

THE MEDIUM

a message from the people...to the people

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Best News Story, Best Layout

The Medium, TTC Win National Awards --- Again!

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) has awarded Tiloben Publishing Company, which publishes The Medium and Tacoma True Citizen Newspapers, two national awards for excellence in journalism.

A first place merit award for top news story in the country went to the Tacoma True Citizen (The Medium's sister publication). The story was co-authored by Chris Bennett, publisher of both papers, and Connie Bennett Cameron, managing editor of

both papers. Bennett is also president of Tiloben Publishing Company.

The other award was given to The Medium for "Best Typography and Make-up" (layout). Typography consists of everything from selection of news articles, headline-writing, advertisements and typesetting, to screening of pictures, graphics and printing. Alberta Anderson is layout specialist for both papers.

The awards were presented at the NNPA's 41st Annual Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana June 24-

27. The story dealt with a series of articles about the choking death of a 36-year-old Black inmate in the King County jail last fall. It appeared in both papers, but was submitted under the Tacoma entries.

The Medium has won several awards for top news stories in the country through the years, as well as awards for excellence in journalism for "Best Original Advertising" and others. W. Larry Williams is advertising director of the papers. He and Publisher Bennett attended this year's convention, and stated Williams,

"It was the best yet. It was very informative. We all learned a lot by exchanging ideas."

Also at the convention, Publisher Bennett was elected to the NNPA's Board of Directors for a three-year term. He is one of the youngest publishers ever to serve on the distinguished board.

The NNPA consists of over 300 newspapers and magazines from across the country, including JET and Ebony.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Meeting For Black Radio Supporters

The Concerned Citizens For A Black Radio Station will hold a meeting on Wednesday, July 1 to discuss new alternatives towards the development of a "true Black radio station." The meeting begins at 6 p.m. at 820 18th Avenue. The group has advised participants to remember "Plan B" July 1, 2, and 3. Call 329-4111 for details.

Summer Classes At Langston Hughes

The majority of the classes are full, but Langston Hughes still has some that are not full. They are conditioning, aerobic exercise, marimbas, mbira, and Southern African drum lessons. Call the center at 329-0115 for details.

Youth Dog Show

Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Center will host a youth Dog Show (ages 12 and under) at Langston Hughes on Friday, July 24 at 12 noon. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: prettiest, ugliest and smartest. Entry deadline July 20. Call 329-0115.

Community Tennis Tournament

Capitol Hill, Central Area, South End and other Seattle area tennis players are invited to participate in a community tennis tournament on July 10 and 11 at the Garfield High School Tennis Courts. Categories are Men and Women's A and B, and Mixed Doubles. Entry fees are \$7 for singles and \$6 per person for doubles. Prizes and trophies will be awarded to division winners and second place finishers. Expect many celebrity entrants including local professional athletes and lots of fun. Send entries and checks to: Tennis Tourney, P.O. Box 22016, Seattle, WA 98122. Call 322-5455 or 324-6539.

Weight Loss Program

The Carolyn Downs Family Medical Center, 1422 - 34th Ave., is currently offering a weight-loss program for women. The program consists of lecture/discussion homework and exercise. Registration fee is \$20 which will be refunded at the end for perfect attendance. Please register by phoning Mary Walls at 324-0402.

Volunteers Needed For City Fair

If you'd like to share your talents in juggling, miming, stage managing, conference planning, research, writing or event organizing -- call City Fair at 447-8400. These and many more volunteer jobs are still open for the July 3-12 county fair for city folks at the Seattle Center.

Jobs Now! Summer Session

The Girls club of Puget Sound's "Jobs Now!" summer session begins July 9 at 1 p.m. The eight-week employment project, primarily for local female teenagers, explores careers and helps in the development of effective job-seeking skills. Additionally, by the end of the project, each youth will have completed a personalized job resume. Field trips to actual job sites are planned and staff members will assist participants with placement into vocational training programs. The introductory meeting will be held at the Girls Club of Puget Sound office at 3902 South Ferdinand. There is a \$4 membership enrollment fee which also entitles the bearer to participate in the Girls in the Girls Club summer sports and recreation program. Call 723-0378.

Displaced Homemaker Program To Reopen

The YWCA Displaced Homemaker Program will reopen its doors July 1 for a three-month period. Employment services at 5th and Seneca will include individual counseling, job readiness workshops, guided resource groups, job banks and referrals to training and employment. This continuation of service is funded by Title II-D CETA monies through September 30. For eligibility information call 447-4862.

Fourth of July Fireworks

Celebrate the Fourth of July by purchasing "safe and sane" fireworks at the St. Therese School Fireworks Stand located in the Roger's Thriftway parking lot on the corner of Empire Way and Union Street. This event will take place June 28 through July 4.

Black Women's Brunch, Fashion Show

The Black Women's Network will sponsor a brunch and fashion show featuring fashions for large-sized women on Saturday, July 11 in the Fellowship Hall of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 1634 19th Avenue. Brunch will be served at 11 a.m. The fashion presentation will be coordinated by Ms. Rochelle Johnson. Tickets are \$10. The Black Women's Network is committed to supporting activities and programs which foster and encourage self-esteem and positive motivation for and among Black women. Black women with dress sizes 14-22 are being sought to act as models. The next planning meeting will be held in the conference room of the Rainier Beach Library on Monday, June 22 at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds from the affair will be used to offset cost of printed materials and mailing costs for the Black Women's Network. Contact Ms. Lois Smith, 271-9328.

Class of '76 Reunion For Hale

The Nathan Hale High School Class of 1976 is planning a five-year class reunion. For information, please contact Chrystine, 774-8942.

Protestors Attend "Funeral" For Out-Foxed KYAC



—Staff Photo by CHRIS MONTGOMERY.

Eddie Rye, Jr., center, addresses crowd at last Thursday's "funeral services" for KYAC Radio. Demonstrators were out in full force to protest the lack of Black oriented radio and the lack of public ser-

vice programs in Seattle. Additional scenes from the rally are on Page 11A, as well as responses to The Medium Wants To Know which dealt with the lack of Black radio here.

by CONNIE CAMERON

The Medium and its sister newspaper, the True Citizen in Tacoma, have been bombarded with calls about the now defunct KYAC. Most simply want to know — what happened?

Many of the calls have been directed at the KYAC replacement station, KFOX, which swept most of Black Seattle by surprise with its "soul-less" programming format aimed at a broader 25-to-44-year-old audience.

These are some of the things that has the community upset: The gospel music has been cut from its four-hour prime-time slot of 6 — 10 on Sunday mornings, to a 90-minute slot from 6 — 7:30 on Sunday mornings.

The live church services also heard on Sunday mornings from Mount

Zion Baptist Church, have been moved to 10:30 Sunday nights. Public service programs, including the Sunday evening talk show, have been clipped. So has the Black news network.

There's also growing concern of KFOX's music format, which many say, leaves a lot to be desired. The music doesn't cater to any particular audience. It's well-mixed with oldie-goldies, a little soul, and yes, even country-western — the whole gamut. The music is taped and played back-to-back.

Voices are seldom heard, other than during news announcements from United Press International, an occasional mention of the time, and a few commercials mostly about "The Fox."

But while there are numerous complaints about not being able to

get through to the station to complain or to hear that a number for a request line has been disconnected, some are concerned that the community can't be all that upset. One caller asked if there was true, down-to-business gut concern about the station, or was it just a bunch of rabble-rousers who want to hear only soul music to "shuffle their feet to," or others who were in it for their own personal use.

To answer that question, a huge group of demonstrators showed up for "funeral services" for KYAC last Thursday to show strong community support. Father O. J. McGowan of Seattle University presided at the demonstration, which was staged outside the offices of KFOX at Third and University.

The large, but orderly

group followed a "funeral march" equipped with a mock casket from Evergreen Funeral Home. Elbowed Out, a local singing group, acted as pallbearers.

Group organizers said the purpose of the demonstration was, among other things, to draw attention for the need for Black radio in Seattle, which they claim, "was born in 1964, and died on May 16, 1981.

"We're tired of the tapes. We miss the voices and we're tired of that disgusting music," stated one angry demonstrator.

An elderly protestor wiped sweat from her brows as she nervously perused the crowd "looking for my people."

"A bunch of us who are still able to get around decided to come down and show our support.

We have friends who are sick. Some are bed and wheelchair bound. We want the gospel music and sermon back on at a decent time, like they used to be," she said.

There were several of those types of conversations at the demonstration. But one of the most interesting was that "KYAC had been out-foxed. And the negative image of a fox — the sly, the slick, the wicked — seems to be well-lived up to."

What is KFOX's commitment to this community — if there is one? What does the FCC have to say about the situation? Were all the legal procedures followed in the sale of the station?

Who is the mysterious Lloyd Edwards, the Black banker from California's Bay area, and the

president of North Star Broadcasters, Inc. who bought the station for \$1.5 million from a bankruptcy court last May?

(Mr. Edwards has been unavailable for comment.)

The answers to these and other questions will appear in upcoming editions of The Medium. Meanwhile, as it stands now, KFOX is like any other station --- it can play what it wants to and program the station the way it wants to. It does not have to cater to any person or group --- other than its advertisers. And station officials have bluntly stated that there are not enough Blacks here to support its potential advertisers who, of course, spend the money and keep the station going.