

# National News

## Schools teaching 'feeling cubes' and 'self-science'

The Nov. 7 *Sunday New York Times* devoted a 40-page insert to what passes for education in today's United States. Among the courses the insert approvingly describes as being taught to children from kindergarten to high school are those on "managing your feelings." The children do everything from rolling dice called "feeling cubes," to answering roll call with a number on an emotion scale (1 is "feeling low," 10 is "flying high").

One fifth-grade class in a California private school is taking "self-science." Says the director of the school, "Learning doesn't take place in isolation from kids' feelings. Being emotionally literate is as important for learning as instruction in math and reading." The article says that the self-science course "is a pioneer in a movement that is spreading to schools throughout the country. The names for it range from 'social development' to 'life skills' to 'personal intelligence,' the last referring to the influential model of multiple intelligences put forth by Howard Gardner of the Harvard School of Education."

## Voting rights heroine honored in Alabama

Civil rights heroine Amelia Boynton Robinson was honored in Selma, Alabama Nov. 14, at a ceremony held at the National Voting Rights Museum & Institute, which opened a month-long Living History Exhibit to celebrate her life-long commitment to civil rights. Mrs. Robinson, who is now the vice-chairman of the Schiller Institute, was surrounded by 75 family members, friends, and associates during the program, which featured an exhibit on "Footprints to Freedom."

The event recalled the nearly 60 years of fighting for justice for all Americans, which began in the 1930s when Robinson and her first husband, Samuel W. Boynton, orga-

nized sharecroppers in poverty-stricken rural Alabama, which commitment then grew into her battle alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rev. James Bevel, who spoke at the event, for voting rights for black Americans in the 1950s and '60s. A city council declaration to honor Mrs. Robinson, naming Nov. 14 Amelia Boynton Robinson Day, was read by her son Bruce Boynton. Many participants remembered when Amelia Boynton was jailed in Selma for her organizing.

Helga Zepp-LaRouche, president of the Schiller Institute internationally, also sent a proclamation, announcing that the institute will henceforth celebrate Nov. 14 as Amelia Boynton Robinson Day, in combination with annual events to honor Friedrich Schiller's birthday on Nov. 10.

## Disney amusement park to include slavery

Black chattel slavery will be a featured part of the new amusement park which the Disney company is proposing to build in Haymarket, Virginia in 1998, near the Manassas Battlefield. The new park's theme will ostensibly be American history. The proposal was blasted in a commentary in the *Washington Post* by Courtland Milloy, titled "Slavery Is Not Amusing," on a proposed exhibit designed to make you "feel what it was like to be a slave."

"I have never ceased being amazed by America's endless penchant for racial madness," he wrote. "Who can blame Disney for figuring that some of these same customers would be amused by black people strapped to a whipping post in 3-D Surround sound? . . . Disney never would have entertained the idea of a Holocaust exhibit near a merry-go-round. Besides, we've got enough mementos to the legacy of slavery. Our city schools sure look like slave museums to me. Sometimes it seems as if when it was illegal to teach blacks to read and write, we had more blacks reading and writing than we do now.

"You want to see a slave exhibit in Virginia? Go to [the District of Columbia prison in nearby] Lorton, where more black men

wear shackles than business suits. And what about our neighborhoods, which feature liquor stores on every corner? . . . Better to get rid of some of those exhibits before we start coming up with new ones."

## Execution of minors allowed by crime bill

An amendment to the U.S. crime bill which would have prohibited the application of the death penalty to those under 18 when the crime was committed, was defeated on Nov. 8 in the Senate by a vote of 52 to 41. The amendment, sponsored by Sen. Paul Simon (D-Ill.), would have applied to state cases as well as federal cases. Senator Simon listed Bangladesh, Barbados, Pakistan, Iran, and Iraq as the only other countries that still allow the execution of minors. "I do not think we should continue in that kind of lonely company," he said.

Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) spoke in opposition to the amendment, complaining that it was an unwarranted violation of states' rights. "I think the states are very capable of making up their own minds, regardless of what we may think one way or the other."

## 'Red Star' sees shakeup coming in Washington

The Russian military daily *Krasnaya Zvezda* (*Red Star*) noted on Nov. 9 that "rumors persist . . . that President Clinton is considering . . . replacing the officials who have been responsible for implementing U.S. foreign policy," which, added the paper, has been a failure. Among those named are Secretary of State Warren Christopher, National Security Adviser Anthony Lake, Defense Secretary Les Aspin, and CIA chief James Woolsey.

"We will see in the near future just how well-founded these rumors are," added the paper. "But it is obvious that the Clinton administration must pay increased attention

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to a vigorous foreign policy activity which, most importantly, yields a practical return."

The reason for the rumors, said *Krasnaya Zvezda*, is that "Washington has not yet produced a coherent and clear foreign policy strategy. . . . After the collapse of the peacemaking mission in Somalia, the failure to 'restore democracy' in Haiti has only deepened the crisis of U.S. diplomacy."

Lyndon LaRouche, asked to comment on the Russian report in an "EIR Talks" radio interview on Nov. 17, pointed out that it is significant that the Russian military newspaper published it. "After all, the military does effectively own Yeltsin now, since Oct. 4; they are saying that the United States is a giant not with feet of clay, but with a head of clay."

### Innocent Missouri inmate is facing execution

An innocent prison inmate, Lloyd Schlup, is facing execution on Nov. 17 in Missouri unless action is taken to prevent it. The dissenting judge wrote after the Eighth Circuit Court upheld Schlup's conviction: "You may be innocent, but you are not innocent enough, early enough." Under federal law, unless the evidence of innocence is overwhelming, the argument of ineffective trial is not sufficient to stop his execution, and the court ruled on Oct. 15 that a videotape and eyewitness evidence were not enough.

Schlup, who is white, was convicted of helping to kill a black Muslim inmate in state prison, together with two white supremacists. The other two state categorically that Schlup was not there (one has been sentenced to death, and the other to life without parole). Moreover a prison videotape, with a time marking, shows that Schlup was in the lunch line at the time of the murder. The guard who searched Schlup before he got in the lunch line recently came forward to say that he would have testified on Schlup's behalf at the trial, but the defense attorney didn't call him. He also didn't call the two alleged murderers or any of the dozen black prisoners who were ready

to testify that Schlup didn't do it.

In his dissent, Judge Gerald W. Heaney wrote that it was "inconceivable" that the prison eyewitnesses were not interviewed by trial or earlier post-review counsel, and that he believed "any reasonable juror, faced with the entire record, including the new eyewitnesses, would reasonably doubt Schlup's guilt."

### FBI's Hoover had 'weak case' against Oswald

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover told President Lyndon Johnson in 1963 that the case against Lee Harvey Oswald, alleged assassin of President John F. Kennedy, was weak, according to the *Houston Chronicle* on Nov. 11. The newspaper reported that two taped telephone conversations between Hoover and Johnson have just been declassified and their transcripts released.

The news provides further evidence of an FBI coverup of the conspiracy to kill Kennedy, and an effort to falsely pin the blame on Oswald as a "lone assassin."

In the first call, on Nov. 23, 1963, Hoover told Johnson: "The case as it stands now isn't strong enough to get a conviction. This man Oswald has denied everything. He doesn't know anything about anything." By the second call, a week later, after Oswald had been killed by Jack Ruby, Hoover had abruptly changed his tune. He was totally confident of Oswald's guilt; no need for a trial now, as Oswald was conveniently dead. Hoover told Johnson that he would have liked to have subjected Oswald to a lie detector test: "It would have added that much more strength to it." Hoover continued, "There is no question but that he is the man, now with the fingerprints and things we have."

The tapes of the two calls have been in the LBJ Library in Austin, and transcripts were supposed to be kept secret for 50 years after Johnson's death; but the transcripts have been released under the terms of legislation that authorizes the release of government files and information relating to the Kennedy assassination.

● **THE BAPTIST GENERAL** Association of Virginia voted on Nov. 9 to call homosexual "behavior" sinful. The body also voted to start a program, "True Love Waits," in which young people commit themselves to premarital chastity.

● **A LAWSUIT TO BLOCK U.S. AID** from financing the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) was filed on Nov. 9 by Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.) because of the U.N. agency's support for coerced abortion in China. Smith charges that it is against U.S. law to finance coerced abortion. The Agency for International Development provided \$14.5 million for UNFPA in fiscal 1993.

● **VOTERS IN ELGIN**, Illinois passed a referendum to legalize riverboat gambling by a 2-to-1 margin on Nov. 2. Area opposition to the plan was spearheaded by Steve Sherbondy, head of the local Citizens for Responsive Government group.

● **WINDMILLS** in Altamont Pass, California, used for "environmentally safe" energy production, have killed "an estimated 500 birds of prey over a two-year period, including 78 federally protected golden eagles," according to the newsletter of Fusion Power Associates. There are 7,300 of the culprit wind turbines on an 80-acre plot.

● **THE UAW VOTED** overwhelmingly to accept a new three-year contract with General Motors. The contract, covering 250,000 workers, includes fully paid health benefits and a wage increase of 3% in the first year.

● **PRESIDENT CLINTON** has requested that Attorney General Janet Reno promptly prepare legislation that would curb all forms of child pornography. "I find all forms of child pornography offensive and harmful as I know you do, and I want the federal government to lead aggressively in the attack against the scourge of pornography," Clinton said in a letter to Reno.