



# EDITORIALS

## Washburn And Misplaced Values

Much has been written about the philosophy, values and megabucks involved in NCAA college-university affiliated institutions. The concerns, the apathy and frequent conflicts between collegiate sports and academic standards are common place. Caught up in this web of big time, big business of sports and its benefits to the universities, is the too often little attention given to not just the student-athletes' academic progress and athletic ability but also, if not more important, the student-athletes' values and personal behavior.

Athletic coaches, particularly in NCAA Division I big time universities, are under such pressure to win, to have job security, and therefore, to be considered successful, that too often they overlook or simply ignore the most important aspect of a potential recruit, that is, his or her character and values.

Based on the rather sketchy reports about N.C. State University freshman basketball player Chris Washburn, we can see a classic example of little attention given to a concern for character and values.

Washburn, a 6-11 center from Hickory, N.C., was one of the nation's leading recruits last year while attending Laurinburg Institute, his third high school. Three years of high school in three different schools should have, and hopefully did, alert some recruiters to the fact that young Washburn apparently has some social and adjustment problems.

All this aside for the moment, Chris Washburn's basketball skills were such that within the second game of the Wolfpack season he cracked the starting lineup and in seven games he averaged 10.7 points. Along with 6-11 Cozell McQueen and 6-7 Lorenzo Charles, Washburn was expected to give N.C. State one of the biggest, and probably one of the best, front lines in college basketball.

This optimistic outlook may have been shattered with Washburn's arrest and charge with second degree burglary last Friday for a break-in at an athletic dormitory and the apparent theft of stereo equipment owned by a football player. Furthermore, in less than half a school year, Washburn was also found guilty on September 20 of assaulting a female student at State for which he received a suspended 30-day sentence and a fine of \$25. Unconfirmed reports indicate also that while the team was playing in Europe, Washburn was charged with shoplifting.

### Human Concern

Wolfpack coach Jim Valvano, a man with a reputation for having a sensitive and human concern for his players, cut Washburn from the team for the rest of the season following the first degree burglary charge. Valvano said, "The fact that Chris is a very good basketball player makes it a news worthy story. But to me, it's a personal story of someone who also happens to be a very good basketball player. It's a human story, and I'm concerned for Chris as a human being."

While we don't doubt the sincerity of

coach Valvano, we do wonder why a freshman, who obviously has social adjustment problems, would be allowed to move up to the starting lineup to face the additional pressure of basketball when he apparently has not gotten his personal life in order.

Washburn, whose academic progress has been reportedly satisfactory, would have received a tutor and/or counseling if he had

been having difficulty. However, while there were obvious signs of social adjustment problems, these were not apparently given adequate attention, that is, Wash-

burn was not receiving the proper help and counseling he needed in order to keep his life in order and in perspective.

### Court Hearing

Valvano, who had initially said, "I won't budge off that decision (to dismiss Washburn from the team for the rest of the season)," may have begun to think about the apparent absence of social counseling and the outcome of the January 8 court

hearing, has now said it is possible that Washburn may return to the team. This decision will now be determined by university policy following the January 8 court hearing.

We sympathize with the plight of Chris Washburn as an individual, the impact his behavior may be having on the basketball team, and the potential megabucks that the

university could earn if Washburn turned out to be the difference between a good team and a great NCAA championship contender.

Nevertheless, we hope that the pressures to win, to earn TV revenue and the quest for the NCAA championship does not lead the N.C. State University administration, the

alumni and basketball program to place Washburn's skills ahead of his personal adjustment needs which may be best dealt with without the pressure of big time basketball.

We are talking here about the value of an individual versus the concerns and desires of a large state institution and the prestige, money and fame that may go with it. How that institution reacts and decides in the Washburn case will tell us all a lot about our

values as a state and nation because there are or will be other "Washburns" at other institutions of higher learning, institutions that supposedly help develop our values and character as a people.

If we truly have the concern for the value and worth of the individual in our society, as we so often like to boast about, we should begin 1985 observing the outcome of the Washburn case.

## BLACKS' DESTINY IN OWN HANDS....



## Review Of The Year 1984

Nineteen Eighty-Four was the year of headliners. It brought with it a mystic via George Orwell and developed into one of the most historical years in science, politics, music, fads and controversy. Nineteen eighty-four has been a year of uncertainties and unusual events. Many are happy to see it go, many are sad - however one comment prevails, 1984 was a heck of a year. George Orwell didn't know the half of it.

In the world of medicine, David, a 12 year old boy from Houston who had spent most of his life in a sterilized plastic bubble, died on February 22 just 15 days after doctors freed him of the environment. Baby Fae received a baboon heart in California. One of the most controversial transplant operations performed - Baby Fae survived a short time to prove that it can be done.

Vanessa Williams, the first black woman chosen as "Miss America," found herself in a very compromising position - to say the least. Miss Williams posed nude for photographers some time ago which were discovered and purchased by Penthouse magazine. The photo-



Sabrina Williams graphs in the September issue forced Miss Williams to relinquish her crown and boost her career. The successor was Suzette Charles, also black, from New Jersey.

Ron and Nancy are back for four more years.

Rev. Jesse Jackson was the first major black presidential candidate in U.S. history. Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro was the first woman vice presidential candidate. This assertive lady went head-to-head with Vice President Bush in a debate and clashed with New York's Archbishop O'Connor over moral issues.

The McDonald's massacre was a major fantasy breaker - although the building has been torn down the memories-nightmare continues.

On July 18 the largest death toll taken by a single man in this nation's history, James Huberty armed with three guns and a bag of ammunition, killed 20 people and wounded 16 including children. A police sharp shooter ended the slaughter by killing Huberty.

America has a new multimillionaire - Michael Wittkowski, 28, won the Illinois State Lottery totaling \$40 million. This was the world's largest lottery purse; which Wittkowski split with his sister.

In the world of sports, Jim Brown's career rushing record was broken by Walter Payton of the Chicago Bears. Mary Lou Retton from West Virginia, was the first American gymnast to win the Gold.

Children were a major social issue in 1984 - especially child sexual abuse. A telefilm called "Something About Amelia" illuminated the problem of incest in America and other countries. In California and New York, centers for child care were shut down due to allegations made by children of sexual molestation by their teachers.

Great moments highlighted 1984. Carl Lewis lived his dream and ambition by equaling Jesse Owens' four Gold Medals. In February, astronaut Bruce McCandless donned the maneuvering unit backpack for his trip around the space shuttle Challenger.

Quotable quote for 1984, "Where's The Beef?" made famous by Clara Peller in the ever-popular Wendy's commercials.

Notable fads: gladiator sandals for both sexes, gobots as the chosen toy, lace with everything, the swatch watch for those in the know, glitter gloves and socks - patterned after you know who! Trivial Pursuit and break dancing!

We had to say good bye to some fantastic, talented people: Marvin Gaye, Johnny Weissmuller, Count Basie, Walter Pidgeon, William Powell, James Mason, David Kennedy, Richard Burton, Truman Capote, Velma Barfield and Indira Ghandi, to name a few.

Finally, in the world of music, the Victory Tour goes without a doubt, Tina Turner had a hit album and record, Cyndi Lauper's moving up steadily and Bruce Springsteen is making an impact on the Top 20. Prince has come along and is giving M. Jackson real and viable competition - definitely one to watch in 1985.

## From Capitol Hill Reagan's Policy Making Things Worse For Blacks

By Alfreda L. Madison Special To The Post



Alfreda

During Mr. Reagan's four year presidency, he has never uttered one word against South Africa's vicious apartheid government. Yet, he has constantly and publicly bombarded Russia and Poland about their treatment of dissidents. He ignored the requests and urgings of Congress persons and TransAfrica, a lobbying group to speak out against South Africa's treatment of its 24 million blacks by the four million whites.

It took street demonstrations and jailings of prominent protesters in front of the South African embassy, coupled with worldwide attention paid - Nobel Prize - winner, Bishop Tutu, to flush Reagan out with a public denunciation of apartheid as being repugnant. He gave no indication that he would take any action against South Africa or that he even would change his four-year policy of "constructive engagement."

Bishop Tutu told Mr. Reagan that his policy has made things worse for blacks. Mr. Reagan's response was that his diplomacy is working, that some changes have been made, but neither he nor Chester Crocker, State Department African Affairs or Alex Abrams of the Human Rights Department listed any of these accomplishments. He used the shield of quiet diplomacy for not revealing what he says are the accomplishments of his policy. If the President has a working policy that is not working for the affected people in the country and its workings cannot be realized by people outside the country, then there is a policy that's working for nobody, which means that nobody has a working policy. The Administration emphasizes that the 350 big American corpora-

tions that have businesses in South Africa are helping blacks to make social, political and economic gains. U.S. corporations control 70 percent of the computer industry and one half of the petroleum business. American banks make big loans to the South African government. These corporate investors include most of the business giants. These corporations give jobs to hundreds of thousands of black South Africans, which is very miniscule to the 24 million blacks who comprise the South African population.

The Administration's talk about providing education and job training for blacks and that these corporations subscribe to the Sullivan principles; that now blacks can belong to trade unions. Blacks are forbidden to hold membership in the white unions. They have their own black unions and the American corporations have to deal with them according to the South African laws, which forbid them to strike, if it interferes with work stoppage and blacks cannot receive the same wages as whites. When members of the House African Affairs Committee visited South Africa last August, the corporation, frankly,

told them that there is very little they can do to improve the social, political and economic life of the 24 million blacks. When confronted with that question from the House members, Bishop Tutu responded, "We do not want our chains comfortable. We want them removed." At the White House background briefing on human rights, Abrams was asked, "Why doesn't the President compare the black South African's fight for freedom with white Americans' fight for freedom from English bondage, when they said 'give me liberty or give me death'?" There was no reply.

Less than half of the American corporations have adopted the Sullivan principles, and even those that have will have to make security arrangements with the South African government which hampers their compliance. The American people must realize that these corporations are operating in South Africa to make money. They must also know that these companies are not in full compliance with fair job practices there, so it is ludicrous to believe that they will operate in a manner that will cause South Africa to dismantle its unjust employment and all around unjust discriminatory practices.

The American public needs to know the myths that are publicized about South Africa and the "Free South African Movement." The South African ambassador said on the "David Brinkley Show" that they had equal education for blacks and whites, that is not true. Blacks through their trade unions, now hold supervisory and managerial positions, the majority of South African blacks do not agree with Bishop Tutu. The truth is that

South Africa spends ten times as much on white education as it does on black education, there are compulsory laws for education for whites, but none for blacks, black supervisors and managers only supervise and manage black workers who hold the very lowest jobs. Bishop Tutu as Head of the Anglican Church supervises over 15 million blacks, all of the other leaders put together have a far less following. The ambassador spoke glowingly of the homelands, which comprise 13 percent of the most barren land, while the four million whites retain the rich 87 percent of the territory. This movement is comparable to what Adolph Hitler did to the Jews when he began moving them to Auschwitz and Dachau. South Africa is the only country that recognizes these as independent nations.

A myth that needs dispelling is likening South Africa's racism situation to racism in this country. Blacks in South Africa have to carry passbooks, they are jailed without having any charges made against them, they are forbidden to own land, not allowed to vote or hold government positions. They suffer from the most brutal treatment against humanity.

The demonstrations have caused many Americans to focus on the inhumane apartheid. It is heartening to have so many groups and segments of the population taking part in the movement - the Jewish people even went to jail, entertainers and athletes are picketing and the 35 conservative congressmen are making it very clear to the South African ambassador that they will push for political and economic sanctions against their government.

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