

NW COALITION FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

P. O. Box 21428 • SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98111-3428 • (206) 233-9136

P.O. Box 36 BELLINGHAM, WA 98227 (360) 756-0914 • E-MAIL: chdpx@aol.com

NORTHWEST UPDATE

February 15, 2000

23. RACIST LEADER ARRESTED ON DRUG CHARGES: Utah white supremacist, John Bangerter, his wife, brother and another woman have been arrested at their home on drug charges. Bangerter, 30, Cassandra Bangerter, 32, Grant J. Bangerter, 26, and Grant Bangerter's girlfriend, Sarah Withers, 18, were arrested Tuesday for investigation of possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. John Bangerter had a small band of followers called the Army of Israel, that at one point talked about creating a whites-only homeland in Zion National Park. (*Salt Lake City Tribune*, February 10, 2000)

24. ANTI-IMMIGRANT GROUPS TARGET AFL-CIO: Anti-Immigrant groups are urging union members to petition AFL-CIO President John Sweeney to oppose a new union resolution. The resolution would end sanctions against employers who hire illegal immigrants. The Midwest Coalition to Reform Immigration is using immigration as a wedge issue in order to frame the debate. They are attempting to portray the union's actions as a move by the AFL-CIO to abandon American workers and high wages in favor of cheaper immigrant labor.

25. WHITE POWER VS. POTATOES: Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne plans to counter the state's long-term reputation as a haven for white supremacists, by asking the Legislature for \$100,000 toward an image campaign, and \$50,000 for a Hispanic Cultural Center. The strategy also includes solicitation from the corporate community, with the hope of raising \$500,000 to \$1 million this year. Hewlett Packard Co., for example, hopes to raise \$3 million for the center, and has already contributed \$50,000. Kempthorne said most Americans have an incomplete picture of Idaho. "We ought to fill in the blanks." According to a 1999 national survey, 4% of respondents cited "extremism" as the first thing they associated with Idaho. Potatoes got 65%. (*Idaho Statesman*, February 6)

26. SCHOOL SEEKS CULPRIT IN RACIST DEATH THREATS: School administrators are searching for clues at the high school in Battle Ground, Washington hoping to find out who scrawled "Blacks must die" on the bathroom walls. The threats were written over a one-week period. There are eight African American students at the 1,900-student high school. (*Columbian*, January 29)

27. WASHINGTON NEO-NAZI JAILED FOR MANUFACTURING DRUGS: Joseph Patrick Ryncarz, of Republic, Washington was jailed for manufacturing methamphetamines. He was the co-editor of the *Northwest Imperative*, a neo-Nazi publication from Portland, Oregon with neo-Nazi Derek Stenzel. Ryncarz worked as a registered lobbyist in Washington State on "First Amendment Rights" and is currently a member of the neo-Nazi organization, SS Action Group.

28. WHITE POWER GROUP EMERGES IN VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON: A neo-Nazi group calling itself the Vancouver National Socialist Party recently sent out a blanket e-mail in the Portland/Vancouver area seeking recruits. "We as a group of active Vancouver community individuals for the past 5 years, have followed the creed as set forth by our hero's [sic] and martyr's [sic], Adolf Hitler, George Lincoln Rockwell, [and] The Order Bruder Schweigen," said the e-mail." The group is planning to make its literature and stickers available to members.

29. FORMER RESISTANCE RECORDS LEADER EMBROILED IN CONTROVERSEY: Mark Wilson, who ran the white power record company Resistance Records, is trying to move into a new career. Wilson and his wife Dana work at Ameritech in Appleton, Wisconsin where they are customer service supervisors. Many of the employees the Wilsons supervise are people of color, who want him and his wife out. However, company officials have decided to retain the Wilsons, even after they were alerted to a re-broadcast of the A & E cable network show featuring Wilson and his wife asserting their white power beliefs. The show originally aired in 1995, and since then Mark Wilson claims to have reformed saying his past is "something I am really ashamed of." (*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, February 15)

30. RACIST SKINHEAD MUSIC IN SPOKANE: The racist music scene in Spokane, Washington is gaining momentum. In October of 1999, Nate Zorn of the White Order of Thule relocated to nearby Deer Park, just north of Spokane. Zorn also publishes Fenris Wolf Press, a magazine that covers neo-Nazi bands and Pagan beliefs. The racist industrial band Blut Kampf recently released a 7" record on the Arizona-based Asgaard Label to go with their earlier cassette release on Spokane's Total War Productions. Total War Productions, PO Box 792, Spokane, WA 99210.

31. SCHOOLS RESPOND TO RACIST INCIDENT AT SOUTH KITSAP HIGH SCHOOL: The Narrows League, an 11-school sports league, has made recommendations in response to a racial incident at a Port Orchard school. On January 12, during a varsity boys basketball game between Tacoma's Foss High School, a predominantly African American team, and South Kitsap High School, a mostly white team, at least a dozen South Kitsap fans chanted "go rob a liquor store" and "hooked on phonics/Ebonics." Six of the students were disciplined by the principal, and required to write a letter of apology. In response, Tacoma School District athletic director, Joe Bullock, said league-wide suggestions are being made which include cultural diversity training for students, sanctions, follow-up procedures and an appeal process. Students of South Kitsap also vowed to step up their leadership to ensure nothing like this happens again. (*The News Tribune*, Jan 30)

32. RACIST INCIDENT FAILS TO DRAW CHARGES IN SALEM, OREGON: A January 1999 case charging 4 white men of assault, criminal mischief, and racial intimidation of a black security guard, was dropped when the victim, Warner Dash, 31, failed to appear in court. Justin M. Hunt, Joshua L. Bandfield, Ivan R. Pawl, and James B. Cale, were driving a blue Chevy Cavalier along-side Dash's vehicle, shouting racial slurs and making hateful gestures while throwing objects at the victim's car. The four then surrounded Dash when he pulled into a gas station to assess the damage. While they taunted him with more racial slurs and threats, Dash grabbed his Mag-Lite flashlight and hit Hunt in the head. The other three proceeded to smash, kick, and shatter the windows and lights of the victim's vehicle. A hearing is set for February 22 to determine if the District Attorney's office will be able to refile the case. (*Statesman Journal*, February 5)

The NWCHD Research Department prefers incident reports, newspaper clippings, event write-ups, questions and comments to be e-mailed to chdpx@aol.com. Alternatively you can mail such items to the address below or call us at the numbers listed. We rely upon such information to fill out much of the Northwest Update and we appreciate your contributions.