Making an Impact

13 to 17, were “making a differ-
ence,” Crittendon added.

Garcia and David Marsh, plus
Quentin’s Condemned Row, bet-
ter known as Death Row. This is
the second article on the results
of that interview. For the inter-
view the condemned inmates
were locked in a steel enclosure
that doubles as the Death Row
Catholic Chapel. Conducting the
interview from the walkway out-
side the enclosure were news-
spaper staffers Michael R. Harris,
JulianGlenn Padgett, Arnulfo
Garcia and David Marsh, plus
adviser John C. Eagan.

One question posed: What
would you like to tell the general
public about being here?

Samuel L. Capers, on the Row
for four years, said, “We are no
different from other captives on
the Main Line. Media only talks
about the cases involving chil-
dren and women. Not everybody
falls into that category on the
Row. We are human beings and
not animals.”

Steven Catlin, on Death Row
for 20-plus years, commented, “It
is no picnic.”

Dexter Williams, who arrived
there in 1996, said, “If you can
get beyond the politics and the
drama of the media, 80 percent
of the people here aren’t who you
think they are.”

Bob Williams, who arrived 14
years ago at age 20, said, “I have
somehow managed to turn this
place into my own personal mon-
astery of sorts. I consider myself
to have grown up here, become a
man here, and truly found myself
and have found God in a
depth, mystical, and
very profound way here . . . I have
somehow managed to become a
better person than I was when I
get arrested at age 18.”

See Death on Page 5

DEATH ROW
‘We’re No Different
Than the Main Line’

By ARNULFO GARCIA
Staff Writer

JUAN HAINES
Journalism Guild Writers

A group of 26 at-risk boys who
turned their lives around, thanks
to counselors and San Quentin in-
mates, graduated in June from a
program called R.E.A.L. (Reach-
Expanding Adolescent Lives)
Compassion.

The Oakland youngsters, aged
13 to 17, were “making a differ-
ence” to themselves and others.

Crittendon, a retired San Quentin
Lieutenant, and former Public Information
Officer for the prison.

“We believe in education—edu-
cation is really going to open up
your dreams to becoming a real-
y.” Crittendon added.

R.E.A.L. Choices began in
2001. The concept was adopted
by convicts at San Quentin State
Prison with a desire to serve the
local community’s problem of
rising youth violence.

The program provides work-
shops on effective communica-
tion, sexually transmitted dis-
bases, drug awareness/prevention
and gang awareness.

Laura Moran, chief service of-
cer at Oakland Unified School
District, attended the gradu-
tion. Moran’s association with
R.E.A.L. Choices began last
year with a desire to find innova-
tive methods in the development
of community leadership, and
youth-oriented programs that
avert the policy of criminaliza-
tion of youthful behavior.

Vince Cullen, San Quentin
Acting Warden, told the gradu-
ates, “If you do come to state
prison, you’re not guaranteed to
come to San Quentin. There are
choices.”

See Seeking on Page 6

The Unsung Heroes of Education

In the background of numer-
ous San Quentin inmate success
stories is the Robert E. Burton
School of Education. Follow-
ing last month’s graduation cer-
eremony, master of ceremonies
and Vice Principal Frank Kellum
discussed his belief in education,
transcendence and human devel-
opment.

“I was drawn here to San
Quentin because a lot of my stu-
dents were coming here not just
as inmates,” Kellum said, “Some
of my ex-students were also com-
ing in here as staff.”

After graduating from Balboa
High School in San Francisco he
going onto obtain an AA degree
at City College of San Francisco.
Later Kellum turned his thirst
for knowledge into two Master’s
degrees, one in education and the
other in Ethnic studies in a multi-
ethnic society.

Kellum began his teaching ca-
reer 40 years ago in private and
public schools in and around the
Oakland and San Francisco area.
In the 90’s he became an instruc-
tor at San Quentin.

In his first year at this facility
Kellum taught both of the pre-
release classes, where he stressed
to his students the potency of vi-
sualization.

However, it was after he read
the book “Creative Visualization”
in the 80’s by Shakti Gawain that
Kellum decided to teach his new
class a thing or two on visualization.
The Impact of Doing Time
By ARNULFO GARCIA
Journalism Guild Writer

Part 2 of 2

Prisoners who struggle with their emotions and behavior create obscure as well as camouflage personas. They risk alienation from others, subject to chronic emotional flattening and debilitating social interaction finding that they have created a persona to protect themselves from others. Some are the conclusive findings of Craig Haney, a professor at University of California, Santa Cruz, and an renowned expert on the Marin of incarceration. Some of Haney’s other findings:

S.O. Inmate Murder
The First Since 1997

By JULIANGLENN
Managing Editor

Michael R. Harris
Editor-in-Chief

Edward John Schaefer, a 44-year-old Novato resident and a serial drunk driver, was stabbed and killed inside San Quentin’s reception center, the first killing at the facility in more than 13 years.

Haney was stabbed in the neck and chest in a prison fight at approximately 10:35 a.m. on July 16, three days after arriving here. He was pronounced dead at Marin General Hospital that evening.

24 YEARS TO LIFE
On July 13, Judge Terrence Bo- ren of Marin County Superior Court sentenced Schaefer to 24 years to life for second-degree murder and gross vehicular manslaughter of Passenger with Lyrics in August of 2007, said to have resulted in severely wounding the young man's father, Aaron Osheroff.

As Melody and her father trav- eled through a crosswalk on San Marin Drive at San Carlos Way in Novato, Schaefer hit them both while speeding on his mo- torcycle between a car that had stopped for the young family and another parked vehicle. The family members were hit at more than 60 miles per hour, said pros- ecutor Geoff Iida.

Some prisoners find safety in social invisibility by becoming as inconspicuous and unobtrusively disconnected from others as possible. In extreme cases, especial- ly when combined with prisoner apathy and loss of the capacity to change behavior on one's own, the pattern closely resembles that of clinical depression. Long-term prisoners are particularly vulner- able to this form of psychological adaptation.

In addition to obeying the formal rules of the institution, there are also informal rules and norms that are part of the unwritten in- stitutional and prisoner culture code that must be followed.

In many institutions, the lack of meaningful programs has deprived most inmates of pro- social or positive activities in which to engage while incarcer- ated. Prisoners are denied basic privacy rights and lose control over mundane aspects of their existence that most citizens take for granted.

They are housed in extremely cramped spaces (a 60 square foot cell is roughly the size of a king-sized bed), have little or no control over who they share a cell with, and have little contact with the outside world. Some feel they are treated like infants, and the degraded conditions under which they live are a repeated reminder of a compromised social status and stigmatized social role as prisoners. A diminished sense of self-worth and personal value may result. For some pris- oners, incarceration is so stark and psychologically painful that it represents a form of traumatic stress severe enough to produce post-traumatic stress reactions once released.

The fact that a high percentage of people currently incarcerated have experienced childhood trauma ma- jorities, and among other things, that the harsh punitive and uncaring nature of prison life may represent a kind of "re-traumatization" experience for many.

Mental illness and developmen- tal disability represent the largest number of disabilities among prisoners. Upwards of 20 percent of the current prison population nationally suffers from either some sort of signifi- cant mental or psychological dis- order or developmental disability, Haney says, yet both groups are too often shortchanged in their use- devices to somehow survive in prison and leave without having had any of their unique needs addressed.

Supermax facilities are where prisoners are kept under condi- tions of unprecedented levels of social deprivation for long pe- riods of time. This kind of con- finement creates its own set of psychological pressures that, in some instances, disable prisoners from re-integrating into the outside world.

Haney's basic propositions: prisons have become difficult places to adjust and survive over the last several decades; adaptations to prisons exact psycho- logical costs to prisoners; some prisoners are more vulnerable to the ill effects of imprisonment than others; the psychological cost of incarceration may be severe enough to produce post-prison adjustment; and multiple things should be done, in and out of prison, to minimize these impacts.

The abandonment of rehabilita- tion, Haney believes, has resulted in an erosion of modestly protec- tive norms against cruelty toward prisoners.

Prison authorities said the weapon used in this trial was one as a "bone crusader," a prison-manu- factured metal spear bigger than an average prison weapon. Terry Thornton, a spokesperson for the prison department, said, "They're meant to do a great deal of damage."

Suspect Souza was convicted in Santa Clara County Superior Court of second- degree for the strangling and bet- tine to death of John Carl Riggins, 59, a homeless man. Riggins died in a small alley near Lincoln Avenue in San Jose in August of 2007. Authorities said Souza and Rigg- ins had gotten into an alterca- tion after Souza stole a mountain bike from Riggins.

Lt. Robinson said Souza ar- rived at San Quentin in January 2010 to begin his sentence of 60 years to life. Souza had been in prison on parole for grand theft, receiving stolen property and threatening a pros- ecution witness with force and violence.

"WE FORGIVE THEM"
Schaefer, no neophyte to the Department of Corrections, had served a four-year state prison sentence for corporal injury to a spouse. He also served county jail for the imprisonment of another inmate in 1997, officials said. The victim of that killing was Jimmy Palma. He was murdered by Souza, his own cellmate, while being found guilty of killing a mother, her two children and two other innocent people in a gang strike in Los Angeles.

An investigation of this incident led to the discovery that Souza had been on parole. He had been booked into the county jail while serving his sentence, officials said.

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"They got their wish, but we forgive them," said Lesley Bo- nilia, Schaefer's sister. "We are Christians and we forgive every- one involved in this."

Prior to Schaefer's death, San Quentin's last fatal prison killing of an inmate by another inmate was in 1997, officials said. The victim of that killing was Jimmy Palma. He was murdered by Souza, his own cellmate, while being found guilty of killing a mother, her two children and two other innocent people in a gang strike in Los Angeles.

Pot Vote Goes on The Ballot
By MICHAEL COOKE
Journalism Guild Writer

Californians will vote in No- vember on whether to legalize marijuana, and there is clear dis- agreement on potential impacts of Proposition 19.

A new study by the state's Legis- lative Analyst's Office found legalizing marijuana could give a revenue boost to local govern- ments, but estimating how much money would be raised from legalizing marijuana is "very difficult." "We do try to stress that there are a lot of uncertainties," said Paul Golaszewski, who prepared the report. "At the same time, we're trying to be helpful to vot- ers. If this did occur, here's what you might expect."

The report analyzing Proposi- tion 19 was published July 20 as part of the voter guide issued by the Secretary of State's Office.

Proposition 19 supporters say legalization would be a windfall for local and state treasuries, but opponents warn it would increase in many instances, disabled prisoners would likely be used on property or drive while under its influence.

The report says local govern- ments would decide whether to permit and tax sales. Researchers also concluded the price of marijuana would increase because if the plant is made legal, making it difficult to know much of a boon to expect.

The report concluded, howev- er, that if a commercial pot indus- try is developed, the state would eventually collect hundreds of millions of dollars in additional tax.

New Addition to the Roster
By COLE BIENEK
Journalism Guild Writer

The religious program at San Quentin has expanded its borders to include a small but dedicated group of Wicca practitioners. The group, or “coven” as they are known, meets Saturday morn- ings in the old MAC office in the chapel plaza.

Two Britons revived Wicca, Gerald Gardner, in September 1939, after having heard the word during an initiatory service. Gardner, “the father of modern Wicca,” founded one of the two main streams of the religion, known as “Gardnerian Wicca.”

Alex Sanders developed the sec- ond denomination, termed “Alex- Sanders Wicca” in the 1950s. Certain practices and beliefs are commonly held among all Wicca practitioners. Of primary importance is the concept known as “Goddess.”

Wiccans recognize and empha- size gender polarity, as seen in their “Sabbat” (Sabbath) rituals that focus upon the relationship between the Wiccan Goddess and God. Basic Wicca cosmolo- gy closely relates to the beliefs of animism, where all natural things are believed to have a spirit. Wic- cans hold ceremonies for the four main seasonal cycles: Summer and Winter Solstices, and the Equinoxes. Other practices include rites to honor the lunar cycles, and initiatory rituals marking adherents’ levels of development, usually presented by ranks or degrees.

Another belief common to Wiccans is the Law of Threefold Return. Similar to the principle of Karma, Wiccans hold that whatever they do will return three times.

Most modern Wiccans are found on every continent, with the high- est percentages located in North America and Europe. For more information on Wic- can practice, or to sign up to at- tend services, contact Jimmy Snider in 2N-24.

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53,000 More Prison Beds

By MICHAEL COOKE
Journalism Guild Writer

Despite California’s budget crisis, the state is taking steps to relieve overcrowding in its prison system. Three new facilities are under construction aimed at relieving overcrowding. The driving forces are AB 900 and AB 552, which authorize $7.7 billion and $19.2 billion for the additional time these prisoners will serve.

**CONCRETE PROGRESS**

- A total of $208 million was spent on academic and vocational programs, but due to inadequate tracking, CDCR is unable to determine the progress of this program.
- CDCR is unable to quantify the number of inmates who complete programs or demonstrate improvement in certain areas.
- CDCR cannot track the relationship between recidivism rates and enrollment in its education programs.
- CDCR cannot determine how long inmates are on waiting lists for programming, whether they parole before assigned to programs, whether they are properly assigned or how long they are in programs.

The California Pooled Board (PWB) approved a budget that was passed to provide additional resources to combat overcrowding. The Dewitt Nelson Correctional Facility in Stockton, the Estrella Correctional Facility in Paso Robles, and the Estrella Correctional Facility will provide 630-bed state prison capacity. The estimated cost is $900.4 million. Construction is expected to be completed by Spring 2013.

**LEVEL II FACILITY**

The Estrella Correctional Facility is a $188.3 million project that will provide 684-bed Level II state prison for adult males. The project will have 1,133 beds and require significant infrastructure improvement, including housing, healthcare facilities, and administrative services for state inmates.

The Estrella Correctional Facility will be converted to create a 630-bed state prison for Level II adult males. The redeveloped facility will provide inmates with healthcare, programming, and support services for an estimated $111.4 million. Construction is scheduled for completion by January 2013.

The California Institution for Women (CIW) project will create a 45-bed acute/intermediate medical facility at CIW in Chino, including housing, treatment, support, and administrative services, and support services for an estimated $111.4 million. Construction is scheduled for completion by January 2013.

To address these shortcomings, CDCR indicated that a new data tracking system should be available by 2011, and an academic program new data tracking system should be available to allow effective monitoring and management of its prison data, according to the Audit Report. CDCR provided that in February 2009, 68,000 of 133,000 inmates tested scored below fourth-grade reading level. Yet CDCR cannot ensure that the prisoners enrolled in literacy programs are the ones in need of such programs.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. To ensure program needs of prisoners in the most cost-effective manner, CDCR should develop a staffing plan that allocates teachers and instructor positions at each institution based on the program needs of its students.
2. To ensure compliance with state law and measurement of the efficacy of its programs in reducing recidivism is met, CDCR should track, maintain, and use a comprehensive budget proposal in lieu of the Three Strikes Project.
3. To ensure staff is aware of relevant requirements related to prisoner literacy, CDCR should continue its efforts to update its adult education program policies.

Judge Orders Three-Strike Freed

A judge has ordered the release of Gregory Taylor, a man serving 25 years to life under California’s three-strikes law. Taylor was arrested in 1997, was convicted of attempted to open a door with the use of force, and was sentenced to life in prison. In 1984 and 1985, while addicted to crack cocaine and heroin, Mr. Taylor carried out two robberies to support his habits. No weapons were used and there were no injuries. Judge Peter Espinosa ordered Mr. Taylor’s release, stating that the three-strikes law often brings sentences that are “disproportionate” and frequently results in “unanticipated consequences.”

Fourteen inmates have been resentenced since law students working on the Three Strikes Project at Stanford Law School began reviewing cases in 2007. Cases are chosen from letters sent by inmates, or from names presented by Los Angeles District Attorney Steve Cooley. According to the national defense advocacy group, the Sentencing Project, 24 states have laws similar to California’s three-strikes.

It’s a challenge to keep North Block clean

North Block Inmates Trying to Stay Clean

By WILLIAM CORDOBA
Journalism Guild Writer

North Block’s cleanliness needs the cooperation of its inmate population and staff alike. Last month, the Men’s Advisory Counsel (MAC) handed out a flyer asking for everyone’s cooperation in upgrading this housing unit’s cleanliness. However, because certain facilities don’t specify that, in put in public view, will result in having a cleaner and healthier living environment for all.

Although cleaning materials are in short supply, North Block prisoners’ performance has improved, and the only participants are the ones in need of such programs.

Because of CDCR’s failure to update its policies regarding adult education programs since 1993, staff may not be able to track the requirements that should be met.

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Advocate Aims to Change 3 Strikes

By ARNELFO GARCIA
Staff Writer

JULIANNE PADGETT
Managing Editor

Barbara Brooks's son Jeff is imprisoned for life because of not one, not two, but three murders. She works tirelessly to change the controversial Three Strikes sentencing law.

"Even though my son is in prison, Jeff is the first of our family to graduate from college, and I am so proud of him," she said.

Barbara Brooks is the publisher of the newsletter Sentencing and Justice Reform Advocacy (S.R.A.). She attended the graduation of her son's Departure at San Quentin on June 24. He was valedictorian of his class.

"I started the Advocate in 1996, when my son was given a life sentence for a non-violent crime," Brooks said. She also wanted to inform the public about the Three Strikes law. Brooks began her paper on a shoestring budget and when she was in a corner of the world, all by herself.

"At first I did it for the love of my son," said Brooks. "But I quickly learned that there were many others sentenced under the Three Strikes law for non-violent crimes."

After further study of the Three Strikes law, Brooks said she discovered it was originally designed for violent felons only.

"Then came the politics which included any felony," said Brooks.

For further information, visit www.SJRAl.com or write PO Box 71, Olivehurst, CA 95961.

Unsung Heroes of Education

Continued from Page 1

One day during classes Kel- lum asked his students to visual- ize Gauvin as the author, coming to San Quentin to give a lecture to the men.

"It was like mind blowing to my inmates. They were sur- prised when she sent her senior assistant to teach my class," Kel- lum said. "They demonstrated to themselves and to each other the power and force of positive men- tal visualization."

His assistant also also came in and taught a workshop that was beneficial to the inmates. Kellum stated his job is to help and just not hear.

"If I can help on the outside with contacts I make it a point to have contacts like that assist those in here," he said.

Kellum noted that education is the key to human development and that direct experience and in- direct experience are the keys to the problems we face in society.

"This institution is about posi- tive change. That's why I'm here. It's my job to assist people in a structured environment," said Kellum. "And our education de- partment is a very important fac- tor in the rehabilitation process of human development."

And as Vice Principal of Rob- ert E. Burton's Adult School of Education, Kellum focused on the goals of sharpening the minds of the men instead of tear- ing them down.

"I have compassion for people and with the incarcerated popu- lation I know what kind of envi- ronment and educational system they are coming from," said Kel- lum. "Once they are incarcerated they are separated from the out- side influences. Therefore they can focus on their education."

As Vice Principal for five years Kellum said his position is the first line supervisor with the teachers, inmates, office techni- cians and teaching assistants.

"And having been here for 20 years in the educational system, my responsibilities is about human development, the staff, the in- mates and myself," Kellum said. "The graduation is an achieve- ment of accomplishment. It's a milestone of a person's life."

MICHAEL R. HARRIS, JULIANNE PADGETT and Arnulfo T. Garcia.

Weinberg's Visit to San Quentin

Continued from Page 1

Weinberg, a 93-year-old Holocaust survivor on- liams a five-year resident of San Quentin hosted the screening. Williams, whose Dharma name is "Kogen," is the Video Production Free Life.

Weinberg was impressed. After watching several pieces Wein- garten said, "I like this. Some of this is better than the stuff we produce. Can I see more?"

The video's project's film screening included "Repentance" and "Q.U.A.K.E. (Quentin United for Awareness of Kindness and Empathy) for Haiti Relief" and "Brilliance Behind Bars the Rap-u-mentary" directed by Marvin Andrews, also a graduate of the Discover- ery Channel Film School at San Quentin. When asked about his film Andrews said, "It displays a variety of talents that these men possess here at San Quentin in spite of their life obstacles… also what's not, is the typical depic- tion of incarcerated men."

LOST HIS BROTHER

Once the mini-film festival was complete, they were led to a different classroom full of await- ing inmates, volunteers and staff supporters. Inmates began dis- cussing what the self-help pro- grams have offered them and how special oppor- tunities meant to them. Kogen said he felt forced into a lifestyle with gangs at age thirteen. Later in life he was a 27 he lost his oldest brother.

While he was in county jail Kogen realized that the death and painful loss of his brother made him feel helpless, yet it also led him to a state of deep introspec- tion. He also realized the pain that he had caused to so many others.

Others in the room began to speak. "I sold a lot of dope to a lot of people and you need to know that," said Michael Harris. "Because when you do a lot to people you must do a lot for people." Jody Lewen of Patton University Proj- ect and a staunch supporter of the education and self-help programs said, "This is the only prison that has a film school, the newspaper, the programs. This place is sort of an incubator."

MAJOR DIFFERENCE

David Cowan, an eight-year resident at San Quentin, said, "What I get out of all the pro- grams as a whole is a sense that I'm being prepared for society. By participating in programs like; Patton University and the San Quentin T.R.U.S.T. (Teaching Responsibility Utilizing Socio- logical Training), and the Victim Offender Education Group."

Daniel Trevino Said, "I've learned through my writing that what you write can make a differ- ence in young people's lives." As dialogue continued more and more people expressed their inner thoughts, tables pushed to- gether and the gathering took the feeling of a round-table event. Daniel Montrose said, "I've been incarcerated since I was 15 years old. My brother was killed and I stopped going to school. I real- ized that I had to change things and school helped me." Daniel Hill, a lifer who has been incarcerated since 1991 and became a resident of San Quen- tin in 1997, said, "The question is what is the value of education? I ended up coming to prison with my father. As a little kid, I grew up watching my mother get beat by men. It was a dysfunctional environment."

Hill's statement prompted a re- sponse from Weinberg: "This is the theme that men in prison don't have fathers. This is the same sentiment that is shared by some of the war veterans and I remember I was working on with a film project."

I mentor SQUIRE kids every Saturday," the inmate Michael Tyler said. "My best moment was see- ing my mother's face when I got my diploma. Patten has given me different tools I can use. Still, finding myself in prison is very hard. I was a kid still trying to learn to be a man."

Arnulfo Garcia reflected on his prison time: "My last stretch in prison I was strung out the whole time. I lived with my parents in Mexico and I had my daughter. It was the first time I ever thought about changing my life. I just didn't want to be the kind of father who was strung out on drugs with a beautiful daughter." Lili Polastri of Link TV and a member of the graduate's group, said "I was just surprised at the fact that I didn't realize how unique San Quentin really is. I thought there was a certain amount of rehabilitation being done and there isn't. This is my first time visiting a prison and you men are so different from what people talk about. Is it re- ally possible to help people from here?" Lt. Robinson commented:

"What I get out of all the pro- grams as a whole is a sense that I'm being prepared for society. By participating in programs like; Patton University and the San Quentin T.R.U.S.T. (Teaching Responsibility Utilizing Socio- logical Training), and the Victim Offender Education Group.

"And having been here for 20 years in the educational system, my responsibilities is about human development, the staff, the in- mates and myself," Kellum said. "The graduation is an achieve- ment of accomplishment. It's a milestone of a person's life."
By PAUL JORDAN
Contributing Writer

After three decades of incarceration, Noey Valdivia, Sr. left San Quentin a free man on July 8, 2010. I met Noey on a beautiful spring day in 2002 as we were running laps in the San Quentin yard. He passed me for the third or fourth time I said, “It never gets easier, does it?”

Since then I worked with him in the Sheet Metal Shop, participating in numerous groups such as Trust, Impact and college classes. I played baseball with him several seasons, and we lived as “next door” neighbors for several years. His odyssey of incarceration began as a teenager on the hard streets of Stockton, where he fell in with a rough crowd and began experimenting with drugs and alcohol. That led to a murder.

Noey admitted what he did and signed the dotted line for guilty and went to prison for 25 years to life.

One thing that Noey and anyone who knows him will tell you is he is a very bright man. He spent much of his time reading in the Law Library fighting for his freedom. The Parole Board never found Noey suitable for release, always coming back saying he would pose “an unreasonable risk of danger to society” if released. Noey appealed these findings and ultimately had the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals order his release with no parole.

The heroism of Noey as a person and litigator is that he helped others with their appeals. There is a long list of people he got out. He never said “no” when asked for help. There were guys at his door all day and everyday asking for legal help. Another thing about Noey is that he had this incredibly inappropriate optimism. When I would say to my roommate, “What’s up with that dude?” After all these years of being locked up, no end in sight, enduring decades of oppression, he always laughed. I thought he couldn’t miss the sound of that laughter.

When told there would be only one baseball team this year, thereby excluding dozens of people, he organized a second team. People often refer to Noey’s squad as the “B” team or “second” team, yet in head-to-head competition against the Giants, the B team is up two games on the A team.

Noey is also a family man. He has a son, a daughter and grandchildren whom he loves dearly. The last visit Noey had I recall looking at him sitting next to his 80-something-year-old mother. She was in a wheelchair, holding on for dear life until her son came home, and she had the most beautiful smile. She held on. Noey is home with his family.

Former California Sen. John Burton, who sponsored the California Commission of the Fair Administration of Justice in August 2004. The commission concluded that the California death penalty system is dysfunctional and that a death sentence really amounts to life in prison. Since 1977, only seven prisoners serving life without parole have left prison – only because they were wrongfully innocent.

Costs 10 TIMES MORE

About 87 percent of first-degree murderers are eligible for the death penalty, according to the commission’s findings.

It typically takes three to five years to bring a death penalty case to trial, costing 10 times more than an ordinary murder case. Only 20 percent of death penalty cases result in a judgment of death. The State Public Defender’s Office reports that appellate courts overturn 72 percent of those verdicts.

The victim’s family are frequently the determining factor in whether prosecutors seek the death penalty.

Executions have been on hold in California since early 2004 and, when U.S. District Judge Jeremy Fogel ruled that the lethal injection method utilized by the prison may be cruel and unusual punishment. Although state prison officials won approval of a newly revised lethal injection procedure in early August, it brought a new lawsuit making the resumption of executions unclear.

The Field Poll has been measuring public opinion toward the death penalty for over 50 years. In each measure, there has been a significant and greater than or opposition to the death penalty, although the size of the pluralities in favor has varied. In the period 1956-1971, supporters outnumbered opponents by margins ranging from 12 to 24 percentage points. Support for the death penalty expanded greatly in the late 1970s and continued throughout the decades of the 1980s and 1990s to where supporters outnumbered opponents by margins of five to six or one.

The Field Poll conducted in July found that 70 percent of Californians support the death penalty as a punishment for first-degree murder. However, if given a choice on what punishment to impose for first-degree murder, 41 percent chose the death penalty, while 42 percent chose life in prison without the possibility of parole.

The lowest percentage in favor of the death penalty in 1957 was 49 percent in favor, 29 percent opposed and 22 percent had no opinion. A dramatic shift in opinion began in 1960 when there was a 12 percent change from 22 percent of Californians who had no opinion. Those who had no opinion split evenly between in favor and opposed. This “split” corresponds with the beginning of extreme political polarization in California regarding the death penalty.

The widest margin of disagreement in the poll was in 1985 and 1986 with only two and three percent having no opinion, respectively. During that period, 83 percent of Californians supported the death penalty while 15 and 14 percent opposed it, respectively.
**SPORTS**

**San Quentin Warriors Off to a Great Start**

By GEORGE LAMB

Contributing Writer

Editor's Note: George Lamb, aka Coach Carter, is in his fourth season as head coach of the San Quentin basketball team after several seasons as a player.

The 2010 San Quentin Warrior basketball team that qualified for what could be its most promising season in the Prison Sports Ministry Program's history is still taller and more talented lineup than previously seen is off to the best start in several years. Featuring the most entertaining basketball ever played at San Quentin, the Warriors face the highest level of competition seen than previously seen is off to the best start in several years. Featuring the most entertaining basketball ever played at San Quentin, the Warriors face the highest level of competition seen.

This team is the best all-around team in my eight seasons with the program, according to the team's head coach. They are tall in height, and taller in two-losses, while averaging 95.7 points per game. The front line features its own version of the “Big Three.” At power forward is Anane “Naa-Nee” aka “The Big Fella.” You are not a guard! Anane “Naa-Nee” averaged 6-foot-8, averaging 23.0 ppg and 18.9 rpg. At small forward is R. “Mugha” aka “Smoooth Steady” They can’t guard you on the low block” aka Mr. Inside/Outside. Outside columns at 6-foot-7, averaging 19.8 pp and 9.7 rpg. Center is Daniel “Big Bear” aka “The Big Hurt”?” That’s a basketball not a Salome” Wright at 6-foot-6, averaging 15.4 ppg and 12.1 rpg.

Flanking the Big Three is a tenacious defender in Matthew “Always in Attack Mode” aka “Make a layup please” Carnegie, averaging 15.7 ppg, 9.0 rpg, and 4.4 steals per game, along with the veteran play at point guard of Mike “Y’all should have me back in the day” aka “The Matte” Dorie averaging 8.2 ppg and 5.0 apg.

The Warriors reserve corps and that of Coach Lamb’s start; they play an exciting up-tempo and fast-paced style of basketball. This supportive cast of men, with its high energy, is crowd pleaser; everyone wants to see them make the most of their opportunities.

They include Deltone “Chic” aka “Air Yicker” averaging 7.6 ppg and 7.9 rpg. Bobby “Bri” aka “It’s not as easy as it looks” Jones averaging 9.1 ppg and 2.4 rpg and playing challenging by Byron “Buddy” aka “Two the hard way” Hall averaging 6.6 ppg and 4.6 rpg, for the most improved player since the season opener.

There is also Jermaine “Kee-ley” aka “Flipper fingers” aka Coach Lamb’s go to guy going the other way” Hall averaging 6.2 ppg and 6.0 T/Opg.

Last, but not least is James “Big Baby-Hbaby!” Strike the pose Bennett averaging 1.8 ppg and 1.0 rpg. He doesn’t score much, but when he does, he manages to make it look pretty. He also displays the right attitude whether; in the game or on the sidelines of the game; a result will receive more opportunities to impact the team’s success.

This program is spiritually based, including reconstruction, funding, and supporting from the Bay Area Christian community along with San Quentin. This support based is comprised of one Division II team, one Division III team and three teams from Bay Area men’s and Christian Leagues.

Most responsible for the program’s successes and overcoming its challenges is General Manager Steve “Big Basket” Irwin. He will forever be noticed by Miguel R. and others of their time and other resources in an effort to support our program and our mission to “build men.”

With the season spanning 32 weeks and our schedule only filtered through the end of August, we are prepared for the addition of other Bay Area small colleges and a Pro Am team too.

**Life on Parole Has Its Ups and Downs**

Continued from Page 1

tual card in hand. You can't get the Social Security card without first having a driver’s license or an I.D. card. A driver’s license will set you back $25, which you could have a number of ways by which you can get helping paying for it. Your parole agent will give you a voucher for $10 simply for that purpose, making your out-of-pocket cost $6. You can also get the same voucher from the local office of Health and Human Services and will be available at one of several non-profit organizations such as Proteus or C-SET.

Over many about seven to ten days to get your I.D. card, and another three to six days for the Social Security card. The Social Security card is free – a bargain! A time for growing.

Again, the days when the handy computer printout would get you by are long in the past. A printout from the DMV will not get you a card at the Social Security office. Gotta have the actual I.D. card in hand, and in order to apply for your Social Security card. So plan on making the local DMV one of your very first stops.

But passes at are the discretion of your parole agent, but until such time as the state passes a budget, there are simply not many to be had. It’s economics, folks, money! And there ain’t none for anyone these days, and especially for parolees. Not in a state that can’t even pass a budget on time.

**Wellness Corner**

The San Quentin News “Health and Wellness Corner” column runs when articles are submitted for publication. A Centerforce health professional will answer questions that you submit about health issues. Feel free to ask us questions about anything that you have, and may be answered so that everyone can benefit. Put your questions in a U-Save-Em envelope addressed to Health and Wellness Corner, Centerforce (Education Dept.) Medical Box. Your name and number will be kept confidential.

In this edition, we will address our mission statement:

The Centerforce mission is to support, educate and advocate for individuals, families and communities impacted by incarceration. Centerforce’s founders established the first Visitors’ Center in California outside the gates of San Quentin. In 1981, with the help of the late state Assemblyman William Filante, Centerforce drafted legislation that mandated the CDCR to establish prison visitors’ centers for individuals with an inmate population of more than 800. The California visitors’ centers provide information about prison visiting, transport and to and from public transit terminals, hospitality and comfort in the form of basic amenities. Social service referrals are available in every prison.

Currently, Centerforce provides the following programs:

LIFE (Leaders In Future Environments) – This is a one-on-one mentoring program that aims to support youth who have or have had a prior incarceration.

HRMF (Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood) – This program is designed to strengthen marriages/relationships of incarcerated fathers released from prison. Activities include parent/child bonding and relationship building.

H-Unit (Back-to-family) classes, the couples enhancement workshops (held inside H-Unit visiting) and family reunification case management for families after release from incarceration.

PROJECT RE-ENTRY Planning A Healthy Life (Outcomes, HOP) – This program provides re-entry planning services for men released from San Quentin.

Peer Health Education – Centerforce currently employs five peer health educators to provide health education to men living at San Quentin. Presentations are given to men entering the institution, in education classes and in some housing areas. Additionally, the peer health educators are available to anyone living at San Quentin at any time to answer questions about health issues. This program also provides a five-day training annually to other men interested in providing education to their peers. The current peer health educators are Alfonso Carranza, Darrell Cortez Hartley, Kenyatta Leal, Lonnie Morris and Tung Nguyen.

If you have questions about these programs, contact Dolores Lyles or Julie Libbyah from Centerforce.

The organization’s website is www.Centerforce.org

**LETTERS**

Warden Ayers Writes

Former Warden Robert Ayers Jr. revived the San Quentin News two years ago before his retirement. He sent this note after receiving a copy of the June-July issue.

Steve, Thanks very much for sending the newsletter. We are glad to see this new effort, and are looking forward to it becoming a permanent feature of the prison. We are looking forward to seeing the continuation of the newsletter as it continues to grow.

Peace, Cynthia White

**Time for Growing**

Although locked away and out of the eyes of society, it doesn’t mean our minds have to be at a standstill. This is a time to re-open our minds to the true ripple affect of our actions. The collateral damage which is ours alone to claim.

This time away that we have should be a time for growing, getting to know ourselves and people as community, reflecting and feeling what we’ve done to hurt so many with our actions. We are the only ones who can change who we are and we have to take responsibility.

It’s our choices and decisions that bring us to places like this, but we alone can change this. We can just as productive as society in every aspect. The buck stops with us. We’re the ones who are setting the examples for the next generation. We need to become the solution to the problem that we helped create. Educating ourselves in every aspect that we can, getting in touch with our inner person and reaching out to those we have hurt whenever possible.

Change comes from within and can’t be forced upon nobody. None of us are perfect, we make mistakes all the time, what do you learn from your mistakes to better yourself? It’s time to stop being a prisoner within ourselves and be free no matter where we are. Peace to you all always.

-Michael Jackson

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In Indian Country
By DANIEL TREVINOS
Journalism Guild Writer

The eagle is a bird that Native people feel is connected to the Great Spirit.

Because the eagle flies the highest of all birds, close to where the Great Spirit dwells, he is regarded as a special messenger to, and from, the Creator. And as such is very sacred to Native people.

Eagle feathers are considered the most sacred of prayer tools, and used for centuries for the cleansing of auras, and for healing. The eagle is considered an emissary from the spirit world, so its feathers are sacred pieces of the Great Spirit, and as such are never worn as casual adornment. Eagle medicine represents a state of grace, hard work, understanding and completion of certain tests.

It is by experiencing life’s lows, as well as its highs, and the trial of trusting in the Great Spirit, that have given Native people the right to use eagle feathers for prayer and healing.

Eagle feathers, talons, and bones are protected by the United States government. Laws prohibiting their use are strictly enforced. Native tribes are exempt from these laws, and are free to use eagle talons, bones, and feathers for prayer and healing.
