols

By LOUISE BLANCHARD
Miami News Reporter

The School Board unanimously instructed Superintendent Edward Whigham to write a policy forbidding school use of any symbol that "interferes with the learning situation."

All seven members also agreed to meet with a 20-member South Dade biracial committee to discuss the problem at South Dade High, where use of Confederate symbols has led to bitter protests by Negro students.

The proposed policy will be presented for discussion at the board's Oct. 2 meeting. Under board rules, it cannot be adopted until the Oct. 16 meeting.

Three members indicated objections to the wording of the proposal. But all seven voted to ask that the policy

be prepared. The motion adopted is:

"That the superintendent be asked to bring back to the next board meeting a policy that will forbid school use of any insignia, emblem, flag or any other symbol that interferes with the learning situation or tends to create divisions within the school that threaten the peaceful education of the students."

The meeting with 10 black and 10 white representatives of parents, students or teachers at South Dade High is set for next Tuesday night at the school.

The board acted late yesterday after a delegation of Negro parents from South Dade pleaded for specific action.

"We're afraid. We're asking you to work quickly," said Tomasina Hunter. "We have white students intimidating our small children at Homestead Junior High. Our children are tired. We can't continue to tell them to hold on."

Fighting tears, she said, "It's too late to say 'wait.' We want to work with the white parents, but they don't want to work with us."

Several of the Negro parents told the board their children were greeted the first day of school by a dummy hung on a pole in front of the school. They said a sign on the dummy said, "Nigger, go home."

"If we don't get an answer," Mrs. Hunter told the board, "the lid is going to blow off."

And Odell Johns, who has served as a spokesman for South Dade Negro parents in controversies in recent years over Mays High and Miami Killian High, warned the board:

"Inaction may ignite the fuse that will blow the lid off South Dade County."

Several weeks before school started, a group of black students asked the board to instruct South Dade High to stop using "Rebels" as a school nickname, the Confederate flag as a school symbol and Confederate uniforms for the school band. The young men said the Confederate symbols mean slavery and white racism to black students.

The board assigned its biracial group of seven stu-

Policy Sought To Ban Divisive School Symbol

Continued From Page 3A

dent aides to meet with a biracial group of South Dade High students to try to settle the problem through discussion.

With less than three weeks of talk behind them, the South Dade students held a "vote" on Monday, boycotted by the fewer than 200 Negro students in the school's enrollment of 1,300. The white young people voted overwhelmingly to retain all the Confederate symbols.

Board members pointed out yesterday they had instructed the students to work out the problem but that they had not called for a vote.

"If I had known you would hold one," Member Anna Brenner Meyers said, "I would have opposed it."

Member Jack Gordon, who presented the motion for the policy change, told the board and the parents:

"Regardless of the atti-

tudes of taxpayers, we cannot be put in the position of maintaining a racist stance when it is pointed out to us; when responsible press and church leaders say, 'let's quit,' and when all decent opinion is on the side of eliminating racist symbols."

Jack Levy, who has served as a spokesman for the white parents, said, "Our concern is that the kids get an education. The way things are going now, they'll grow up good for nothing."

Olaf Pearson, city manager of Homestead, said he hoped the two groups of adults could work out the problems. He said it was possible that the uniform and the flag might be given up but that the name "Rebel" and the use of "Dixie" as the school song should be retained.

"I strongly urge that the meeting be held as soon as possible," he said

Johns responded that the black parents "cannot compromise."

Board member William Lehman said both groups would need to compromise. "Let's go into the meeting in a spirit of conciliation," he said.

Harder To Be Good Loser Than To Be Good Winner

Editor, The News Leader:

I know, through personal experience, that it is much harder to be a good loser than to be a good winner.

Last week School Board member Holmes Braddock advised the whites in our community that they should be good winners. Yesterday Mr. Crabtree urged the whites to be good winners, and not chide the losers.

* * *

NEITHER gentleman had any word to the blacks that they should be good losers.

The blacks have already indicated through their failure to vote, their threatened boycott of South Dade merchants, and the statement that they would appeal again to the Dade County School Board for a directive suitable to them, that they have no intention of being good losers.

Until such time as the black people in our community and country realize that the proper way to achieve their goals is not through threats, demands, rioting, and terror tactics, but through the hand of friendship, we will continue in turmoil.

The black students at South Dade would have achieved their desires, in time, had they only gone to their school and participated in school programs and cultivated the friendship of

their fellow students.

After achieving this friendship, and only then, could they have asked and received full consideration for their requests.

* *

WE MUST all begin again, with all students at South Dade willing to participate in school activities under the Rebel banner. If the black students pull away in their own group, I fear for the future.

They must be willing to work with the majority, for without the hand of friendship from the whites, the blacks cannot advance. They can still win their point as far as the name change through friendship, but this now lies further in the future because of the militant attitude of the demand.

...WAYNE L. LAWRENCE

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Bullets Fired Into McLean's Business

Three bullets were fired through the front windows of McLean's Floral and Gift Shoppe on N. Krome Avenue sometime during the night, Wednesday, Homestead police reported today.

They drilled holes through two glass panels on the south

side of the north door, and the impact knocked out a small piece of concrete from above the door.

Police Officer Donald Brager, who investigated, recovered one complete bullet and two bullet jackets from inside the building. They will be sent to the ballistics department of Dade County Public Safety Department, Brager said.

It was not known whether there was any connection between the vandalism and the fact that John McLean, owner of the shop, is chairman of the Homestead community relations board.

The board has played a mediating role in the current racial controversy at South Dade High School.

Dixieland Theme Of Band Show

South Dade's 80-piece marching band planned to appear at the South Dade - North Miami football game this afternoon in full uniform, including its Johnny Reb caps, a band spokesman said.

As of 10 a.m. today, there had been no directive to the contrary, and the band, plus majorettes, flaxettes and drill team, planned to go ahead with its pre-game and half-time shows, using a Dixieland theme.

School officials at South Dade apparently are proceeding as directed by the outcome of last Monday's student vote, and are regarding last night's board action as unofficial until such time as the school superintendent puts the symbol-and-emblem ban into action.

'Education' First, SD Students Told

South Dade High School students were told this morning to "get back to education" and let the school board and black and white mediation committees settle a racial dispute that has split the student body.

Acting Principal Howard Crabtree told students in a talk over the public address system this morning that the dispute over Civil War-linked names and symbols "has been taken out of the school by board action."

"This is what we wanted," he said. "Now let these orderly processes be set up to handle it, while we get back to what we are here for — education."

Until such processes are set up and until there is an official directive concerning the Rebel nickname, Confederate flag, Johnny Reb band uniforms and use of the song "Dixie," Crabtree told students he intends to abide by the results of their election on these questions last Monday.

"I wouldn't break faith with my students," he stated. "They were told that their election would settle these questions, and until I get a directive that says otherwise, that is what we must abide by."

Jack Levy, head of Concerned Parents Organization, agreed. "Nobody should deny students some expression of school spirit," he told Crabtree.

South Dade's acting principal reiterated his faith in the 1,400-plus teenagers who make up the student body. "They have the good sense not to do anything that would deface or disgrace their school," he said. "I firmly believe that."

Slack Tells His Position

Dade school board member Ted Slack said today he's not prepared to vote now on a change in the name "Rebels" for South Dade High School athletic teams, nor a ban on the school band's playing of the song "Dixie."

Slack said he doesn't believe the band uniforms are really Confederate uniforms, either.

He added that there is "some feeling in the board" that the Confederate flag should not be the school flag. (He noted, however, that state law permits display of the Confederate flag.)

Slack made the statements to clarify his own position on use of the Old South symbols by the student body at the high school.

Adopts Motion Setting Up New Policy

School Board Wavers On Rebel Fuss

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Bi-racial Panel To Get Problem

By JAMES MAXWELL

After a lengthy hearing on the use of Rebel symbols at South Dade High School, the Dade School Board on its own motion late Wednesday decided to supervise an interracial conference next Tuesday night in an effort to settle the dispute.

The board unanimously adopted the motion, instructing the school superintendent to propose to the board a change of policy which prohibits the use of school symbols that interfere with education or create student body discord in any Dade County school.

Under School Board rules such a change of policy cannot be made effective until the second board meeting in October.

The effort of the board to promote better community relations began when Board Member Jack Gordon cited a News Leader editorial which appeared on Tuesday and which advocated a gradual phasing out of Confederacy-linked symbols at the school.

Board members, particularly William Lehman, pointed out that the prohibition of symbols will not create interracial harmony. The board then began a search for a way in which the two factions could be brought together and settle their differences.

Chairman C. T. McCrimmon sought to arrange a biracial meeting of parents to work out their difficulties before the board meets in October to decide on a symbol policy.

For awhile this seemed impossible. Jack Levy, a Homestead photographer who represents a group of white parents, said his side was willing to meet. He announced a meeting for Wednesday night that had been called at the Homestead City Hall and said invitations had been extended to 25 white and the same number of black parents to attend.

Odell Johns, a Gouids bondsman who was chosen spokesman for the black group, said, "We are not interested in any biracial meeting. We want board action now."

Mrs. Thomasina Hunter of Florida City and other members of the black group said their members would not attend the Wednesday night meeting because they felt it was useless.

The black group told the board that they wanted action now. Some of the group demanded that the board pass a motion "today" barring all Confederate war symbols at South Dade High. Some of the group threatened that if immediate action was not taken there would be riots and disorder in South Dade.

When this apparent impasse was reached, Homestead City Manager Olaf Pearson addressed the board.

"In my opinion the two groups can work out the problem," Pearson said, "For instance we can drop the Confederate flag and the uniform cap and retain Dixie as a school song and Rebel as a school name. At least this could be a point of discussion, and I urge that both groups meet together."

At this point the board recessed for a short time and began informal private discussions. At the same time the black group caucused in a small room across the hallway.

Chairman McCrimmon moved between the leaders of the two groups and talked. He stressed that laws and regulations do not produce community cooperation. This, he pointed out, requires people-to-people dialogue. Then McCrimmon reconvened the board, and by open negotiation with the two sides worked out the ground rules for the Tuesday night conference.

The seven members of the school board as an informal group will supervise the discussion between 10 whites and 10 black persons. Each group shall consist of the parents of eight students, one student and one spokesman the groups may select. The meeting will be closed to the public and to the press, provided the press can be excluded legally. (Board Attorney George Bolles was instructed to research this question and advise the board.)

The meeting will be held in the South school district office.

If more meetings supervised by the board are necessary they will be held.

It is the hope of the board that, in these informal meetings, the formula can be found which will lessen interracial differences in the South Dade area and prevent their occurrence in other parts of the country.

BOYCOTT OF SCHOOLS CONSIDERED

Dyer Slams Inaction On Race Problem

By LOUISE BLANCHARD
Miami News Reporter

Black activist Bernard Dyer said today he does not see that anything has happened in Miami as a result of the rioting in August "other than a kind of turning away from the problem again."

He said he is considering organizing a countywide school boycott by Negro pupils, who constitute nearly 25 per cent of public school enrollment.

The controversy at South Dade High over the school

nickname, "Rebels," could have been avoided, Dyer said, if the School Board had acted even on part of a group of community recommendations he presented in July.

"I don't want to get involved in any more negative programs," said Dyer, who is director of the Liberty City Community Council. "But in the absence of good faith, I may be forced to begin organizing something I don't want to see happen."

"The school system," Dyer said, "has moved more to-

ward disintegration than integration.

"We've been trying to gear our program toward positive action. But it is beginning to seem that the School Board offers us no other alternative but to organize a school boycott.

"If a negative approach is what they want," he said, "this is what they'll get."

He said that although Negroes constitute nearly a quarter of the school population, "there are no black faces on the School Board,

where policies affecting the lives of black children are made."

The School Board has created six administrative districts within the school system, he said, and there are no black district superintendents. In the six district offices, Dyer said, there is only one black district-level administrator.

"There is no black person at a high level of administration," he said, "to make known the wishes and desires of the black community that will be reflected in the policies made by our elected officials."

trouble at South Dade High could have been prevented if the board had created a permanent investigating committee "to investigate all alleged acts of prejudiced behavior or discriminatory practices which interfere with the social, emotional and educational development of black students attending predominantly white schools."

Creation of the committee was the first of four proposals Dyer presented to the School Board during the summer. All four proposals were unanimously adopted

Dyer said he believes the

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Dyer Slams Racial Inaction

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by a committee including distinguished citizens, welfare recipients and school dropouts, Dyer said.

"The proposal was not mine — it was made by the community," Dyer said. Among committee members he listed Athalie Range, Miami's first Negro city commissioner, and Earl Carroll, the first Negro Metro Commission member.

Black militants and white conservatives should be included on the investigating committee — "people who might not be afraid to use derogatory terms toward each other," he said.

"The committee would have to be balanced out with people who are not at the extremes," he said, "but you've got to have people at both ends of the pole to get a dialogue."

"Dade County has many problems that are not going away just because we turn our heads," he said. "When a person does look honestly at the problems, he's called an agitator."

Although Dyer said School Board members have promised improvements, "there still are two black students who drop out of school for each white student.

"A high school diploma is almost mandatory to get a job — even a street-sweeping job," Dyer said. "We can't allow this kind of genocide to continue in our school system."

Of the South Dade High controversy, Dyer said:

"Symbols always mean something to men. The Confederate flag means white racism — it's a symbol of white racism."

In an election Monday boycotted by black students,



BERNARD DYER

white students at South Dade High voted overwhelmingly to retain the school nickname, use of the Confederate flag, and use of Confederate Army uniforms for the band. There are about 200 black students in the school's 1,300 enrollment.

Negro parents from South Dade were to ask the School Board late today to change the nickname.

If the school system doesn't begin "to do something about the problems that exist here," Dyer said, the community will be unable to attract industry.

"And industry is necessary. Lack of employment helps perpetuate the ghetto,"

he said.

The Liberty City Community Council's other recommendations presented to the School Board last summer included:

Creation of an administrative district to cover the Model City area in northwestern Miami "to provide the black community with some control over educational policies and practices that affect the operation of predominantly black schools."

The district should have a larger number of black administrators.

Continuation of planning for a demonstration school for educationally disadvantaged children.

Creation of in-service education centers, particularly at Miami Northwestern High, Drew Middle School and the new Olinda Demonstration School, to give teachers on-the-job training in teaching disadvantaged children.



Charles Whited

No Social Issue

ALL THIS flap about South Dade High School's use of the nickname, "The Rebels," and the Confederate flag has gotten a lot of danders up.

As Ralph Canaday, of 600 NE 22nd Ter., told me Wednesday:

"This is terrible, and a bit ridiculous. The Confederate flag is a piece of history. It does not stand for tyranny or slavery and certainly should not be construed as a social issue."

I quite agree with Mr. Canaday. While I'm certainly in sympathy with the objectives of civil rights groups, the South Dade episode seems to stretch a point a bit thin.

THE MIAMI NEWS

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- Pulitzer Prize For International Reporting In 1963
- Pulitzer Prize For National Reporting In 1959
- Pulitzer Prize For Public Service In 1939

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18-A

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VOTE MEANINGLESS

F *Board Must Decide 'Rebel' Issue*

Maybe the black and white students at South Dade High School never could have worked out their differences by themselves, but the disappointing fact is that they weren't really given the opportunity.

The School Board tried. The black students sent a delegation to the Board a month or so ago to object to the nickname "Rebels", the Confederate band uniforms and other reminders of the slave era in the South. A white delegation attended to present the case for history and tradition. The board, recognizing a reasoning approach by the delegations, referred the matter to a bi-racial committee of responsible students from the school.

At this point, however, there is considerable evidence that the efforts of the committee were overshadowed by pressures from white parents and politicians. Where the youngsters might have been willing to compromise, the adults were unyielding. The issue was put to a vote, and the white students voted about 10 to 1 to retain the symbols. The Negroes boycotted the election as being an exercise in futility.

It is a tribute to the lasting patience of the black youngsters that they returned to school and

that incidents have been few. If calm prevails, it is because people like Bishop James L. Duncan of the Episcopal diocese and other religious leaders spent their weekend trying to talk sense to the parties concerned.

But tension is high, as you might expect, and there has been no satisfactory solution to the basic issue.

Now the situation is back in the School Board's lap. It is a hard decision, but one that involves the sensitivities, if not rights, of a minority. And while it is all well and good for whites to say that blacks should not be offended when their school adopts the uniforms and other trappings of the Confederacy, the fact is that they are offended, and understandably so.

It seems to us ordinary good manners would dictate that these trappings, being offensive to some students, should be removed. Certainly it is not the sort of thing a majority can decide by vote, any more than a majority can decide what church we should all attend.

Since nothing short of School Board action is likely to accomplish the removal of these symbols in the present circumstance, then it is time the School Board act.



—Herald Staff Photo by BOB EAS

Rallying 'Round

The controversial banner of the Confederacy yet waved over the land of South Dade High School at a Thursday afternoon football game — and the

band played Dixie, all for perhaps the last time. The school's Old South symbols are expected to be eliminated by Dade School Board action. The game proceeded without incident, and the Rebel-rousing went for naught — North Miami High School won, 19-7.

Scoles, North Miami Flag Rebels, 19 to 7

	S. Dade	N. Miami
First downs	10	9
Rushing yardage	94	143
Passing yardage	60	7
Passes	4-22, 2	1-7, 1
Punts	3-31, 7	4-26, 5
Fumbles lost	3	1
Yards penalized	15	35

By **KEN SMALL**
Herald Prep Editor

The halftime show of South Dade High School's most controversial football opener in 16 years Thursday was entitled "Dixieland Kickoff." South Dade's offensive unit wore Rebel flags on their helmets. Ten Rebel flags fluttered over the South Dade cheering sections.

Even a four-man CBS team from Atlanta was on hand to catch the drama of South Dade opening amid racial tension spurred by the school's Old South ties.

All the network cameras caught, however, were South Dade fumbles and interceptions and a power-running North Miami fullback named Bob Scoles as North Miami scored a surprisingly easy 19-7 victory.

South Dade faculty spotted only one of the school's approximately 160 Negro students, who have advocated new school nickname, song and symbols since the opening of school. That lone student sat on the North Miami side of Harris field in Homestead.

The game was switched from 8 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in

hopes of avoiding demonstrations by students or parents. Few parents were among the crowd of 2,500.

South Dade Coach Leo Martin was unsure if the school disorders the past two weeks affected his team, which lost its first game to North Miami in five years.

"We thought it would fire us up," he said. "I guess it could work both ways and it worked against us."

North Miami scored twice in 31 seconds in the second period by converting a pair of fumbles into touchdowns. The Pioneers added their third touchdown of the quarter fewer than three minutes later (with 1:39 left in the half) following a 43-yard pass interception return to the South Dade 14.

South Dade's James J. Accursio returned a punt 77 yards for a touchdown with 1:40 left in the game to avoid a shutout.

North Miami's John Thomas picked off a fumble at the South Dade 24 and carried it to the seven to set up the first score. On fourth and inches from the goal quarterback Gary Jones sneaked across.

Senior tackle Dennis Neville, playing his first football game, picked up Eddie McMichael's fumbled option just seconds later and ram-

bled 21 yards for another touchdown.

South Dade took the next kickoff and moved to its 48 before linebacker Bob Beasley picked off a McMichael pass at the North Miami 43 and weaved his way through heavy traffic to the South Dade 14. Two plays gained to the seven before second-unit quarterback Jose Rios entered at halfback, took a pitchout and passed to halfback Gary Lane for the touchdown.

The game also was a victory for the football jamboree, the game-conditioned, intersquad scrimmages in the Orange Bowl two weeks ago. North Miami appeared sluggish and ineffective in that tuneup. South Dade did not participate.

"We regarded that as just another practice," North Miami Coach Ed Sullivan explained. "We didn't even clean our shoes for it."

Sullivan lifted the wraps on several innovations Thursday, most importantly a rock-like 4-3 defense. "We've never used that defense at North Miami," Sullivan added, "Why show it to everybody in a jamboree."

North Miami	0	19	0	0-19
South Dade	0	0	0	7-7

NM—Jones 1 run (kick failed)
NM—Neville 21 run with fumble (Wester kick)
NM—Lane 7 pass from Rios (kick blocked)
SD—JJ Accursio 77-punt return (Powell kick)

9/20

Pioneer Victory Sweet For Fullback Scoles

By CHARLIE NOBLES
Miami News Sports Writer

Bob Scoles doesn't sport a Mohawk haircut like 31 of his North Miami High football teammates. But Scoles is living up to the spirit behind the haircut.

"Our defensive guys did it mostly," he said, "and it's brought up our morale a lot. I just try to do as good on offense as they do on defense."

Both Scoles, a 185-pound fullback, and the North Miami defense played well yesterday as the Pioneers beat South Dade, 19-7, at Harris Field in a game that was shifted to the afternoon because of controversy between Negroes and whites at South Dade over the school's nickname — Rebels.

To prevent any problems, there were several dozen policemen in the area. Actually, though, all the action took place on the field. Many of the South Dade football players had Rebel flag insignias taped to their helmets, and some of the fans brought along real Rebel flags, but there were no incidents.

There also were no Negro fans on South Dade's side of the field, although some 160 of them are enrolled at the school.

The crowd of around 2,000 was disappointing to Rebel coach Leo Martin. "This thing cost us \$1,000," he said, "and I don't know how we're going to make it up, either."

In past years, South Dade had attracted a full house for its season-opening game against North Miami.

Martin seemed more upset, however, in the game's outcome. "I don't know," he said, "it's hard to say whether this contro-

versy hurt us or not. I really thought our kids were ready to play a football game. But . . ."

The coach seemed drained by the demoralizing turn of events of the last month. "Snap out of it Martin," he told himself in the coaches' office. "I've got to remember we have nine games to go."

Scoles played a big part in making it an unhappy day for South Dade. He bolted through the Rebel defense for 104 yards in 24 carries, much of it on possession plays.

Ironically, Scoles almost never got to play. Last season Bob was a first stringer until six days before the season opened. Then a doctor's examination showed he had diabetes.

That ended his football season right there. "I had to go on a diet," he said, "and condition myself on how to eat."

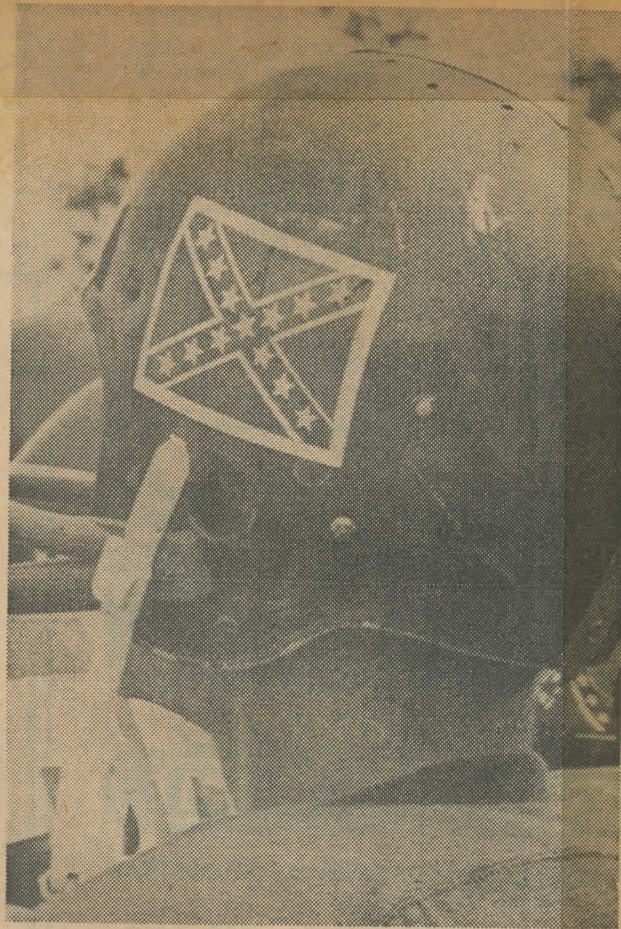
Gradually, Scoles was able to curb the problem. Then, with football in mind, he began weightlifting and working out again. "I've put on 25 pounds since then," he said.

And Bob put it to good use against South Dade. After North Miami scored 19 points in the second quarter, his steady gains into the middle helped the Pioneers play ball control.

North Miami's tough defense — headed by Bob Beasley and Tom Watson — also prevented a South Dade comeback. The Rebels' only score came on a 77-yard punt return by Jim Accursio with 1:40 left in the game.

"The jamboree helped us a lot," said North Miami coach Ed Sullivan afterward. "It told us what we had to do for homework." Apparently, the Pioneers did it, too.

N/k
9/20



North (Miami) 19, South (Dade) 7

THE REBELS put up a good fight and a good show but the North won again. North Miami High School defeated South Dade High 19-7 at Harris Field in

Homestead Thursday. Football players wore Rebel insignia on their helmets, the band played "Dixie," and the Rebel battle flags waved.

But Everything Was Peaceful

Rebs Get Full 'Exposure'

By PAUL J. EGAN
Sports Editor

Those anticipating racial problems at Thursday afternoon's South Dade - North Miami football opener — had to be as disappointed as Rebel followers with the game outcome — for there simply wasn't any.

In fact, Metro officers assigned to the contest in case of violence, could be seen leaning on the restraining fence at Harris Field fully intent on watching the action.

And so it went with the Homestead Police Department and Dade County Board of Education security officers who found it a rather relatively easy assignment.

It well could have been a

case, however, of "It Takes Two To Tango" for only two Negroes were detected on the South Dade side of the field.

Whether this was a boycott until the nickname, flag and symbol of the school is changed is unknown — but all indications lean to this thinking.

The "Johnny Reb" band, in full uniform drew as much or more attention from the audience and the news media as the football teams — in fact, every number they played drew loud applause.

And especially when they ushered the 1968 SD team on the field with the proverbial "Dixie" which we swear was played louder, longer and with more enthusiasm than ever be-

fore.

But one teenage girl looked upon it differently — babbling between tears, "Today Dixie sounds like a death march."

* * *

Never in the history of a South Dade High School game was so much exposure, both national and statewide, given to a contest.

* * *

For on hand were camera crews from CBS, four Miami TV stations and the top sportswriters from the Dade County area.

* * *

Most of course were present in case of a racial outbreak — but when such failed to materialize they concentrated on filming the band from every possible angle.

N/L 9/20

Dixie's A Catchy Tune, Just Change The Words

Editor, The News Leader:

The students at South Dade High School voted by a large majority, black students abstaining, to retain Dixie as the school song.

I wonder if many of these children would have felt a ny real desire for this song if it had had any other name but Dixie.

* * *

I WONDER, too, how many of these children gave any thought to the origin and purpose of the song. It was written by the showman, Dan Emmett, for use in his "burnt cork" minstrel show in New York, and was very appropriate to that purpose.

Of course the minstrels were black - faced white men giving a caricature of the "ignorant" black man's performance.

Has South Dade sunk so low that a song of this type adequately represents the spirit, hopes and ambitions of the school? It would seem that most of the whist students think so.

The melody of Dixie is lively and catchy, and with appropriate words could well serve for a school song. Why cannot the school authorities — unless they agree that the school is in the class of a "burnt cork" minstrel aggregation — offer a contest for students and alumni for the best words for a school song to be sung to the tune of Dixie?

* * *

STUDENTS WHO respect the school could sing these words while those who regard the school as no better than a minstrel show could sing the "burnt cork" words.

Many years ago I heard some words sung to the tune of Dixie, which, while not intended primarily for the use of a school, are fairly appropriate most anywhere. I suggest they be used until something better can be found. As well as I can remember, they went about as follows:

Come all who live in the USA

Come join with us and sing today,

Work away, work away, for the land of the free.

The USA forever, Hooray! Hooray!

The Stars and Stripes shall wave above

The USA forever. Hooray!, Hooray! The USA forever!

Hooray! Hooray! The Stars and Stripes forever.

The North, The South, the East, the West, We love them all for each is best!

Work away! Work away, for the land of the free.

But do not boycott the schools. Bad as they are, they are all you have, so study hard and try to become the most competent human being possible. H. B. GORDON.

South Dade 'Blew It'

Editor, The News Leader:

You blew it South Dade!

You had a chance to get rid of those ugly, dull, out - of - the - grave uniforms... and you blew it.

* * *

YOU HAD a chance to get rid of a name which was a symbol of defeat and bound to defeat before it started since it went against all which was good and holy . . . and you blew it.

You had a chance to show your parents you had a mind of your own and you didn't have to conform . . . and you blew it.

You had a chance to do unto the least of God's people . and you blew it.

You bred hatred . . . May God have mercy on you.

NAME WITHHELD

Student Action Praised

Editor, The News Leader:

Once again I feel I must write to your paper praising the young people at South Dade High for their wisdom and intelligence in trying to handle this unfortunate situation that the black students have created at their school.

I wonder how the blacks would like it if a handful of white students had to attend Mays High and tried to make demands such as changing the name of the school because Mr. Mays was black and they were white, etc.

SHARON CASH'S letter of

Sept. 17 is true. The administration and faculty are AFRAID (Let's face it). It's true. The black race has the white race scared to death.

I have an awful feeling that within about 30 days the School Board will undo all you students have worked so hard to preserve. God Bless you all. I admire your courage. Keep fighting for your school.

We adults have made a big mess out of this world. Maybe you young people who will take over in a few years can straighten it out. Let us hope so.

MRS. JACK MATCOVICH

N/L
9/20

Cooling Off Period Needed In School Issue

Editor, The News Leader:

The tragic displays, demonstrations and related charges and counter - charges occurring at South Dade High School and Homestead Jr. High should be immediately stopped. This is not the time to have adults parading around the school grounds be they black or white. Nor should emotional decisions be made by groups conducting meetings whose end result is to fire the flames and perpetuate this unfortunate controversy that is paralyzing the education process for all students.

* * *
THE SCHOOL administration should be criticized for indecisiveness. Action should be taken to first establish the unrestricted and uninterrupted continuance of school activities. All demonstrations on school grounds should be curtailed by both parents and students, and any violators should be suspended if they are students and arrested if adults.

From that point of departure a committee of students with teachers as advisors only should meet to determine

where there is agreement and where there is difference. This generation of high school students is without doubt the finest and fully capable of making decisions.

* * *
IT IS APPARENT that the noise, threats and demands are made by 20 per cent of those involved. What about the remaining 80 per cent who do not agree completely with either side of the issue. These demands are not based on absolute legal rights but more so on sociological and psychological issues. This is why there must be an area of compromise permitted. It is unwise and unfair for the blacks to make demands which are totally unyielding. Likewise, it is unfair for the whites to contend that not any changes will be made.

The end result could be an unfortunate tragedy to one of those children involved. The climate is ripe! Let us discontinue all meetings, boycotts, demonstrations and grandstand play since nothing beneficial is derived within this environment. This is not the

appropriate time for inflammatory statements by politicians or psuedo - politicians who are educationally and sociologically unequipped to cope with this problem.

* * *
UNFORTUNATELY the School Board has failed to take an affirmative stand and permitted the situation to worsen. They undoubtedly have some positive plan to solve these issues and have personnel equipped to inquire into areas of compromise. This problem is basically one for the School Board and students.

The most appropriate action at this time would be to cool it! Who will rectify a tragedy which could result in permanent physical damage to your child - or mine? There were in excess of a dozen knifings in Dade County schools last year. The pigment of the skin may have been black or white, but the blood that flowed was red. Which noble white man or black man from that vociferous and loud mouthed 20 per cent will stand up and take credit if this should occur?

JOSEPH S. MARCUS

Whites Pick 10 Members Of Committee

White parents of Concerned Parents Organization last night selected 10 members who will represent them at the conference table in attempts to settle a racially - related controversy over Confederate names and symbols at South Dade High School.

Named to the mediation group were Jack Levy, George Cooper Jr., Earl Wysong, Fred Fuchs, Wayne Lawrence, Tommy Dolar, Wilbur Peeples, Joe Accursio, Ruth Campbell and Jim Bassage.

Chosen as student representative was Jim Bernecker, head of a parallel organization of concerned students.

Black parents are to select their 10 - person committee and the two parent groups will meet with the School Board Tuesday night at South Dade High to try to work out a compromise in the dispute.

Calm Restored, Crabtree Reports

By **BILL BLOSS**

Homestead Bureau Chief

Acting South Dade High School Principal Howard Crabtree drew a standing ovation Friday from parents for restoring order at the tense school.

Crabtree was one of several school officials attending a joint meeting of the Homestead and Florida City Community Relations Boards. The meeting was called to explain the work of the boards and hear questions and ideas surrounding the racial unrest.

Willie J. Wright, South District assistant superintendent, said the prime cause of racial disorder is the lack of communication. He called for moderate parents to take a stand.

"Too long the moderates have sat back," Wright said, "and let the militants hog the spotlight."

Crabtree said he is proud of the students at South Dade.

"I've never met a more understanding student body," he said.

There were no incidents at the school during the past week.

The trouble-shooting prin-

icipal told parents it was his decision to allow the students to continue with plans for the football game last Thursday. This included playing Dixie and the band wearing the Rebel uniform.

"I predicted there would be more Confederate flags there than ever," Crabtree said. However, he said, he was pleased to find only "a few large flags, mostly carried by non-students and some small ones in the hands of elementary pupils."

Crabtree said he found out Thursday night that a walk-out by white students was planned for Friday, "but the few could not sway the many. I have a lot of faith in youngsters but I have doubts about some adults.

"I am the happiest and proudest principal in the U.S.," Crabtree said.

"They did themselves proud — they have settled down now and are operating — getting on with the business of education."

Wright, a Negro educator, told the mostly white assemblage that part of the communications problem is "bad listening habits." Too often people listen only to words, or how a person articulates, rather than hearing what is being said.

A Civil War Lesson



Book Cover A Symbol, Too

To The Editor:

I noticed that the white pupils of South Dade High School voted to keep "Rebels" as a nickname, "Dixie" as the school song, and the Confederate flag as the school flag.

I suppose these uneducated kids believe the Civil War was fought for the honor of the South. It was fought to preserve an institution known as slavery. The word "slavery" was given a sugar coating called "states rights."

Slavery, or the use of unpaid labor, was very profitable for people with no regard for human rights, human feelings, or human dignity.

The ruling classes of the South practiced a political philosophy called conservatism, which was a sugar coating for the words "greed and selfishness." In fact the Confederate legislature was so conservative it refused to levy taxes on the greedy southern aristocracy to properly equip and support the armies of General Robert E. Lee.

Not all southerners supported the Confederate cause. There were many

who considered slavery a southern disgrace.

I suppose the educational system of the south hasn't given these kids the hard facts of the Civil War. I think it is time they did. The advancement of civilization is not helped by covering up the ruthless capitalist exploitation of human beings over a century ago by spraying it with the sweet scene of magnolias.

L. E. CROSSMAN,
Pompano Beach

★ ★ ★

To The Editor:

Majority rule works only when the rights of the minority are not trampled upon. That is why the recent South Dade High School vote, arranged by the majority, was in effect a farce. The minority, in this case, are asked to exist in a state of insult to their heritage. No man or woman would tolerate this in their personal relations. Why demand that they accept an insulting situation collectively?

P. J. FERREIRA, Miami

Miami News
9/21/68

MIAMI NEWS
9/21/68

N/L 9/23

Newspeech Makes The Scene in Dade

At last "Newspeech" has arrived in south Dade County. The practice of eliminating words and symbols which allow thought different from that which you want around yourself, as expounded by Orwell in "1948," is usually motivated by ignorance and its resulting fears, couled with the megalomania of a few demagogues.

The Negroes of South Dade (or, at least, a vocal group of them) swallow the Northern line that the cause of the War Between the States was the issue of slavery. It is now recognized by those honest enough to objectively study the history of this period that this tragic war was the struggle of the economically exploited South to throw off the shackles of Northern capitalist slavery.

Granted, the Southern Negro slave was exploited by most slaveholders, but he was equally exploited by the Northern capitalists (and still is, incidentally). Slavery is a dead issue, as it was in 1860. The causes of the South are now personal liberty, freedom from an overly centralized, unconstitutional federal government, and loyalty to the concepts of Americanism.

The "Rebels" of the South stand for what the Negro claims to stand. It would seem that the Negro would be proud to be called a "Rebel," since that is what they claim to be.

THOMAS O. BAKER

Kids Are Trying, Why Not Parents?

Perhaps the childishly disgruntled "minority" parents at the South Dade High School that are so distressed by the nickname Rebel would also have the American Motor Co. discontinue the Rambler Rebel.

Heaven knows that there are enough real injustices for the blacks to oppose without degrading their cause with the unadulterated hogwash that they have indulged in these past few days.

Come on, you people — grow up. Your children are trying to.

O. P. ZENKLER

South Dade Lost Game, Won The Day

South Dade lost a football game Thursday but the observers came out on top in sportsman-like conduct.

Community feeling prior to the game had run high, with many fearing violence and disorder as a result of the keyed-up emotions linked with the Rebel controversy.

Happily, the afternoon went well, something which makes for a brighter prognosis for the rest of the season. The roughing up was where it should have been — out there on the football field.

N/L 9/23

Votes Mean Nothing, White Student Says

Editor, The News Leader:
I'm writing this letter because I feel that I'm being oppressed and discriminated against. My vote, and the vote of my friends, doesn't count anymore. We can't walk down the halls of our school without police protection.

Unfortunately, I was born white. I'm a member of the majority at South Dade and I was born in this country where the majority once ruled.

Now it seems to be a place where the majority rules unless the black people want different, in which case the white people do what the blacks want because the blacks will burn our houses and stores if we don't.

The most terrifying part of what I just stated is that it's true.

My proof is South Dade High, once the home of the Rebels, where it was voted to remain

the Home of the Rebels. But the mamb-pambys on the school board are afraid of what might happen if the name is used.

OK, they changed it. What, pray tell, would you like next?
NAME WITHHELD



Three Cheers For The 72 Students

Editor, The News Leader:

Three cheers and a Rebel yell for the 72 white students at South Dade High who had the maturity to recognize that the symbols of the Civil War are an anachronism at an integrated school in the Year of Our Lord 1969.

Where did the educational process fail the other 979 students?

NAME WITHHELD

Crabtree Wins Praise For Work At South Dade

Acting Principal Howard Crabtree of South Dade High School drew standing applause from parents and community leaders Friday night for his work at the racially-upset school.

Crabtree, Homestead Junior High Principal Charles Overholser and South District Superintendent Miss Betty Gilkey were among school personnel who spoke Friday at a joint meeting of the Homestead and Florida City Community Relations Boards.

The two CRB's called the public meeting to air racial discord at the high school and

junior high, and to explain to the community how such boards can assist in solving racial problems.

John McLean, who heads Homestead's five-person bi-racial board, told his hearers that blacks and whites "must sit down together and cooperate in settling the problems of this community".

City officials created the CRB to attempt this purpose, he said. McLean's statement, released at the meeting, continued:

"This is only one of the functions of the City of Homestead CRB. May I suggest

the citizens of this community study the full functions of this board and I call on all news media to inform the public of all its functions as authorized in the City of Homestead Resolution No. 6805 - 15.

"The power, jurisdiction and authority of this board shall be advisory within the City of Homestead and surrounding area and shall be voluntary.

"This board will meet with any Community groups involving any controversy. I have and will continue, as chairman, to meet with any citizen or citizens groups at any time and will refer upon request

their groups controversy to this board.

"I have and will continue to keep informed on controversies between community groups.

"The Homestead CRB will attempt to act as conciliator or liaison in all controversies involving relationships between community groups, and to foster and encourage mutual understanding, tolerance and respect among all groups within the City.

"I call upon all citizens to keep factually informed on all controversies and to seek just and fair solutions to them all."

Blacks Say 'Ready To Negotiate'

A committee of 10 black people selected to represent a large group of Negro parents at the South Dade High School conference table Tuesday has been handed a set of ground rules laid out by the people for whom they will speak.

The committee, headed by Goulds bailbondsman and community spokesman Odell Johns, will sit down with a committee of white parents and the members of the Dade School Board Tuesday night at the school in an attempt to work out racial discord that has plagued the school since August.

Names of mediators for the black community will not be released, Johns said, in accordance with a vote taken at a large meeting of blacks a few days ago.

He said the committee is

"going to the meeting with an open mind, ready to negotiate — ready to listen to what the white committee proposes and to make some suggestions of our own."

The 10-member committee of blacks has agreed that any position taken by a simple majority of its members will be regarded as the position of the entire committee.

And the large black group it represents has agreed to abide by the decisions of the negotiators, Johns said.

The committee, headed by Johns, includes one South Dade High student. Johns said he is not certain whether all other members of the committee are parents of students attending the high school or one of its feeder schools.

N/L 9/23

Democratic Way Hurt By Minority Attitude

Editor, The News Leder:

It should be perfectly clear at this point that the Negro community (which has divorced itself from the white community) is not interested in the democratic process of law.

They will not vote at the student meetings at South Dade High because they know they will lose, they say. How would it be if throughout our history all minority groups (of which we are almost all a member) felt this way?

* * *

HOWEVER, this is a rhetorical point, as are all the other

points of dissension at SDHS—the flag, the song, the name, etc. This is merely an exercise in power, a device to promote dissension, unrest, and the abolition of the democratic process.

This is the way it goes. The question is brought up (by rioting and disobedience of the law—with immunity); the community takes notice, hassles the question in newspapers, on radio, in civic meetings, etc.

The community then puts the question to a vote, according to the democratic process. The minority group is not satisfied with this; it might lose. So it

riots and disobeys the law with immunity.

What is an observer to conclude? He must deduct that these groups are trying to grasp the power to make law, or unmake law, by force, with no due regard for the community in toto.

Webster's definition of insurrection is: armed resistance to authority; a limited rebellion. Whether the groups be hippies, yippies, militants, communists or their peripheral groups (dupes), they are successful in destroying this, the so far most successful exercise in democracy and freedom this world has ever seen.

* * *

THIS IS NO longer a question of safety in walking down an American street: this is a question of hideous anarchy for generations of America's children and of children throughout the world for whom we do have a responsibility.

Our secret has been democratic law and democratic changing of law. Please, those of you who rebel for altruistic purposes rather than anarchistic purposes, please do it the right way or you will throw all chance of hope of physical and intellectual freedom.

Democracy is slow, but sure. There is nothing better.

NAME WITHHELD



School Board Blamed For Restricting Choice

Editor, The News Leader:

I have been keeping up with all the letters in your paper and when I read some of them it makes my Confederate blood boil.

* * *

First, let us put the blame where it belongs — in the lap of the school board. If we are in the process of spending thousands on extra policemen for our students' protection, why in the name of heaven don't they spend a little money on bus transportation for these students who hate to go to South Dade so bad?

With the lousy salaries these bus drivers get they could afford to spend a few bucks on extra drivers and let blacks and whites go to the school of their choice.

Why are they trying to cram down their throats something

neither party wants? If the school board would leave things as they were we would not have all this trouble today as we do.

Now, on the other hand, who has more right than the State of Florida to sing Dixie? We are the most southern state and Dixie it is whether they like it or not. Let us face it, there are 49 other states who do not have "Rebel" for a school title.

* * *

Why not ask them, "Just why are you here if you are so against the South?" The Yankees are living here and going to school and they accept our traditions. Let anyone who invades our state abide by our rules.

I hope and pray the school board will come to its senses and let the blacks and whites go to the school of their choice.

MRS. M. W. BRONSON

News Leader Spoke With Moderation

Editor, The News Leader:

I am so grateful for your voice of moderation, of reason, and of justice in the Confederate symbols issue that I cannot express my gratitude adequately.

Your comprehension and courage are a light in the darkness that hovers over Homestead — a ray of hope in what seemed a hopeless situation until your editorial last Tuesday. God bless you.

NAME WITHHELD



Rebels Entitled To Keep Name

Editor, The News Leader:

This is relative to the many letters and opinions to the editor concerning the difficulty at South Dade. The writer has as many colored friends as I do white friends from Perrine to Homestead as I was a tomato shipper and buyer of their tomatoes for 15 or more years.

The Rebels are entitled to the name they have chosen as it was chosen before the school was integrated and the colored have just joined the group by choice and should not try to change the names or symbols.

O. V. BARGER

Not Just Symbols, But Problems

So, the Confederacy is part of our history, and the Negro students should not be offended by any of its references. Why is it so difficult for the majority to understand the feelings of the minority? What is so democratic with the process of majority rules and the minority abides?

What does it take for the minority to win a fight for principle? It is said the Confederacy is part of the American heritage and the South fought for what it thought was right.

So was the Nazi regime part of Germany history, with their people fighting for what they believed to be

"You need to be a student of a minority group and suffer the day to day indignities of discrimination to understand."

right. Yet only the Jew would find the Nazi flag, etc., extremely offensive. With the passing of time the Nazi emblem may become more bearable to the majority but will never be accepted by the Jew.

True, the high school years are a small part of life, yet the most impressionable years and they command more school spirit and loyalty

than any level of learning. Can the Negro student at South Dade Senior High School take pride in his football team "Rebels"? Can he be asked to play under the Confederate flag? Can he march and perform with the band while wearing the Confederate uniform? Is this how we build understanding of peoples?

"Let the minority put up with it. What's the big deal?" If it is not such a big deal, select a more attractive name and uniform.

The Herald editorial refers to the situation as "but symbols" which "should not be allowed to take their place among the many real problems." But the fact is, this is the real problem. The minority does not have a chance against the majority.

The situation was allowed to magnify out of proportion and has allowed the interference of outsiders such as Black Brothers for Progress, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Poor People's Campaign and officials of EOPI, the local poverty program and Odell Johns.

This problem should have been handled by the students and administrators of the South Dade Senior High School when it first came to light in August.

You need to be a student of a minority group and suffer the day to day indignities of discrimination to understand.

Yet the smug majority still maintains we stick to the "democratic process" of vote where the "majority rules."

How lucky to be born, and to live a life of the "majority," and always be on the winning side.

RUTH ROTH

'Dixie' Mocks U.S. Flag

To the Editor:

Regarding the letters of Messrs. Hughan and Collier on Sept. 17:

The logic behind their defense of "Dixie" is absurd. It's inconceivable how Mr. Hughan can consider Miami to be part of the New South. We're not talking about geography here, but cultural background. Miami is as much a part of the South as Pennsylvania. The oasis of the New South is Atlanta, not Miami.

If Mr. Collier can recall the words to "Yankee Doodle," he'll see that the reference is to a person from the United States (not just north of the Mason-Dixon line). I guess he thinks "Yankee go home" means that Southerners are welcome. No, I have never stood when "Dixie" has been played, though I received my degree from Florida State, in the Deep South of Tallahassee. And as far as greeting the colors with Dixie, it not only desecrates the meaning behind the flag (One nation under God, indivisible . . ."), but makes a mockery of what we hope it will stand for in the future.

MICHAEL A. SELZNICK, Miami

★ ★ ★

To The Editor:

School symbols, as the symbols chosen by any organization, are an expression of the finest values of their name-

LETTERS From Our Readers

sake, whether it be the Rebels, Falcons, Vikings, Thoroughbreds, etc.

There will always be those who, through their own selfish interests, look only at the worst aspect of anything. A falcon is a trained killer, a Viking was a bloodthirsty plunderer who made slaves of his captives, and a thoroughbred brings to mind the evils of gambling.

The Confederate and old South traditions used as symbols by South Dade High School are to remind us of the finest aspects of our heritage — not the worst — of the pride, courage and bravery of our forefathers against overwhelming odds, of their chivalry, respect for women, and belief in God. As Southerners these are the virtues we admire in our past and look back on them with respect and pride.

A. SAYWARD WING, Peters, Fla.

★ ★ ★

To The Editor:

This is a copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Ted Slack, a member of the School Board:

"I can't go along with what appears to be the Board majority on the South Dade situation. This is some more "legislation by plebiscite" — the business of a small, vocal minority forcing its will on the majority.

"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. By the same token, their feeling of

oppression or degradation is a product of their own imagination. No one else is responsible.

"Therefore, to change a tradition which is cherished by thousands of graduates and others who are interested in the school will be an admission of guilt which is non-existent.

FRANKLYN S. COLLINS,
South Miami

★ ★ ★

To The Editor:

Is the minority whose sensitivities, if not rights, are being offended, FORCED to attend South Dade High?

TERRY MULLER, Miami

New Bi-Racial Group Meets In Privacy

The new 20 - member bi - racial committee will hold its first meeting tonight at South Dade High School to begin discussions of solving the "Rebel" controversy which has gripped the school for weeks.

Dade school board members will be present to "listen and assist" in whatever way they can. Board Chairman C. T. McCrimmon is expected to get the discussion started. It was not known this morning whether all board members would attend.

The meeting will be closed to the public and to the press. A progress report will be issued following the session.

The school board emphasized that this is not an official board meeting, and there will be no board decisions or action taken. If any are forthcoming as a result of the discussion they will take place later at an official public school board meeting.

The committee consists of 10 members of the white community and 10 from the black community, chosen in meetings last week.

The dispute centers around use of Rebel symbols at the school which black students claim are offensive to them.

N/L 9/24/68

A Good Man Gets Shabby Treatment

It would have been very easy for John McLean to have turned down the job as chairman of the Homestead Community Relations Board.

BUT HE didn't. Someone has to take these jobs — the jobs that place you directly in the middle. Sometimes it's not good for business. Most of the time it's not good for the nerves.

But more important than either of those considerations is the job is vitally important to community relations. That we need an upgrading of community relations is all too apparent in these troubled days in South Dade.

So what happens when a citizen like John McLean takes on the most thankless assignment of trying to smooth out some of the rough spots that crop up in the community?

Last week The News Leader had a front page story of what did happen. It seems more than coincidence that it was McLean's flower shop that the hail of bullets ripped into.

AND IT is doubtful if John and his family are finding life particularly pleasant these days. We suspect life for them is not pleasant at all.

That's the price that evidently is required for taking on one of the hardest and most important jobs the community has to offer.

It's a price that no man trying to help his fellow man should be required to pay.

Band Name Suggested

Editor, The News Leader:

Here is a suggestion for a name to take the place of Rebel in our school band. Let's call it "Fealty Band," which stands for honesty and royalty. Maybe this will solve the problem.

HENRY C. SCHNELL

Race Should Have No Bearing On Discipline

Editor, The News Leader:

I agree wholeheartedly with Miss Cash about being bumped and jostled in school and everywhere else for that matter!

Most of the blame, I believe, is with the "whites" of which I am beginning to wish I were NOT a member. We sit in our homes and talk but are honestly afraid to do anything constructive.

* * *

IT IS NO wonder that the teachers are afraid to stand up to these few troublemakers. We parents do not give them the support they need and deserve. How do you suppose these few get heard? Because they are UNITED!

We should unite and stand firm beside our children. Aft-

er all, civil rights is for everyone, Jew, Gentile, black and white. If one child is expelled from school for carrying a knife or smoking then the rest of the students that break these rules should be too.

The teacher can give a white student the worst he can think of, but he had better not say anything to the colored one or the child will run home to mama and daddy crying and mama and daddy will run to the Supreme Court!

* * *

WELL THE few blacks use their skin color as a crutch because they can not stand on their own two feet without falling. It is a shame they must ruin everything for the majority of the Negro population.

...A REBEL ALUMNUS.



Many Whites Came Up From Slavery, Too

Editor, The News Leader:

How does one define slavery? We all become slaves to anything that dominates our lives, status, ambition, drinking, smoking, to mention a few.

* * *

I AM WHITE, but there is slavery in my ancestry. Slavery in the form of bond or bound boys and girls. These were orphans and often as not, youngsters kidnapped from the streets of England, Ireland, France or any country that had a seaport.

They were put on shipboard and made to work out their passage. The older girls were for the pleasure of the crew, if they were pregnant at the end

of the long voyage, so much the better, as the buyer got two for one.

They were then sold to landowners and held until the purchase price was worked out. Unless they were able to run away this meant a lifetime of hard labor because at the most, one dollar a month was the most they could hope for. One cannot say slavery is confined to any one race.

* * *

THE ROSE of England, the Shamrock of Ireland, the Lily of France do not offend me, although they could be classed as symbols of infamy, because that is history, and I live for today and the future.

MRS. ANTON H. WALDIN JR.

Black Movement Started Right, Then Went Astray

N/h
9/24

Editor, The News Leader:

When John F. Kennedy was elected President of the United States, civil rights became one of the main issues of everyday life.

It was to be a nonviolent movement on the part of the innocent but deserving black citizens to join into society in equality with every other citizen in the U. S.

AS I SEE it, the main objective then was to eradicate prejudice against the race and command respect for their rights as equal citizens to be judged, as Dr. Martin Luther King said, "on the content of their characters and not the color of their skin."

At that time many white liberals were allied with this movement, from the president on down through Congress, the courts and the cities, as the various civil rights legislation passed through due process of law insured their legal rights over and over again.

The blacks were accomplishing all their objectives, slowly but surely, but legally just the same.

Gradually the movement began to deteriorate into a different kind of movement, one which has seriously hurt or entirely killed all the hopes of erasing prejudice.

THE LEADERS of the civil rights movement have allowed a handful of black and white liberals of a different ilk gain control of their people, united in the civil rights struggle, and use them for their own purposes. And the black people don't even seem to realize that they are being used and received by this handful in control.

Where before the blacks were seeking integration, now the cry heard most often is, incredibly, "black separatism." When before the blacks were seeking their rights to be judged fairly in the courts, in non-violent demonstrations, now we see the same people led in looting, burning and law breaking in increasingly more violent riots and demonstrations.

THE TRULY American liberals who were indeed supporting the civil rights movement, say four or five years ago, grew disgusted and quit when the non violence was engulfed in violence, the cries for equality were engulfed in cries for black power, and the law-abiding demonstrators and demonstrations disintegrated into out-and out unlawful riots and riots.

Now the liberals who are using the Negro have something else in mind, definitely not civil rights.

They are letting the black be the scapegoat for their desire to see this nation torn apart and ruined. Could it be so that they can "save" it with socialism or communism? They seem to truly want to see the country split apart, with each side arming itself against the other; could it be in the hopes that they might be able to seize control of the government if an armed revolution takes place?

LET'S HOPE that in America it can't happen but always remember that such things HAVE happened in other countries.

If the black people still want to fight for their civil rights in the hope of attaining them, some of the things they can do are the things that a great majority of citizens, black and white, do every day of their lives:

● View with suspicion one who calls for "black power." "Black power" is a clenched fist which is fighting for black separatism. Black separatism you have had for over 100 years and you found it intolerable. Why put your energies into this self-defeating movement?

● Be wary when one of your leaders calls for a march or demonstration. A march or demonstration has lost its effectiveness in this country through the infusion of hippies

and anarchists who march only to confront and fight with policemen.

Besides, the other citizens in this country see a demonstration on causing violence, and tion only as an unruly mob avoid it like the plague. So what, really, have you accomplished?

● Be law-abiding and teach your children to be law-abiding. You cannot be arrested if you obey the law. If you are, a court-appointed attorney will fight for your rights for you.

● Read up on American history. Especially the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. Your rights as citizens are clearly defined there. Don't demand or fight for anything that is not contained in these documents, for it will not be forthcoming in this country. These are the only rights that are guaranteed every citizen and every court in this land will back up these rights.

● Be well-informed as you can be. Read newspapers and magazines. Don't let any group or any person tell you how to vote or not to vote. These are YOUR exclusive rights. Don't give them up to any group or anything. Remember when you are in the

voting booth, you can vote however you please and when you leave, there is no way that anyone can tell how you voted.

● Have a positive attitude and don't teach your children negative attitudes. Do not think that you cannot be accepted by white people because of the color of your skin. If you equip yourself with a smile and a good personality, you will be amazed at the acceptance you will receive from all people you come in contact with, white or black. Don't forget, a white person with a scowl and a poor outlook on life is shunned by their white people, so don't be surprised if you are shunned when you project this same image.

● Be a good citizen. Always remember that this is your only country. America is where you and your children will live your lives out. No American citizen of any race has anything to gain by contributing to the destruction of this country, whether it be in the guise of civil rights, black power, white power, liberalism, conservatism or communism. Only good citizens make a good country.

Yours truly,

W. A. S. P.

(White Anglo-Saxon Protestant)
Homestead, Fla.

HERALD
9/25

Biracial Group Claims Gains After Private Discussions

A biracial committee created to ease tensions at South Dade High School emerged from its first closed door meeting with Dade's School Board Tuesday night claiming progress — and ducking questions on what or how progress was made.

The spokesman for the 10-member Negro committee and his white counterpart said only that they would resume talks Monday night

on racial tension generated by the school's Confederate symbols.

"We feel the parties came together meaningfully," Negro spokesman Odell Johns, South Dade bondsman and political figure. "We had an open exchange of ideas and a basic trust was established."

The chairman of the white group — "Concerned Par-

ents" — endorsed Johns' statement. Jack Levy, the chairman, added: "We have other problems within the schools which this group feels deserve attention and discussion." He refused to elaborate.

The Dade School Board earlier said it would mediate the committee's discussions and prepare a policy forbidding school symbols that "threaten the peaceful education" as steps to reduce the racial tensions.

Each committee was to include one student and nine adults who were parents of South Dade High School students — with a provision that each committee's spokesman need not be a parent.

Johns is not a parent, but was named Negro spokesman. One member of his committee was disqualified because it was learned she was not a parent. She was not named — nor were any other members of the Negro committee.

Committee members individually declined comment as they left the school, other than to say "we made progress."

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday at the school.

Pioneer Nickname Irks Indians

I heartily agree with the School Board decision to change the status of the South Dade "Rebels." After all, in this day and age everyone wants to get on the discrimination bandwagon in order to rewrite history. Since the School Board is acting on

the South Dade question I feel it is only fair for them not to discriminate against the other schools.

I believe that North Miami High School should change its name from "Pioneers" to some less discriminatory name. After all, the Pioneers were against the Indians, who are a minority group.

Miami Jackson Generals is a definite slap at enlisted men. The Hialeah Thoroughbreds are offending animals of less noble upbringing.

Carrying this matter a little further I'm sure something can be done about the Miami "Hurricanes." No thought has been given to Tornados, Typhoons, Earthquakes or Severe Electrical Storms.

In conclusion, with Miami as one of the outstanding fishing areas of the world, the professional football team located here chooses to name its team after a mammal.

I am sure that the powers that be can change all these gross discriminatory situations.

RICHARD DAYTON

Progress In Rebel Row Seen

By LOUISE BLANCHARD
Miami News Reporter

A biracial committee met with the Dade School Board behind closed doors for about three hours to try to solve South Dade High's racial controversy over the school's use of Confederate symbols.

Spokesmen for both sides and some School Board members claimed progress, but refused to discuss details.

A second meeting is scheduled for Monday night, also at South Dade High and also closed to the press and public.

"Probably everybody understands everybody else's position a little more than before," one board member said, "and there's got to be some sort of benefit to that."

"This was their meeting, not ours," the board member said.

Other board members agreed: "We made some progress."

Odell Johns, spokesman for the 10-member black committee, said there was a "meaningful, open exchange of ideas" and that "basic trust was established."

Jack Levy, spokesman for the 10-member white committee, said the group feels "we have other problems within the schools that deserve attention and discussion."

Board members who were reached today said it had been agreed that nobody would make any statements about the meeting except Johns and Levy. When they originally set up the meeting, the board members agreed to sit in as a mediating body rather than as participants.

School Mediators Report Progress

White and black parent committees trying to resolve the South Dade High racial controversy agreed last night that they made definite progress at their first mediation meeting last night at the school.

"We didn't resolve any issues," said white parents' spokesman Jack Levy, "but we progressed in a more basic, more important way — in establishing inter-relationships.

The problem first came to public attention a couple of weeks before school started, when a group of black students urged the board to require South Dade High to abandon its "Rebel" nickname and the use of the Confederate flag as a school symbol and Confederate uniforms for band members.

A black student spokesman told the board at that time that symbols of the Confederacy mean slavery and oppression to black people. The students also claimed that adult members of the school staff, as well as students, discriminated against them in various ways.

The board sought to solve the problem through meetings of a biracial student committee. At a student body forum on the subject, fist fights broke out that led to the suspension of 16 students.

Although the board had not suggested or directed any such procedure, the school set up an "election" at which white students voted overwhelmingly to retain the Confederate symbols. The school's 200 black students, in a student body of 1,300, boycotted the election.

Two days later, a delegation of Negro parents urged the board again to change the symbols. Last night's biracial meeting was part of the board's answer to that request.

"We progressed to the place where we can talk with each other instead of shouting at each other."

Odell Johns, spokesman for black parents, was also optimistic.

"There was an open exchange of ideas and a basic trust was established," he stated.

Both groups, meeting with the entire membership of the seven-citizen school board,

unanimously agreed that their 3½-hour discussion is hopeful enough to warrant scheduling a second session.

They will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, again with the school board sitting in as mediators and for background information.

Black and white committee members agreed unanimously that they should tackle other school-connected problems that are related to the present controversy over Rebel names and symbols to which the blacks object as "demeaning."

Last night Levy refused to cite the problems to which parents referred. This morning he indicated that school discipline is of concern to black and white parents. So are some courses and methods of instruction that have apparently left gaps and misunderstandings in the students' minds, particularly in the areas of historical knowledge, he added.

Observers at last night's meeting included South Dade High's acting principal, Howard Crabtree; a representative of the county school security division and a board public relations woman. None took part in the meeting proper.

White and Negro parents described each other's approach as "open-minded," and their willingness to discuss controversial issues in depth and informally was evident during a coffee break and after the formal meeting. On both occasions, the small conversational groups that formed were biracial, and discussion centered around points that had been broached during the meeting.

N/L 9/25

N/L 9/25

Confederate Flag Issue Is Out Of Perspective

Editor, The News Leader:

It was reported in another paper that your editorial urging the acceptance of the demand by the colored students to change the flag symbol of South Dade High School influenced the attitude of some of the School Board members. In the interest of fair play would you please print this letter and see how many agree with it. This whole issue has gotten out of perspective.

* * *

AFTER THE South was defeated in the Civil War they again honored the flag of the Union as they had before secession. No attempt was made to degrade the Confederate Flag either. At that time no one considered a flag a degrading symbol at all. And the emotional wounds of the people of both colors and both nations were agonizingly fresh then.

The truth is many other people besides the Southern Negro have been enslaved and no one suggested a flag was a symbol of their slavery. The Romans enslaved the Greeks but no stigma was attached to the Roman flag. In Central and South America the Spaniards enslaved the entire Indian Nation yet the Spanish flag is still honorably displayed.

White men have enslaved white men, brown men have enslaved red men, black men have enslaved black men, yellow men have enslaved yellow men, red men enslaved white men when they could and the list of slavery could be much longer than this. Slavery of man has gone on in some form and to some degree since the world began but never has the stigma of slavery been attached to a flag until now.

* * *

THEREFORE, it is not the white people down here who are acting like racists. To the white Southerner the Confederate flag does not stand for slavery. It stands for his ancestors who were killed in a war defending the South they sincerely believed in.

To those ancestors it did not stand for slavery either — for to them slavery was only a part of the problem. In fact, many Southerners who died for the flag they loved never even owned slaves. And some of them freed their slaves before the war started, like Robert E. Lee (even though he fought for the South anyway).

The Negro has convinced himself that he is the only one who has ever endured sla-

very and that the white man must pay forever to make it up to him. The Negro wasn't the only one to suffer unjustly! The injustices done to the defeated southerner after the Civil War are well documented.

* * *

I DO NOT object to obeying the laws of my country or trying to observe the reasonable conventions of the society I live in. **BUT** —I do bitterly resent the accusation of racist because I honor the flag my ancestors died for.

I also resent the F.B.I. being sliced on high school boys for a childish prank. Furthermore, I am **INCENSED** to think that **ANYONE** can freely and publicly threaten or warn the **PUBLIC** School Board with another civil war in my community less than a mile from my home — **AND** on public property that my taxes helped pay for!

In ending this letter of concern about our school I would like to ask if the two groups appearing before the School Board Tuesday have been chosen according to the same criteria. Are people outside our community who do not have children in South Dade High or a feeder school going to be permitted to interfere with a purely local problem (as the School Board called it before so much publicity, that is)?

* * *

IF THE news media is not going to be permitted to attend can a transcript of the proceedings be obtained later? In view of the conflicting stories we get from different directions perhaps it would be best if I just ask if a transcript was going to be available to any interested party.

Very, very sincerely and with hope for healing all our wounds.

...MRS. DOROTHY CAVES

Black Students Are The Rebels

Editor, The News Leader:

The dictionary defines a rebel as one who does not conform to adopted rules and regulations; is rebellious; resists authority; one who has feelings of utter repugnance and expresses and manifests them.

Just look who the rebels really are? Students, change the name Rebel. It will be a stigma on the Class of '68-'69. In the future we will hope for a school where all the pupils will be glad, but as of now the Negroes wear the name well. Let them live it down.

....AN EX-TEACHER

Symbols Too Remote To Hurt, Student Says

Editor, The News Leader:

I guess about everyone has voiced his or her opinion on the South Dade issue concerning the racial problem. **SOUL** wanted to forget the war they would try to make a new meaning for the name **Rebel**, so it's that is all it is, a racial problem. And a fat chance the black students will ever be accepted until they accept the school tradition because the white students will not accept any other name as the voting polls showed. happened over a century ago?

* * *

SOUL SAYS that they can't forget the Civil War. How can they remember something that name as the voting polls showed. happened over a century ago?

The students at South Dade are approximately between the ages of 14-19 and you can't tell me they know what it is like to be a slave unless they're ghosts.

What has been remembered is probably about the depression, and statistics show that after the age of 70 people can't remember as well as they used to, plus the fact that when things start happening they kind of get pushed out of shape just to make it more dramatic.

SOUTH DADE Rebels means the whole school all the boys on the teams and our great coaches and Rebels can have a better meaning to it than the definition in the dictionary.

I'm very proud to be a South Dade Rebel because it means to me greatness in the school, not a war that happened a century ago.

May South Dade Rebels live forever.

....SOUTH DADE JUNIOR

Stop Playing 'Dixie', U-M Band Is Told

By LOUISE BLANCHARD
Miami News Reporter

The University of Miami's band has been instructed not to play "Dixie" at football games, and the university will not in the future use any Confederate symbols in its public activities.

Dr. Henry King Stanford, president of the university, issued the order about "Dixie" to the Band of the Hour before last Friday's football game.

His official notice to students will consist of an open letter, to be published in

tomorrow's issue of the student newspaper, the Hurricane. The newspaper and officials of Undergraduate Student Government already have expressed support of the decision.

Dr. Stanford said nobody asked him to discontinue use of symbols of the Confederacy.

The Miami News obtained a copy of the letter through a source other than Dr. Stanford and outside any part of the university administration.

Dr. Stanford's letter says he made the decision partly because of his own Southern heritage.

"As a genuine Southerner, one whose family goes back three hundred years into the history of the South," the letter says, "I pride myself on the nobler aspects of my Southern heritage — a dignity, a courtesy, a civility, a mannerly approach, all of which denote a respect for the individual."

It is this aspect of the Southern heritage, Dr. Stanford wrote, "that persuades me to believe that it is not honorable to force upon a minority group the symbols of the Confederacy which, rightly or wrongly, have become so distasteful to them."

He said the minority group to which the Confederate

symbols are distasteful associate the symbols "with slavery, discrimination and the degradation of human personality, all conditions that are at complete variance with that part of Southern heritage which I prize so highly."

Although the letter does not say so, Dr. Stanford's decision apparently arose out of the controversy at South Dade High, where Negro students have asked that the school abandon its nickname, "Rebels," its use of the Confederate flag as a school symbol and the use of Confederate uniforms for the school band.

Dr. Stanford said when he became president of the university a little more than six years ago, he discovered that the school had "developed a curious attachment to the Confederate flag and Dixie." He said he asked school cheerleaders and one fraternity to discontinue using the Confederate flag at football games.

The university, he said, is "certainly by no stretch of the imagination a Deep South institution." It drew students last year from 49 states and 70 foreign countries, he pointed out.

"I have been concerned," he said, "about the continuing use of Dixie, particularly at a time when we are making an effort to bring more Negro students to the campus and into the mainstream of American society."

"I believe that the generous, magnanimous attitude for the majority to take here at the university is to dispense with the remaining symbol, which is so repulsive to them."

In addition, Dr. said, "I take a dim view of both the Southerner and the Southerner not by birth but by recent conversion, who embrace the Confederate symbols as an anachronistic expression of their racial prejudices."

"We at the university," he said, "can afford to practice

noblesse oblige, 'the obligation of honorable and generous behavior associated with high rank or birth' . . . Members of a university community should constitute a caste of intellect and character, which prompts us to practice honorable and generous behavior in our dealings with each other and our fellow man."

He quotes the Spanish

philosopher, Ortega: "Nobility is defined by the demands it takes on us — by obligations, not by rights."

Then Dr. Stanford's letter asks, "A person has a right to play Dixie, but is it within the bounds of taste, honor, nobility to play it under the circumstances?"

The letter ends: "Now let's wreck Tech!"

Fred McCall, director of the Band of the Hour, said

today, "I don't think many people care one way or another."

"Policy of the university," McCall added, "is set by the president and the trustees. What they say we go along with."

A band leader "likes to be able to play anything that's requested," McCall said, "but that's a request we can no longer honor."

During the game, one student waved a large Confederate flag and some students — estimated by the Hurricane at about 500 — chanted, "We want Dixie."

McCall said, however, that the student reaction when the band played other music was "mostly good-natured."

"Some of the kids had a lot of fun out of arguing with me about it," McCall said.

White Slavery Is Next Goal

To The Editor:

Today there is not a single law in any State of the Union discriminating against Negroes, but the Black Panthers want segregated cops.

What will they want next, slavery for the whites?

MARIO GIRBAU, Miami

Miami
News

9/26

N/L
9/26

Question Precedes Hold-Up

Which Way To 'Rebel Road?'

How do you get to 'Rebel Road?' Three black men in a car asked two white men looking at new automobiles at Dick Conley's Chevrolet Wednesday night near Homestead.

Never heard of it, replied the two white men, Elmo F. Midyette Jr., 22, of Florida City and Richard R. Seader, 24, of Homestead.

With that, the driver of the car got out, Midyette told Metro police, walked over to him and aimed a gun at his head.

He demanded Midyette and Seader

er hand over their money. When they told him they had none, the man got back in the car and the three sped away.

Midyette said he and Seader followed the men in their auto to SW 211th Street where the driver of the speeding car slammed on the brakes causing Midyette's car to ram into it.

The three Negroes abandoned their vehicle and fled on foot.

Metro police had the car towed in and are investigating the ownership.

Voice Of The Moderates Missing In Controversy

Editorial 'Excellent,' Minister Writes

Editor, The News Leader:

I compliment you on the excellent editorial in your paper on Sept. 17 entitled "Confederate Symbols Should Be Phased Out."

Your proposals here need to have wide circulation. While it is true there may be outside agitators, our community has no one to blame but ourselves for the present race issue.

If we desire better race relations throughout South Dade, your "logical compromise" is a must.

REV. KENNETH E. NAUMAN

Editor, The News Leader:

In the name of sanity, WHERE is the voice of moderation in South Dade?

Where are the reasonable people — the mature individuals who place a higher value on justice, progress and a safe and united community than on school tradition?

WHERE ARE the rational people who realize that all things are relative and that no name or band cap is as important as the safety and well-being of everybody's children, be they black, white or red?

Surely the ardent, red-necked 'states righters' and the militant blacks are in the minority here . . . in an area whose phenomenal population increase stems from the influx of people from other areas — people who grew up in places where the Civil War is long since nothing but dry history in a book!

Why then has this majority of reasonable, rational people stayed silent? Has it degenerated here (as it has in some metropolitan areas) into the shameful position of "not wanting to get involved" — thereby letting two vociferous minorities continue to pick at a sore that daily grows more swollen and angry?

IN THE interests of a peaceful community . . . a school climate where education can

thrive . . . an approach that is humane and rational, I urge others who feel as I do to speak out.

Speak up! Let the community know how you feel!

Tell your children what you believe and WHY you believe it. Give them the same rock-firm backing that the handful of die-hard's on both sides in this South Dade High name - and - symbol controversy are giving to their children.

Stand up and be counted!

Have the courage of your convictions!

Call for an end to names and symbols that cling to a dead past and can further demean a race that has already endured too many hurts administered by a nation in hobnail boots.

If you do not do so — and do it NOW — the increasing bitterness between factions and the holocaust to which it may lead can be laid squarely at YOUR doorstep.

BECAUSE IT isn't only the rabid adults whose children are now involved — by the fact that you live here, you and your children are involved, too.

The requiem "Here lies the body of a community whose reasonable majority didn't want to get involved" is a shameful one, indeed.

I don't want to be guilty by inaction — do you?

..MRS. TOM ROBINS

N/L 9/26

Wave The Rebel Flag, But Not With Predjudice

Editor, News Leader,

The white students at South Dade High are, and have been for the past 15 years, breeding hatred. They are causing racial tensions in South Dade. They have sunk so low that they use "Dixie" as their school song. They wear ugly, dull, out-of-the-grave uniforms and use as a nickname, one which was bound for defeat and went against all that was good and holy. They had a chance to do unto the least of God's people and they blew it!

That is what was said in a letter to the editor Sept. 20. I don't see it quite that way.

* * *

THE "REBELS" have been fighting for the students at South Dade for 15 years, and not once, in 15 years has there been a renewal of the Civil War, until recently. And you tell me the white students, or even the school symbols, are the cause? Not hardly!

Mr. Gordon, I like your words to "Dixie," but have you really listened to the words of "Dixie" or do you only think of what it stood for or implied way back when it was written? If it still has that meaning to you, I suggest it's you, not South Dade, that has sunk pretty low!

To the gutless person who had his name withheld, I say

it's you and your type that are breeding hatred, and may God have mercy on you! Please don't feel that the colored race are the least of Gods people! Remember, we are all CREATED equal, it is only what we make of ourselves, that decides our position with God. Did your letter have a good and holy intention?

* * *

MRS. MATCOVICH, I agree with you and your praise for the students, but I don't feel the adults have made a mess of the world, or that the white race is scared to death of the black race, nor do I believe the administration is afraid.

I think we live in an extremely remarkable world. Look at the problems a few have made over the nickname "Rebels," then think of how long ago the world would have been destroyed over say, such a nickname as "Red," if the good in the world didn't exceed, by far, the bad.

The black race does not have the white race scared to death. We give in, because we realize some of their demands are legally and morally right, and they should demand changes. We just don't like demands, but they are justified so we accept

them—reluctantly. They have been discriminated against and we know it. So let's not be afraid of the black race, but the black racists and the white racists also. At the same time, lets not judge either race by these few.

* * *

AS FOR THE administration and the faculty, I think they are honestly trying to prevent trouble, and its possible their decision may mean life or death to some student at South Dade. I've some good friends at South Dade, so I say thanks to the faculty and the School Board for their concern.

I wouldn't want to be in their position, but I would like to make a suggestion to the School Board. If you really want to prevent trouble, get rid of the rebels, the real rebels, not the good sportsmanship, school spirit and student devotion, that have made the "Rebels of South Dade" a name to be proud of!

To the students at South Dade I say, keep cheering the "Rebels," keep singing "Dixie" and keep waving that flag, but if you wave it with prejudice instead of school spirit, I hope you get hit over the head with it! You're right today, but that can change tomorrow.

JIM WELSH

Getting Involved

A Touchy Matter

By OTIS GOSSMAN JR.

The other day a matronly woman whose family helped start South Dade way back when delivered a letter to the editor expressing her feelings on the Rebel matter.

I caught just a glimpse of her, but unlike so many caught up in the furor, she smiled politely. The woman's good breeding and good manners could be spotted had she been across the street.

On the other side of the coin we have the callers who have a remarkable tendency to become unglued. Most of these take on dual roles: they ask you a question and then answer it, which is fine because we really aren't in the business of carrying on telephone arguments.

TELEPHONES IN South Dade these days must be seeing an extraordinary amount of use. I dare say more naughty words have been said via that medium than at any time in the county's history.

Generally, and sadly, the moderate voices have kept away from their telephones, their typewriters, from involvement. Maybe it's not good business to get involved. Maybe it's not good for the nerves. It certainly isn't good for harmonious relations with people you've known for many years.

But in our case getting involved is what we're cut out to do. Newspapers that straddle the fence when it comes to editorial involvement in vital community issues are something less than newspapers.

IT WOULD be far, far easier to reflect the popular stance, whether we think it's right or wrong. That way you digest your food better in restaurants because people don't walk up to your table and say, "I hope they burn your paper to the ground."



Or the telephone callers who say, "Listen, nigger lover, you better check your car before you get in it."

Or the 100 per cent rudeness of the lowest order that often comes form the other end of the line.

The telephone is a very accessible instrument, ideally suited to the instant letting off of steam. Maybe the callers with the bad mouths sleep a little better, after having told the neighbors of their bravery, but it is unlikely that that sort of hate stewing away inside is conducive to a good night's sleep.

WHEN YOU drive the streets of South Dade and see the children playing and people sitting around and talking and all the other life going on, it is deceiving and sometimes more than a little unnerving to know that the cups of hate have been overflowing lately.

Part of this is attributable to the times, times when the sociological scheme of things has changed more in a couple of decades than it has in the last 50 years.

Change to many is a foreign body that their own bodies refuse to tolerate, especially when it goes more than skin deep. The emotional hurricane that has been sweeping this area has lingered too long and unfortunately it has done little to clear the air.

THE WARNINGS for this type of disturbance aren't always readily detectable. This one having to do with the races has been lingering offshore for a long time. And now that it has reached shore it has caught a lot of us unprepared.

The trees that last the longest in South Florida during such blows are those that bend a little. And sometimes humans can learn something by observing nature. It's worth a try.

Black, White Students Should Make Up

Editor, The News Leader:

An open letter to the students of South Dade High School:

In the early 1950's, when the first few Negro children were being admitted to Southern schools (100 years too late) my heart ached with humiliation and pain when I saw them being spat upon and cursed by my white peers.

But "hope springs eternal..." and I placed my hopes and dreams on the very young children and those as yet unborn —on YOU. Everyone knows that the young are without prejudice — that it must be instilled in them by their elders. And YOU — with your eyes opened by present day events — would not succumb to such teachings. This was my hope.

TODAY, on one of the back pages of the Honolulu Star Bulletin I spotted an article stating that "Negroes lose 'Dixie' fight". Again my heart ached! What had happened to the bright, idealistic young on whom I — and many like me — happened our hopes?

Having become attached to certain customs in my day, I feel considerable sympathy for a student body who must give up traditions because of a "handful of students." But many of our traditions were established in a day of 'lighter' mood when a rebel flag and a rebel yell SEEMED completely inoffensive and pure fun.

Now, in a day when white and black blood (ALL red, of course) is being spilled, those things that bring us mere

pleasure should be closely examined to see if they are REALLY worth the price.

Perhaps the 1,010 of you who voted to keep the Confederate emblems are not yet sufficiently mature to understand the pain this would inflict on a black person in today's world. But you must know how ridiculous it makes such a person look.

* * *

WHY SHOULD you, in your apparently secure feeling of 'whiteness' want to make any other human being look or feel ridiculous? I beg you to learn what our first grade son learned long ago—your black school mates not only have your same physical characteristics but your mental ones. . . the same unfortunate ability to feel pain, humiliation and rejection.

Many of you undoubtedly realized that the black student would not feel at home with "Dixie" and Confederate flags, school emblems and uniforms. How ideal it would have been if a group of student leaders, knowing integration was imminent, had met during the summer to find ways of welcoming the minority group and making them feel comfortable.

Such a group—sincerely motivated—would have recognized the inappropriateness of the rebel tradition in a multi-racial people would then have started the perhaps painful process of change.

And things WILL change. Whether we want them to or not. How peacefully this comes

Letters To The Editor

about, and how quickly, depends upon each individual and his relation to current events. In this instance, to each student at South Dade High School and his ability to recognize, accept and promote the dignity of his fellow students.

* * *

IT IS unfortunate that a change was not made immediately in an atmosphere of warm acceptance. Hardness of heart begets hardness of heart and violence begets violence. Our most glaring contemporary example of this is the Ku Klux Klan which begat the present militant black power advocates.

Apparently your stand has already provoked fights and tensions. (Now is it REALLY worth it—for the sake of singing "Dixie" for four years?

Please—VERY soon—try to find time alone in which to immerse yourself in the feeling of being black—of having always been black. Then put yourself in the same situation as your black fellow students. Would you feel at home singing "Dixie"? Wearing a rebel uniform? Waving a rebel flag? (Surely you know that the Civil War represented a denial of freedom to the negro?

ALL PROBLEMS are at least two-sided. When your school has a problem with both a black and white side, the above experiment could make things a lot easier.

Your decision to hold on to your tradition has probably resulted in nothing more than a heady "we'll show 'em" type of cockiness. How empty and inadequate when compared to the warm, responsive emotion you might have felt at doing the more difficult—but more decent—thing!

Do you read the papers? Do you see—with your heart—the misery being suffered by ALL races because of pre-judice? The beginning of the end must start with the young. Until the young recognize this and push ahead (rather than pull back or drop out) we will never rise above the frustration and unhappiness of today.

* * *

DO YOU WANT to let this problem fester for your children to inherit? . . . or your children's children? Or would you rather pick up the load now by handling each day's racial problems fairly and justly with a deep feeling for the sensitivity of others?

While you have missed your opportunity to start out on the right foot, the wrong can still be righted. If white and black students alike would approach a "making up" in the right manner South Dade High School could still serve as a shining example to our country.

How wonderful it would be

to see such headlines as these: "South Dade Whites Reconsider School Traditions;" "Contest Underway to select new Black-White School Emblem;" "Black-White Campaign Underway to raise money for new Band Uniforms."

TO HOLD it together, this weary old world needs a strong chain of love, friendship and cooperation among ALL races. The link located in Homestead, Florida could be a most important one.

I regret that I cannot sign my name to this letter and I hope you will not make light of it on that account. I would be happy to lend my voice—and name—to any such small effort at creating a peaceful atmosphere in our country.

My husband, however, does not wish me to use my name and I must abide by his wishes. (But how I often wish I could have had my free, unencumbered years at this time, when there is such a challenge to put young energies and efforts to such worthwhile tasks. How I envy you your opportunities and pray that you will discover them.)

(In the event it matters to any of you, I am from the South, only temporarily in Hawaii. It may be surprising to you to know that here in Hawaii there is some prejudice against the haole (white)—an unfortunate thing which I somehow appreciate as it enables me to understand a little better how the Negro must have felt all these years.)

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Stanford Takes UM Stand:

By **GEORGIA MARSH**
Herald Education Writer

The University of Miami band has been directed not to play the song "Dixie" at football games.

The ban, ordered by UM President Dr. Henry King Stanford, was put into effect for last Friday's season opening game but not publicly announced.

There was some heckling of the band, leading Dr. Stanford to write a letter to the student body Thursday. He said the decision to pro-

hibit the playing of "Dixie" was his alone.

"No individual or group requested me not to play 'Dixie,'" he said.

Rather, he said his southern heritage, dating back 300 years, "persuades me to believe that it is not honorable to force upon a minority group the symbols of the Confederacy which, rightly or wrongly, have become so distasteful to them."

These symbols, he added, "are associated in their minds with slavery, discrim-

ination, and the degradation of human personality, all conditions that are at complete variance with that part of my southern heritage which I prize so highly.

"A person has a right to play Dixie but is it within the bounds of taste, honor, nobility to play it under the circumstances?" he wrote.

At the game, students heckled the band with requests for "Dixie," but bandmaster Fred McCall responded with other songs. At

times, some students chanted, "That won't do Freddy, that won't do."

Stanford said he was distressed "to learn of the indignities the band suffered at the hands of boorish elements," at the game.

Mike Abrams, student body president, said it was difficult to determine if the majority of students opposed the "Dixie" ban or "those that do happen to be a vocal minority."

Abrams and other top student government leaders support Stanford's decision,

but are unhappy that he made it without "some student consultation first."

Abrams said, "We have talked to black students on campus and we sincerely believe these Confederate symbols are offensive to them."

"We don't feel that we should ask the band, or any arm of this institution, to do something offensive to any of the students."

In his letter, Dr. Stanford said he has been concerned over the continued use of "Dixie," particularly at a

'No Dixie'

time when we are making an effort to bring more Negro students to the campus and into the mainstream of American society."

"I believe that the generous, magnanimous attitude for the majority to take here at the University is to dispense with the remaining symbol which is so repulsive to them."

He also said the university is "by no stretch of the imagination a Deep South institution (attracting students last year from 49 states and 70 foreign countries) . . ."



Dr. Henry Stanford
... song distasteful

Miami Herald
9/27

Humor's Nicked By Names

By JOHN PENNEKAMP

AS A FELLOW who has been called a good many things in his lifetime, I confess that I find it difficult to get too steamed up over the current nickname and similar controversies.

Of German extraction, I have been variously called — and still am on occasion — a Kraut, Square or Roundhead Deutcher and the like, and I don't recall being offended.



Pennekamp

The names were humorously applied, and, I always thought, with a degree of affection.

Something is going out of American living if we pursue the criticisms to the ultimate and settle all of them on a thin-skin basis; our sense of humor — and how we need one! — will be seriously warped and damaged.

★ ★ ★

I HAD considerable experience with the old-fashioned way of viewing such things a week ago after Mays High beat Miami High 14 to 7 in football.

The next couple of days I was in Tampa where I met a considerable number of Miami High graduates of all ages. They had gone there to see the University of Florida opener.

Naturally, the Miami High defeat was the principal topic of their conversation; there was considerable consternation, but the comments were all good-natured.

Nearly all of them dwelt on the fact that a school which had to draw from an enrollment of 250 boys could take over the mighty Stingarees, a school of 2,500.

Few of them had seen the game, but nearly all wished they had. Many commented on how much bigger crowds will be at future Mays games.

All wanted Coach Traz Powell to realize his ambition for an early chance to take on Coral Gables High.

IN THE British magazine, Encounter, Leo Rosten lists a long series of Yiddish words that have come into the English language, many of which, so far as I know, have not yet penetrated the United States. The intruding words, many of which are used in jest, gain their headway, he holds, because there just are no English words of equal pungency. Example: shmo for a jerk.

Rosten's compilation, which includes quotes from The Wall Street Journal, The Times Literary Supplement, Time magazine and several illustrative stories adds up to breezy, interesting reading.

SOME YEARS ago Walter Winchell lightened many of his columns with Mrs. Mefoosky stories, written in dialect. They were delightful, but he discontinued them because he felt that they reflected adversely on the Jewish people.

Winchell, in fact, then campaigned to end the telling of dialect stories.

However, a number of Jewish comedians have attained stage greatness with dialect stories which seem to be relished as much by the members of their own race as by others.

Jason M. Berkman, Miami Beach justice of the peace, seems to have an inexhaustible number of stories which he tells well and with accents. He is in demand as a luncheon speaker.

★ ★ ★

MEMBERS of many races take issue with general characterizations given them in books, movies, radio and television.

Italians, for instance, resent "Italian types" being used for gangsters or as representatives of the Mafia.

German-types of course, became representative of cruel and villainous conduct in fiction and on the screens after World War I and more particularly since World War II.

Which is something of a reflective switch. Before World War I German comedians, complete with dialect, were on the then popular vaudeville stages in singles and pairs, and groups presented German music.

Few performances failed to have an overdressed German buffoon; in fact many of today's circus clowns wear costumes borrowed from that period.

FROM 1961 through 1965 Florida and other states observed the Civil War's centennial. Many of the releases told of the willing and volunteered help given the "Rebels" by aligned Negroes.

The song and tune "Dixie" I classify with, but territorially on a larger scale, "California Here I Come," "The Sidewalks of New York," the "Maine Stein Song," and such as expressions of local pride.

Deputies Suspended

By JIM SAVAGE
Herald Staff Writer

Unauthorized midnight snacks led to the suspension Thursday of 18 Sheriff's deputies and the dismissal of a probationary deputy.



PURDY

Sheriff E. Wilson Purdy said he was taking the disciplinary action after an investigation of irregularities in connection with off

duty assignments at South Dade Senior High School.

During the recent unrest at the school in connection with its nickname and song, a number of off duty deputies were hired by the school system to guard the building during nighttime hours.

"Our investigation revealed that officers improperly entered the school's cafeteria area and consumed food belonging to the school," Purdy said.

The deputies had access to the cafeteria and did not break or force any doors to gain admittance to the room, he said.

"The Public Safety Department will not tolerate any irregularities by any member of the department, Purdy said.

He said the following deputies received three day suspensions for entering the cafeteria area and taking food stuffs for their own consumption; Raymond Stanisky, Joel R. Anderson, John D. Dobson, James E. Giles, Lael S. Schumacker.

The following, he said, were given one day suspensions for taking food stuffs from the unlocked refrigerator in the cafeteria for their own consumption: Arnold Facchini, Donald R. Askew, Charles E. Kellum, Robertson C. McGavock, Robert R. Rosier, Gayle H. Wilson, Harland J. Applegate, Gary Gummel, Bruce B. Lindemuth, Peter L. Nemecek, William Simpson, Harry A. Wright.

Probationary Officer Harry Thiel was dismissed, Purdy said. Deputy Donald Feranec was referred to a departmental trial board for a hearing.

MIA.
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9/27

THE MIAMI NEWS

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- Pulitzer Prize For International Reporting In 1963
- Pulitzer Prize For National Reporting In 1959
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8-A

Friday, Sept. 27, 1968

73rd Year, No. 115

DIXIE^F SYMBOLS BANNED

A Fortright Action By Dr. Stanford

It took great courage for Dr. Henry King Stanford to order the abolition of Confederate symbols from the campus at the University of Miami.

His concept might be found in the very word "university" itself. Combined from Latin words, *unus* and *versum*, "university" means "combined into one whole." And this is what Dr. Stanford wants for his university: a unified setting for free discussion, for equal opportunity and for peaceful dissent.

His decision to ban the playing of "Dixie" by the University Band of the Hour may offend some of the red-neck Southerners who abound in the southern end of Dade County. But Dr. Stanford is known to all of us as a man of moderation, committed to a high standard of educational processes. Never at a loss for words, the president of the university explained his position, in a letter to his students:

"As a genuine Southerner, one whose family goes back 300 years into the history of the South, I pride myself on the nobler aspects of my Southern heritage — a digni-

ty, a courtesy, a civility, a mannerly approach, all of which denote a respect for the individual.

"It is this very aspect of Southern heritage that persuades me to believe that it is not honorable to force upon a minority group the symbols of the Confederacy which, rightly or wrongly, have become so distasteful to them, symbols which are associated in their minds with slavery, discrimination, and the degradation of human personality, all conditions that are at complete variance with that part of southern heritage which I prize so highly."

That's speaking bluntly and truthfully because such symbols serve only to express prejudices which exist, not only in our community but all over the nation.

These are, as Dr. Stanford noted recently, "anxious times for both the Town and the Gown." The university must seek to graduate students who will enter into the responsibilities of citizenship with zeal, not apathy, prepared to meet the challenge of tomorrow with empathy for the task of today.

9/27

Extremists Used Confederate Flag

To The Editor:

It's pretty well known that the Confederate flag has been used to promote such things as the Ku Klux Klan, the White Citizens Council, and the political career of George C. Wallace. This might be reason enough for the black students at South Dade High to protest against

the Confederate flag as their school symbol, Confederate uniforms for the school band, and the continued use of any other Confederate trappings. It's doubtful that these youngsters are thinking about slavery and the Civil War, but they certainly are concerned with what's happening right now.

R. K. R., Miami

N/L
9/27

First Talks Promising

The first round of talks between white and black parent committees trying to resolve the South Dade High controversy ended on a note of optimism, and for this the whole community should be heartened.

STATEMENTS from two of the principals in the talks pointed this up. "We progressed to the place where we can talk with each other instead of shouting at each other," said Jack Levy of the white group. "There was an open exchange of ideas and a basic trust was established," said Odell Johns of the black group.

The groups, meeting with the School Board members, agreed that the more than three-hour session laid the foundation for scheduling a second session for Monday night.

THIS IS the most encouraging news to come out of this community since the controversy began back in the summer. Hopefully, there will be no deterioration in the talks and a rapport will be established between whites and blacks that will prevent further ruptures in the community.

News Leader Editorial Thoughtful

Editor, The News Leader:
I don't want to let another day pass without congratulating you on your thoughtful and compassionate editorial concerning the contest over symbols at South Dade High School. Observing the developing situation I've learned something valuable, I think.
If people who are moderate and rational sit back and leave a vacuum around a new issue, hysteria and extremism find an opening. If moderates speak up and define the issue from the first, hysteria is confined to the fringe.
As a friend of mine often says, "Silence may be golden sometimes; at other times it's just plain yellow."
...MRS. ALFRED BOAS

Uniforms Not Ugly

Editor, The News Leader:
I am writing this as an answer to the letter that stated South Dade "blew it." First, the letter said that we had a dull and out - of - the - grave chance to get rid of the ugly, uniforms.
Well, if they were ugly and dull how come the band directors at other schools complimented us (the band) on its "new uniform," the exact same ones we wore years before this?
* * *
AND THEN the letter said we had a chance to get rid of a name which was a symbol of

defeat. Maybe we took the name Rebel because we knew it wasn't a symbol of defeat, but a symbol of the rebelling world today.
And we did show our parents that we had minds of our own by trying to settle the problem ourselves. But now the problem is in the hands of the School Board and as Mrs. Jack Matcovich stated, the board probably will undo the work we have done.
So how many of you white really think the School Board's most likely decision will bring peace and order to South Dade?
..ALAN FORD

N/L
9/27

Minority Group 'Rebels'

Editor, The News Leader:

During all of this "Rebel" controversy, has anyone thought to look up the meaning of the word "rebel" or, in the case of the South during the Civil War, "The Rebels"?

Webster states: "Rebel: a person who openly resists authority or opposes any control."

In effect, isn't this what is being advocated and carried out in this case and throughout this country by minority groups? The hippies, yuppies, draft dissenters, bums, winos, intellectuals, morons, union organizers—those who don't want to be "unionized." Everyone and anyone who has a complaint against the boss, a foreman, family, wife, children, mistress or "Joe the bartender" is a "Rebel"!

Having been raised in the South (Miami) by a grandmother who descended from the Lee's and the Randolph's of Virginia and transplanted to the State of Texas, instilled in me that "Damn Yankee" was one word. I am proud of being a self-proclaimed "Rebel"!

Remember! The Civil War was fought over "States Rights," not the "Emancipation Proclamation" issued by Lincoln. Many Southern "slave owners" freed their slaves and then continued to care for them, share and share alike, as long as possible. Yet, they went into the most disastrous war in which these United States have ever been engaged.

So what is the big beef? Confederate flags can be purchased on the open markets in Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Viet Nam and I DARE SAY, Germany. These people are smart—they trade upon sentiment, not logic. Confederate flags have flown in every theater of operations

from North Africa to Japan, Italy to Germany. By individuals who were AMERICANS first, but proud of a heritage which is no less heinous than the Irish in New York—the Scandinavians in the Upper Middle West, the Mexican-American in the Southwest or the Neisei in the Far West.

No one group, be they white, black, red, yellow, purple or pink, can dominate the thinking in any one country (witness Hitler), but CERTAIN groups seem to feel this way.

The constitution provides that everyone is created equal. BUT,

all of us, and I mean ALL of us have to earn this privilege.

Violence and controversy cannot gain the ultimate goals of all of us.

All of us have an obligation, whether it be to town, city, county, state or nation (after all, my High School team in Iowa was called the "Indians" and I had no desire to rile them up on the Northern plains) and we CAN'T do it by fighting and violence at the high school level.

Are you kidding me?"
"Save your Confederate money, the South will rise AGAIN!"
NAME WITHHELD



South Dade Story Aired On Television In Maine

Editor, The News Leader:

This morning, a TV news program featured the South Dade schools, South Dade high school in particular, with their problems of the Confederate flag, their band and athletic teams called the Rebels etc.

This was of great interest to us as our youngest son went to Homestead schools from the Neva King Cooper school on, from our first trip in 1946 until his second year in high school. He played on the baseball team his freshman year and like the majority of people in Homestead was a 'Yankee' Rebel and thought nothing of it.

Those were the days of segregation and at a time when Metro wasn't thought of, both of which we considered an ideal situation, this by Yankees, as Yankee as can be with our town of Greenville only 60 miles from the Canadian border.

Our son went on to the University of Maine, being on the Dean's list a number of times and for some time now has been a very successful design-

ing engineer. We feel Homestead schools had no small part in making this possible.

We missed our trip to our second home, 'Homestead,' last winter due to sickness and it was our second winter of staying in Greenville since the first trip in 1941. We feel just as proud of your wonderful high school band, 'The Rebels' and as they play Dixie in their wonderful way we too feel like cheering like all others.

Most of the young people in the band, like our son, came from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Oregon, etc., and have sense enough to realize the Confederate flag or playing Dixie doesn't mean a thing to real Americans.

Keep on the way you are. It's time in our so-called Democracy 10 per cent of our citizens stop pushing around the other 90 per cent. A large amount of us D-- Yankees will vote for Wallace, especially those registered Democrats.

MR. AND MRS.
NORMAN E. SQUIRES
GREENVILLE, MAINE.

N/L
9/27

Native Attitude Stills Voice Of Conservatives

Editor, The News Leader:

The lady who said that North-
erners approved of her ideas
has finally forced me to write.
Your school board has asked
conservatives to come forward
— perhaps they are not cogni-
zant of the belligerent attitude
of the local natives. I would
fear for my child if I signed
my name to this letter.

* * *

I WOULD like to ask her
where she thinks the vote
against these hate symbols
came from. The Negroes did
not vote. Most northerners
here knew of your bigotry be-
fore they came here and came
for their work or for the cli-
mate. We can see your atti-
tude if we asked you to fight
for the Union uniform, and
the song Yankee Doodle.

All kids love to fight for a
cause, hence, competitive
sports are loved by all. Why
put the burden of adult preju-
dices on their shoulders.

* * *

THEY SHOULD have
"kicky" uniforms, and they
with hearts full of team spirit
instead of the hate and fear of
fellow man.

If a Baptist minister can
open the doors of his church,
why can't Homestead open the
doors of its city and get rid of
things offensive.

To Christians I'd like to ask
— who gave you your white
skin? God in Heaven must
have thought you would have
done something good or he
wouldn't have given you this
advantage. Can you pray for

your missionaries and hate the
converts?

* * *

TO NON - BELIEVERS who
think they came out of the
woods before Negroes, I'd like
to ask — with all your superior
culture would you allow your
children to be treated as you

have treated the Negroes and
behave as well?

There is a beautiful poem
about the Dead Sea. It takes
from all around it but it doesn't
give, so it has become dead
and stagnated. Is this Home-
stead, Fla.?

NAME WITHHELD



Black Power The Issue, Not The Rebel Name

Editor, The News Leader:

Due to your ill-timed editor-
ial on Tuesday I will not be
subscribing to your paper any
longer.

How could you completely
ignore a vote by the majority
of students of South Dade? In
other words all their faith, all
the honest debates all the time
spent reaching a decision was
for nothing.

* * *

Any student who did not vote
certainly has no right to com-
plain of the outcome. Your vote
is supposed to be your voice in
this country. How do you ex-
plain to the majority that the
minority shall rule?

The dictionary states that "a
minority is a group having less
than the number of votes need-
ed to control." Maybe the
threat of riots, disorder and
boycotts outweighs simple
justice.

Aside from the very one-
sided point of view you put
forth, you also gave that very

narrow minded school board
member something in which
he could label all of the South
Dade community as racists.

I'm sure advance notice of
that editorial was very wide-
spread in the Negro community
as their demands seem to agree
with yours 100 per cent. Well,
maybe someday you along with
the black minority will succeed
in erasing some of the history
of the United States, namely
the Civil War.

* * *

It seems now, 100 years later,
you've decided the Confederate
flag, the song Dixie, and the
South itself should be treated
as dirty words. Well, I'm proud
of the country we live in and
I'm proud that loyal America
doesn't threaten violence, burn-
ing, looting, and rioting every-
time a situation arises.

Even you should be smart
enough to realize the Rebel
name isn't the issue, black pow-
er is.

MRS. SANDRA STEWART
Florida City

JOHN



KEASLER

The Last Hurraheeeeeeeeha

There have been protests against use of Confederate uniforms for high school bands, against the name "Rebels" of the South Dade High football team and against use of Confederate flags at football games.

Now the president of the University of Miami has instructed that band not to play "Dixie" at football games.

The national trend, of course, is against anything smacking of discrimination, and when it comes to Hate Bigotry I don't take second place to anyone.

I hate bigotry so much that if I had my way there would be a law against bigots, regardless of race, creed or color, and nobody but us liberals could ride in the front of the bus.

Which brings me to my own work in Stamping Out Bigotry. I am chairman of

the recently formed Society to Silence the Rebel Yell.

The Rebel Yell gets worldwide publicity and yet nobody has, for some reason, taken the first effective move to make rebels stop yelling, or at least to make them yell something else.

I say if a man can't yell like a liberal he shouldn't yell at all.

It's doubly nauseating to me how the press, radio and TV — what I call the media — wittingly or unwittingly contribute to promulgation of the Rebel Yell.

At practically every mass-attendance sport event — baseball, hippie-clubbing, Daley-baiting, whatever — somewhere in the crowd a high-pitched yell will rise above the crowd.

"Aha, a Rebel Yell," the news or sportscaster will say shamelessly. I have

just totted up figures which I hold here in my hand and which prove that the Rebel Yell got 243 million dollars worth of free publicity last year alone! (And yet they would have us believe the "media" is objective" and "impartial" . . .)

It's bad enough to give the word "Rebel" publicity nationwide, within our own country, but what's going to happen when we shamelessly expose our bigotry when they get the extension plugged in for star-satellite range?

Maybe four-letter words are o.k. but when you start saying five-letter words in mixed company it's time for censorship.

I've repeatedly lectured many of many hometown friends around Plant City, Fla., about this deplorable Rebel Yell. They

sneer at me as an Uncle Sam.

"Just recently when I was back home I chanced to be doing missionary work in a saloon out on the Turkey Creek road. It was late of a Saturday night and some of my friends got rather carried away with a Johnny Cash record.

They stood right up and yelled.

"eeeeeeeeee—H A!" they went. (Simplified version.)

And, sure enough, from the next place down the road — six and a half miles — came the double-clutched, or grace note, reply, 'w a a a a a 000000000000—EEEEEEEEEEYAH!"

They were shameless about admitting it was a Rebel Yell. Even at the time I said I would welcome suggestions on a

new name for the Rebel Yell, although I explained I really didn't know what to do with the suggestions.

Their advice was at best impractical, although I am forging ahead in this great work undismayed. Stamping out the Rebel Yell is more a matter, I feel, of education than it is of legislation although, of course, if it comes to that . . .

Send in your suggestion to rename the Rebel Yell something that will offend nobody: Yankee Yell, for instance.

I will need contributions for operational expenses — for one thing I've got to get a suggestion box — so please drop your donations in the container on my desk and — HOLY MACKEREL! IT'S A DIXIE CUP!

Tensions ^{NK} Discussed 9/27 By Officials

Racial tension at South Dade High has been the topic of several 'talk' shows aired by Miami radio stations this week.

Last night, Homestead Mayor Bill Dickinson and City Manager Olaf Pearson were guests on Alan Courtney's three-hour interview - and - phone show on Station WIOD.

And on Wednesday, Odell Johns, spokesman selected by the black community, was interviewed on a daytime 'talk' show on Station WKAT.

Meantime, tenor of the school's atmosphere remains calm. A spokesman told The News Leader this morning that even the rate of usual student disagreements is far below the normal.

They Receive Suspensions

Midnight Snack Costly For 18 Metro Officers

By GERRY CROSBY

A midnight snack by officers on extra duty at South Dade High School during the recent racial tensions at the school will cost a few officers about \$75 each in lost pay.

Public Safety Department Director E. Wilson Purdy announced Thursday 18 deputies were suspended and one probationary officer dismissed for irregularities in connection with off-duty assignments at South Dade High.

Purdy said that Capt. Richard McFarland, commander of Substation-4 and Lt. Arthur Evans began an immediate investigation of the reported irregu-

larities which involved eating some food belonging to the school.

Purdy stated that the investigation revealed that officers improperly entered the school's cafeteria and ate the food.

However, it was pointed out that keys to all of the rooms, including the cafeteria were given to the men in the event of trouble.

Therefore there was no forced entry by 18 of the men. There was possible forced entry, however, by one of the men into the locked cafeteria manager's office.

According to reliable sources, Benny McCardel, former Pub-

lic Safety Department officer, now affiliated with the school board's security department made the complaint to John Tyler, head of security.

It was security that requested off duty men to be assigned to the school from midnight to 6:30 a.m. Some of the officers went on the job immediately following an eight hour regular shift for the department.

Milk, hard-boiled eggs, pudding and small cakes were allegedly consumed by the officers.

"The Public Safety Department will not tolerate any irregularities by any member of the department without taking

appropriate disciplinary action. This department required top professional integrity and conduct under all circumstances," Purdy said.

The following officers received three-day suspension for actually entering the cafeteria area and taking food:

Raymond Stanisky, Joel R. Anderson, John D. Dobson, James E. Giles, Lael S. Schumacker.

The following officers were given one-day suspension for taking food stuffs from an unlocked refrigerator: Arnold Facchini, Donald R. Askew, Charles E. Kellum, Robinson
Continued on Page Eight)

C. McGavock, Robert R. Rossier, Gayle H. Wilson, Harland J. Applegate, Gary Gummel, Bruce E. Lindemuth, Peter L. Nemeck, William Simpson, Harry A. Wright.

Officer Harry Thiel, the new officer still on probation, had his position terminated.

Officer Don Ferranc's case has been referred to a departmental trial board for hearing.

The officers will serve their suspension at the convenience of the station in order to avoid cutting police patrols too severely.

N/L
9/27

Purdy Disciplines 18 Deputies Who Took School Food

Eighteen sheriff's deputies have been disciplined for taking food from the cafeteria of the South Dade Senior High School while they were guarding the building.

A probationary officer was dismissed for the same offense.

Sheriff Wilson Purdy said yesterday that his men ate in the cafeteria at night during the dispute at the school over display of the Confederate flag and use of the name Rebels by athletic teams.

Negro students objected, a majority of the whites insisted on retaining the symbols and there was concern over a possible demonstration.

"Our investigation revealed that officers (on guard duty) improperly entered the school's cafeteria area and consumed food belonging to the school," Purdy said in

announcing the disciplinary action.

The officers were off duty and were being paid by the school system to act as guards.

Purdy announced three-day suspensions for Raymond Stanisky, Joel R. Anderson, John D. Dobson, James E. Giles and Lael S. Schumacker.

One-day suspensions were ordered for Arnold Facchini, Donald R. Askew, Charles E. Kellum, Robertson C. McGavock, Robert R. Rosier, Gayle H. Wilson, Harland J. Applegate, Gary Gummel, Bruce B. Lindemuth, Peter L. Nemece, William Simpson and Harry A. Wright.

Harry Thiel, the probationary officer, was dropped from the force. Deputy Donald Ferancec was ordered to stand a hearing before a departmental trial board.

A Sweet Sound To Music Makers

To The Editor:

On behalf of Broadcast Music, Inc., I wish to compliment Mrs. Terry Johnson King and The Miami News on her recent article concerning commercial music users' obligations as set forth under the federal copyright law. This segment of the music business is one that the average person is most curious about, but by the same token, has little knowledge of the legal requirements imposed on the music user.

WILLIAM KIMEL, Miami

U-M Decision Disappoints Her

To The Editor:

I have been attending the University of Miami football games for the past four years. I'll always remember Sept. 20. The reason: "Dixie" was not played as usual, even though the crowds cheered for it.

Please explain to me and many others how a complaint by a minority group of colored Americans can have so much power. "Dixie" has always been a song loved by many. Songs are not written to please all, it would be impossible to do so.

Even Abraham Lincoln recognized this to be a great song. He even had this song played by a band in the White House after becoming President of the United States.

Can you honestly tell me that "Dixie" should not be played at large crowd functions?

MRS. ROBERT NIMMO, Miami

Yankee Minstrel Authored 'Dixie'

To The Editor:

Inexcusable ignorance marks the protests by some malcontents in their claim that "Dixie" is a racist tune and shouldn't be played by high school or university bands.

The name "Dixie's Land" was given by Negroes (not by whites) to a non-slavery farm on Manhattan Island, owned by Johaan Dixie, early in the 19th century.

The song "Dixie" was written in 1859 by Daniel Decatur Emmett, from Mt. Vernon, Ohio, a Yankee whose minstrel fame honored the happy, music-loving qualities of the American Negro.

W. W. HUBBARD, Pompano Beach



AS I SEE IT

By Leo Mindlin

School Ruckus Not Kid Stuff

THE HIGH SCHOOL ruckus in South Dade County has many elements in parallel with the question of social club discrimination.

Whether or not people, in this case young students, have the right to employ symbols that are offensive to a minority is clearly part of the larger issue encompassing whether or not people have the right to make any social choice based on racial or religious prejudice.

It seems logical that people cannot, or certainly should not, be forced to open the portals of their private lives to all comers if their preference is not to do so.

But then neither should those who are barred be denied the privilege of branding the exclusion as a prejudice if that, indeed, is what it is.

This seems a small price to pay for those who insist on the privacy at a time when racial and religious likes and dislikes are the stuff of Spads and Jennys in a world of moon-girdling spaceships.

★ ★ ★

STILL, the exclusivists want it both ways, and they harangue us with the notion that for the oppressed to exact any kind of premium at all of them, notably to regard them as oppressors, is "unAmerican."

This is particularly hypocritical because it puts the cart before the horse. It declares the genteel practice of racial and religious bigotry an American privilege.

Some politicians are particularly prone to this kind of reasoning. They may run for the presidency on a platform that sees the racial crisis as the overriding issue of the campaign. But they belong to social clubs that bar Negroes or Jews as members.

The South Dade ruckus differs significantly in at least one major consideration. For South Dade High is a public facility, and here there is no room for prejudice, whatever price some may be willing to pay for the right to enjoy it.

Indeed, there is a significant body of legal opinion that speaks convincingly against this right. The May, 1954 Supreme Court ruling on desegregation, for example, argues that separate but equal is by its nature not equal because separate implies a broad gamut of psychological no less than social inequities and handicaps.

★ ★ ★

IN THE WHITE students' insistence on using the sounds and symbols of the Confederacy for some of their school activities, they have violated the spirit of this ruling by abusing the sensibilities of a minority group now guaranteed an unconditional status of equality.

In their defense, the white students may argue in two directions: either that the Confederate symbols are not offensive; or that, regardless of the psychological impact on others, their right to free expression must not be hindered.

But the fact is that the symbols are offensive — however good-humored or well-intended they may be. They are an unrelenting sign of Negro humiliation during a particularly humiliating period in American history.

Those white persons for whom these symbols continue to have electric meaning as an evocation of past Southern glories deliberately confuse their sectional "political patriotism" with downright racial provocation. At best, they pursue their ideals with no concern for the sensibilities of others.

For this reason, the school ruckus was not just kid stuff but a miserable example of how adults use their children as instruments of self-realization. The symbols run deep on both sides of the color line, and so the South Dade struggle poured over the students, into the adult community and onto a battleground of polarized white and Negro forces, where "political patriotism" inevitably did achieve its racially provocative purpose.

★ ★ ★

THE QUESTION of offensiveness apart, there are laws here. As a public facility, South Dade High is not a social club where white students, like their parents, may opt to pay the price of exclusivity and their unfettered right to free expression at the expense of others.

It was therefore absurd of them (and their parents) to expect of the Negroes that they should adopt a Steppin' Fetchit attitude in the face of rebel calls to battle.

For at South Dade High, everyone pays with hard-earned and hard-relinquished tax dollars. And so there can be no Steppin' Fetchits. Nor should it be surprising that Negroes may recall in "Dixie" more than mint juleps, white-columned mansions and the splendid life.

BEATLE, EMBRYO, ETC.

Teacher Gets The Picture--He's Out

By LOUISE BLANCHARD
Miami News Reporter

A young teacher at South Dade High said today he was "relieved of teaching duties" because of pictures on his classroom bulletin board.

William M. Royal, 24, said school officials made it clear he was not suspended. A suspension would have to be confirmed by the county superintendent, and a suspended teacher can ask for a

public hearing before the School Board.

Royal said the bulletin board pictures, many of them taken from Life magazine, were confiscated Friday morning "as evidence." Some had been on the bulletin board since the second day of school, Sept. 4.

One was of the Beatles, a British singing group widely known among young people.

It was signed "George Harrison."

"That set off a search of the school rolls to find 'George Harrison' as the culprit who brought the picture into my classroom," Royal said with a grin. "They didn't find him."

George Harrison is one of the Beatles.

Another picture, also from Life magazine, was of a human embryo. Royal said Principal Howard Crabtree called it "highly inappropriate."

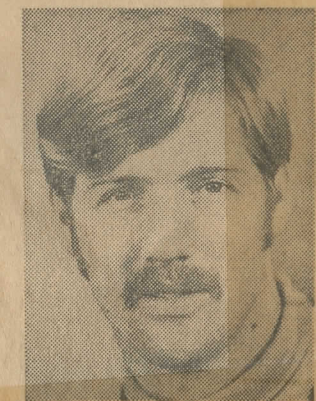
Royal teaches biology.

The teacher, who is himself a South Dade High graduate, said the bulletin board pictures were the only reason he was given for the action. Those two pictures were the only ones specifically mentioned in an interview Friday morning in Crabtree's office, Royal said.

Students brought in the pictures at Royal's suggestion.

He said Betty Gilkey, dis-

Continued on Page 10A, Col. 2



WILLIAM M. ROYAL

Continued from Page 1
strict superintendent for the south district, and a member of the countywide school security office, were present at the interview. He said both took notes but neither said very much.

Miss Gilkey said today that Royal was removed

from his classroom because of a "direct violation of instructions from the principal."

She said Royal had pictures over the glass panels in doors to the hallway and that they were dangerous because a person leaving the classroom could not see whether there were students outside.

Cont'd

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Crabtree had "asked all teachers to remove them," she said.

Miss Gilkey said she was "not able to say" whether Royal had been personally told about the penalty that could arise from obscuring the glass panels.

The "direct and obvious violation of directions" was "one of the reasons" for Royal's removal from his classroom, Miss Gilkey said. She did not name other reasons.

"There were some pictures removed from his classroom," Miss Gilkey said. "I won't get into the pictures at this time." She indicated school officials want to study them.

She emphasized that Royal has not been suspended and said the personnel office is looking for a teaching position for him at another school. "Today he is working on lesson plans in South Dade High," she said.

Asked whether Royal had been told at the interview Friday morning that the reason for his removal from the classroom was the failure to remove pictures from the glass panels, Miss Gilkey said, "No," and then, "he had been told previously and again Friday morning."

Crabtree said he had turned over to the personnel department "what information I had" and that he was "not in a position to do any commenting till they come up with some action."

Royal said that after the interview with Crabtree, the security officer said: "I want the names of the students responsible for bringing the pictures in."

Royal refused to give them. He said the security officer asked, "You don't think they did anything wrong, do you?"

"I don't think I did anything wrong either," Royal said he replied, "and look at me."

The security officer said if Royal refused to give the names he would question every one of Royal's 150 biology students to get them. Royal still refused.

Royal said he told the

security officer, "If you want to blame someone, blame me."

On the first day of school, he said, he invited his students to bring in pictures to brighten up the classroom.

"During the summer, they air conditioned the room and blocked off all the windows," Royal said. "We have one blank wall. Then there are blackboards and bulletin boards. There are two little portholes in the door. I think it looks like a jail cell.

"This is the students' classroom," he added. "They have to sit and look at it — the principal doesn't. I think they have a right to have something in there they want to look at."

Some of the same pictures were on bulletin boards in other classrooms last year, he said.

Royal said there was no hint of obscenity in the pictures his students brought in. He said he was not given any personal warning that the pictures were considered undesirable until he was removed from his classroom in the middle of taking the roll Friday morning.

The pictures had been removed before he arrived at school that day, he said.

"There was a general announcement in a faculty meeting that teachers should remove 'all inappropriate pictures' from their classroom bulletin boards," he said. "That's all."

One of the pictures was a psychedelic drawing made by one of the pupils, Royal said. It incorporated the words "love" and "pot."

"They see the word 'pot' in magazines of nationwide circulation," he said. "Why shouldn't they also see it in school, where there are adults who can explain the dangers of marijuana?"

The students are upset, Royal said. "I think their rights have been violated.

And I think my rights have been violated — if they fired me, it wouldn't be much more."

This is Royal's second year of teaching at South Dade High. He holds only an annual contract. A teacher must teach in Dade schools three years before he is eligible for a continuing contract. He can be refused a contract for next year but cannot be fired during this school year except for cause. School officials do not usually fire a teacher unless they believe the "cause" will hold up in court.

Royal holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Miami, with a major in chemistry and a minor in zoology, the branch of biology that deals with animals.

"I could get a job tomorrow paying twice as much as I get for teaching school," Royal said. "But I'm not that much interested in acquiring all the material things I can grab.

"I don't think you can teach democracy by aristocracy or hypocrisy," he said. "Kids today want to know why, and they deserve to be answered."

He said he may have decided to become a teacher because once, while he was a student at South Dade High, he was suspended three days on a false charge of stealing a girl's bicycle. He indicated

he hoped to do as much as one person could to protect students from such unjust treatment.

"I was grabbed the collar and yanked out of my seat — the chair fell down," he said. "I was dragged downstairs into the principal's office and told I had been suspended for stealing the bicycle. They wouldn't even tell me why they thought I had done it.

"A thing like that leaves a mark," he said.

During South Dade High's crisis over the school's use of Confederate symbols, Royal said, he talked to some of the students, urging them not to resort to violence. "I told them, 'Your sister or your girl friend might get hurt,'" he said.

Principal Crabtree told Royal not to discuss the mat-

Teacher Pictures Removal As Unfair

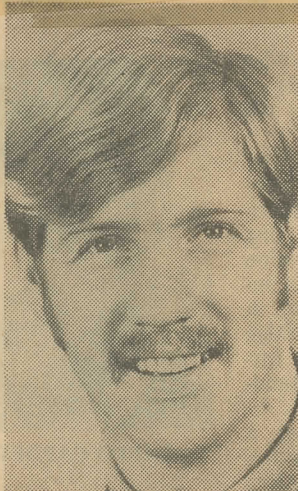
By LOUISE BLANCHARD
Miami News Reporter

After sitting around South Dade High doing no teaching for two class days, William Royal was told to report today to the Dade school system's personnel office in Miami for assignment to another school.

"But I want to stay in South Dade," he said. "I'll request to be reinstated there and find out what measures it takes to be reinstated."

Royal, 24, was "relieved of teaching duties" Friday morning with no advance warning. He said school officials objected to pictures on his classroom bulletin board, brought in by students at Royal's suggestion.

"I'm not going up there to



WILLIAM ROYAL

the personnel office with any big grudge," Royal said.

Both the Classroom Teachers' Association and the

'I want to stay in South Dade . . . I'll request to be reinstated there and find out what measures it takes to be reinstated. I'm not going up there to the personnel office with any big grudge . . . But I'm still going to handle this on my own.'

Dade chapter of the American Federation of Teachers offered help, he said. "But I'm still going to handle this on my own — right now, anyway."

He was told yesterday afternoon, he said, that South Dade High was overstaffed.

"I don't believe that," Royal said. "All my classes

were full. It's definitely an excuse."

Betty Gilkey, south district superintendent, said Royal had "directly violated instructions from his principal" by failing to remove pictures from windows on the classroom doors. She said it was dangerous to have the windows obscured.

Royal said, however, that "at least six or seven other teachers" had not yet removed pictures from the openings on Friday, the day he was taken from his biology classroom.

"I removed the picture from one door," he said. "I left the other because I didn't want the students to use the back door to the classroom."

The windows were mentioned, Royal said, in his

interview Friday with Miss Gilkey, Principal Howard Crabtree, and Ben McCardel of the school system's security office.

"But this wasn't the reason they gave," he said. "The picture content was the reason."

Two pictures were singled out for criticism, he said, one of the British singing group, the Beatles, and one of a human embryo.

"If the Beatles are evil," Royal said, "then it shouldn't be possible for students to order Beatle albums through another department of South Dade High — and it is." He added that he does not think a picture of a human embryo inappropriate for a biology classroom.

N/L 9/30

By PAUL BROOKSHIRE

THE FLOODTIDE of mail to this newspaper precipitated by a minority move to abolish Confederacy-linked school symbols at South Dade High continues at an unprecedented pace.

Although the hysteria has abated somewhat, the seas of controversy are still running high over the issue.

NEEDLESS TO SAY those in favor of retaining the status quo at South Dade far outnumber those who believe it's time for a change.

SO FAR The News Leader has received about 100 pieces of mail on the subject. As of last Friday, we had published 87 letters — most of them with little editing.

A few letters were not published because they bordered on the questionable side — that is, they possibly were slanderous to certain parties or groups involved.

DEFINITELY pro-Rebel, no doubt about it, were 38 letter writers.

Another 17 were of a more moderate tone but were for keeping the symbols at South Dade.

That makes a total of 55 pro-Rebel.

LETTERS from persons supporting the minority position to do away with the symbols numbered 23.

Another five letters seemed to back the minority viewpoint, making a total of 28 so-called "anti-Rebel."

THERE were four other letters published from persons commenting on the issue but failing to take a definite stand on either side.

FEW, IF any, of the letter writers offered a solution to the controversy.

In other words apparently there were no acceptable compromises to those taking hard-line positions on either side. There was no middle-ground to any of these people.

ARGUMENTS offered on both sides seemed to fit into fixed patterns; The pro-Rebels, for the most part, contended the symbols did not bear any racial overtones and were purely school symbols with no connection to the Confederacy.

The anti-Rebels refused to accept this argument.

And so it stands.

'Old Times There' Should Be Forgotten

(From the University of Miami Hurricane)

The Old South had a lot of traditions. One of the best was the style of the Southern Gentleman.

It seems, however, that the good traditions are always the first to wilt, and the poorer ones hang around like sour dregs in the bottom of a cask of fine wine.

And those dregs floated to the surface recently at both the University of Miami and South Dade High School. At both schools, those claiming to be the direct descendants and standard bearers of the Moonlight - and - Magnolia set got very up tight — and very ungentlemanly — about the surrender of "Dixie" as a fight song.

IN BOTH CASES, black students at the schools told the administration that the song "Dixie" and the accompanying Rebel flags and other Confederate paraphernalia were offensive to them.

Now there is some room — perhaps a long city block or so — for debate on whether a black student should get all that upset whenever he hears the strains of "Dixie." If there is racism implied in the song, it seems to be a rather subtle brand of it. Perhaps it seems different, though, from a Black man's viewpoint.

Regardless of the sociological merits or demerits of "Dixie" as a school fight song, though, there were blatantly racist tinges to the way white students at both the schools reacted to its being challenged.

At South Dade High, white students and parents reacted as one would expect people with rural, southern backgrounds to react; like a bunch of rednecks. Someone even "lynched" a black doll from the school flagpole.

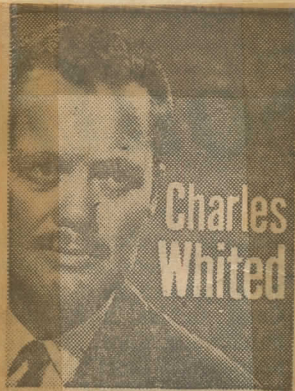
ONE WOULD have thought, though, that UM students would have been a great deal more urbane and 20th-Century than they were at Friday night's game.

Instead, though, several hundred UM students responded in a red-neck, high schoolish fashion to President Henry King Stanford's request that "Dixie" not be played. One kept waving a Rebel flag as a rallying signal for those who hooted "We Want Dixie."

Fortunately, the hooters and the howlers were in the minority. The majority of the crowd accepted with some nostalgia that they couldn't and wouldn't have "Dixie" anymore.

The song that was once a traditional southern school fight song has regrettably evolved into a fight song of a different nature, and as such it strikes too sour a note. Dixie in reality has gone, and Dixie in essence now must go. The Land of Cotton — with its slavery and hatred — has faded, and Old Times There should be forgotten.

HERALD
10/1/68



Charles
Whited

Northern Songs Sung in South

Frankly, I never gave the song "Dixie" much thought until it became a racial issue. A lot of other people didn't either.

In grade school back in West Virginia, a border state, we kids sang "Dixie" at assemblies along with a lot of other songs, and nobody associated it with slavery and oppression.

As grownups, most people I know still don't; to them, "Dixie" is part of the national musical heritage, like "Yankee Doodle" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Incidentally, in many Southern schools through the years children have sung "Battle Hymn of the Republic" completely unaware that it was a Northern song.

But then, I guess they just didn't know any better.

Now there is a new order of things, however. We are to learn that "Dixie" offends black people because it harkens back to an odious chapter of American history when blacks were slaves.

And therefore we should have done with it in public.

The decision by University of Miami President Henry King Stanford to ban "Dixie" at UM football games is probably just a starter.

I'll bet you a dish of fried mush the time is coming when "Dixie" will be banned in the public schools, too. And from there it is a natural step to wipe out the word itself, wherever it exists.

74 'Dixie' Firms

THIS WILL take some doing, of course.

There are 74 business firms in the Dade County telephone directory named Dixie something-or-other. From Dixie Air Parts to Dixie-Woodmen & Associates.

We have two people listed whose last names are Dixie.

And then there is the Dixieland Service center and the Dixieland Tomato Co.

Not to mention Dixie Highway.

I have talked with Odell Johns on the subject. Mr. Johns, a Negro, is the South Dade insurance man acting as a spokesman for black students protesting the nickname "Rebels" and other Confederate trappings at South Dade High School.

I respect his view that these things harken back to an era of human bondage and, therefore, are offensive to black people. I respect it, but I don't necessarily agree.

Symbols of themselves are what people make them.

Symbols of Era

TO VAST numbers of people who have lived in the South, "Dixie" and the Confederate flag have nothing whatsoever to do with race prejudice or slavery.

They had nothing to do with politics, either, until George Wallace adopted them for his campaign — which is a pity.

Many people of goodwill and conscience, who decry human injustice and have thrown their support to the cause of civil rights, have a fondness for these symbols of their Southern heritage.

And they hate to see them cheapened, whether by an Alabama politician or by some clutch of rednecks who use them as trappings of their hostility toward people with black skin.

Ridding ourselves of "Dixie" and the Confederate flag (and perhaps even the color gray) isn't going to erase prejudice and hatreds. For these attitudes fester in human hearts and can only be educated away.

As a sidelight, though, you can imagine some of the extremes to which banishing "Dixie" could go; even, say, to an era of Musical Prohibition.

One day a shady character might sidle up to you in a crowd and say, "Psst, buddy. Wanna buy a hot record? Straight stuff. 'Dixie,' by Colonel Cornpone and his Savannah Seven."

Well, naturally any law-abiding citizen will go right to the state attorney . . .

South Dade Parents, Board Meet

A bi-racial committee of South Dade High parents met again Monday night with the Dade School Board but there was no indication the differences over Confederate symbols had been resolved.

The two-and-a-half hour meeting was marred by a brief walkout by the Negro parents led by Odell Johns, a bondsman.

Johns left the meeting at the high school about midway through the meeting, taking other blacks with him. He said "nothing could be further served" by the session.

But moments later, after conferring with a school official, Willie Wright, Johns and the others returned and the meeting continued.

It broke up about 9:30 p.m. with an agreement to meet again next Monday evening.

Jack Levy, head of the white parents group, commented that "so long as we are meeting and talking, the door is open."

He added the view that "the School Board is bending over backwards to understand and help resolve the problem" but declined to say whether any substantial progress had been made.

The Problem Of Symbols

It is discouraging to read about the controversy at South Dade High School over its school symbols. The confederate flag, the song "Dixie" and the word "Rebel" as it is used there, are not only an insult to the Negro population, but to all white people hoping to find a solution to our racial problems. It is unthinkable to expect Negro students to accept these school symbols. This is not a question of a minority trying to force their demands on the majority but a question of human decency and respect for others. If we cannot solve such small problems, how can we expect to find a peaceful solution to the much more complicated problems facing this nation?

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