

San Quentin News

THE PULSE OF SAN QUENTIN

VOL. 2013 NO. 11

November 2013

SAN QUENTIN, CALIFORNIA 94964

www.sanquentinnews.com

POPULATION 4,148



Michael Valdez@cdcr.ca.gov

Instructors being trained and certified

CDCCR Certifies 48 Instructors

The Office of Correctional Education (OCE) recently held three one-week training and certification classes for 48 current instructors in the Inter-net and Computing Core (IC3) and Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) programs. The concentrated week-long training sessions provided focused training in alignment with the new Office Services and Related Technology and Computer Literacy curricula. The training provided each instructor direct knowledge of the software used in each program. Instructors experienced teacher-led instruction tied to student certification for IC3 and Microsoft Specialist Word, Excel and Power Point. This investment in instructor training is an example of the Ca-

reer Technical Education and Leadership Council (CTELC) and the OCE's commitment to continuous improvement of career technical education and to provide students with career skills that will assist them upon release.

The dedication to learning and improving student success was evident as many instructors studied and practiced after class had ended. The staff worked collaboratively, and supported one another. Their diligence paid off as all received the training needed to implement the new curricula; improve student success; as well as gain certification in IC3 and MOS Word, Excel and Power Point.

See *CDCCR* on page 5

San Quentin Community Remembers Sergeant Dennis 'Bubba' Wright

DENNIS "BUBBA" WRIGHT
August 24, 1974 -
September 24, 2012



Family Photo

Sgt. Wright in uniform

On September 24, 2013, the San Quentin community remembered Sgt. Dennis "Bubba" Wright, whose expansive personality continues to inspire everyone who knew him. The consensus among staff and inmates is that "Bubba" loved life with the heart of a "Gentle Giant." One month after his 38th birthday, "Bubba" suffered a fatal heart attack (9-24-12). Along with his wife, and six children, the entire SQ family continues the grieving process. The

memory of the joy and the laughter he instilled in everyone he met is the positive-motivating force that carries them along.

To everyone who was touched by his kind spirit, "Bubba" was the most kind and gentle soul inside San Quentin. C/O B. Hart stated, "He was straight forward, and would do almost anything he can to help you. He was fair, and I really miss my sumo wrestling partner."

The message of generosity and respect was repeated by everyone who knew him. "Bubba" spent most of his time in West Block. For those inmates, Curly Joe Burrell said, "He was the handle that made our life inside a little bit better. We looked forward to "Bubba's" tequila whistling,

See *Sgt. Wright* on page 5

William James Association Promotes S.Q. Arts Project

By **Boston Woodard**
Staff Writer

The William James Association (WJA) is an organization that promotes work services in the arts, environment, and education. In addition, community development currently provides the Prison Arts Project for prisoners.

"The biggest thing about the Prison Arts Project is it's inspiring," said Laurie Brooks, Executive Director of the William James Association. "It allows people to rise above their circumstances to find the beauty in their art. Art has a way of uniting everyone, especially through music," she said. Brooks has been with the WJA since 1989. According to Brooks, there are currently 10 arts facilitators assigned to the San Quentin Arts Project.

The WJA is a nonprofit com-

munity service corporation founded in 1973 by Page Smith and Paul Lee. The association was named after an American

philosopher William James, who was deeply concerned with the

See *Prison Arts* on page 4



Photo by Steve Enrick

James Norton and Laurie Brooks painting a mural

John Kelly's Inspirational Journey

'The system lacks the ability to discriminate'

By **Sally Schilling**
Daily Journal

John Kelly said he just sort of fell into a life of community service. His desire to help others led him down many different career paths. He was a priest, a teacher and dean at Serra High School, and later

the founding director of the Samaritan House in San Mateo County. He taught kids English and Latin at Serra and helped grow the Samaritan House — which now provides a wide range of basic

needs — into a strong human services agency serving the most needy in San Mateo County. Through teaching and working at the Samaritan House, he learned how to address the needs of a community. He had a window into the world of those who were deeply struggling, but had

never thought about society's challenges in terms of the criminal population, that is until he visited San Quentin State Prison.

See *John Kelly's* on page 5



Photo by Sam Heames

John Kelly at the Kid C.A.T. banquet

Folsom State Prison Celebrates The Graduation of 15 Women

By **Emile DeWeaver**
Journalism Guild

Last July, 15 women doing time at Folsom prison graduated from educational programs ranging from high school diplomas to pouring concrete on construction sites. The program is a part of California Prison Industry Authority's (Cal-PIA)

Career Technical Education Pre-Apprenticeship Program.

In addition to learning these skills, the women may be the first offender rehabilitation program in the nation to collaborate with trade unions to learn masonry, work jackhammers, and in the word of a

See *Folsom Women* on page 5

Inside Edition #52

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------|
| William James Assoc. | 1 | Around the World | 9 |
| 48 Instructors certified | 1 | Incarcerated parents | 10 |
| John Kelly | 1 | Laundry room | 11 |
| Sgt. Dennis Wright | 1 | Artist Alfredo Santos | 11 |
| Folsom grad. 15 women | 1 | Arts & Entertainment | 12 |
| Lt. Andersen retires | 2 | An 'OG's' Perspective | 13 |
| Prison pop. declines | 3 | Book Review | 13 |
| Prison funding | 3 | Asked on the Line | 14 |
| County jail construction | 3 | News Briefs | 14 |
| Realignment challenges | 4 | Public safety | 15 |
| Sterilization renewed | 5 | Bias justice system | 15 |
| Editorial | 6 | Predicting crime | 15 |
| Letters to the editor | 6 | Education Corner | 16 |
| Juvenile recidivism | 7 | Pelican Bay's Edu. | 16 |
| Fund empty prison beds | 7 | Solano's Edu. Fair | 16 |
| \$12 million lawsuit | 7 | SQUIRES | 17 |
| Releasing 878 convicts | 7 | Erroneous documents | 17 |
| ACLU lawsuit | 7 | Wellness Corner | 17 |
| Criticizing realignment | 8 | The Show | 18 |
| D.A. speaks to S.Q. | 8 | Hedge fund manager | 18 |
| Hidden mural | 9 | Sports | 19-20 |

We Can Use Your Help

The San Quentin News is not supported financially by the California prison system and depends on outside assistance. If you would like to help, there are two ways, both of which are tax-deductible. To contribute with a check, send it to Prison Media Project, c/o Media Alliance, 1904 Franklin Street, No. 818, Oakland, CA 94612. Do not use this address for general correspondence. Instead, write to the San Quentin News, 1 Main Street, San Quentin, CA 94964. To contribute with a credit card, go to our website, www.sanquentinnews.com, click on Support, and then on that page go to the bottom paragraph and click on Here. That will take you to the page where you can use a credit card. A special thanks goes to Marin Sun Printing in San Rafael where our paper is printed. The following groups and individuals have already made contributions:

FOUNDATIONS

The Annenberg Foundation, Columbia Foundation, Marin Community Foundation, Pastor Melissa Scott, and RESIST

INDIVIDUALS

Violet Adkins, Lois Ahrens, Alliance for Change, Anonymous, Bill Anderson, Daniel Barton*Attorney at Law, Iris Biblowitz*, Christopher B., Jeremy D. Blank, Bruce and Maris Budner, Kasi Chakravartula*, Abby Chin, Yevgenya Chityan, Lita Collins, Kevin Danaher, Christine Dell, Barry Eisenberg, Tamar Enoch, Jesykah Forkash, Amy Friedman, Geraldine Goldberg, Joyce Griffin, William Hagler, Jordana Hall, Jun Hamamoto*, Danielle Harris, Suzanne Herel*, Mary Hiester, Douglas Horngrad, Jeremy Johnson, Monica Johnson, Susanne Karch, Helen Kelly, Chad Kempel, Richard Keyes, Elsa Legesse*, Michele Lomelino, Linda Mafrice*, John Mallen*, Rosemary Malvey*, Edwin McCauley, June McKay*, Ray Menaster, Eugenia Milito, Kelly Mortensen*, Adriana Navas, Leslie Neale, Thomas Nolan*Attorney at Law, Daniel and Julia O'Daly, Caitlin O'Neil, Pat Palmer, Jay Parafina, Sarah Parish, J.S. Perrella*, Quilley Powers*, Martin Ratner*, James Robertson*, Lois and Steven Rockoff, Manuel Roman Jr., Diane Rosenberger, Jennifer Rudnall, Elizabeth Semel, Jonathan Simon, Ameeta Singh*, Nancy Street*, Josh Taylor, Jim Thompson, Bill Twist, Lori Vasick*, Jeanne Windsor, Frank Zimring.

*Have made more than one donation

Contributions by:



Prisoners United in the Craft of Journalism
In collaboration with students from the

Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY



BEHIND THE SCENES

The San Quentin News is printed by the Marin Sun Printing, San Rafael with donations from supporters.

LT. ANDERSEN RETIRES

After 16 years, he can focus on family and golf

By Julian Glenn Padgett
Staff writer

Lt. Loren Andersen is retiring from San Quentin, the prison where he started his career, after 16 years of service with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Soon after Andersen left the Navy, he said, he was searching for a job that he felt he could do. Not wanting to be a salesperson or work a regular desk job, he saw San Quentin as a viable option. It is a huge operation, and he found the more he learned, the more interesting the work became.

Soon after he started, Andersen became a Permanent Intermittent Employee (PIE), which allowed him to work throughout the entire prison on all watches.

"It was good at that time because I got to learn where I wanted to work, to see all the different positions and pick where I enjoyed it the most," said Andersen.

In 1997, in the beginning of his career, Andersen said, the prisons were in transition and the relationship between correctional officers and inmates was strained.

"Over the years that relationship has improved," he said. "Even through that my approach didn't change very much. I always tried to be honest and keep the inmate informed."

Andersen said incarceration is now changing from a strict disciplinary system to one structured on rehabilitation. The part of San Quentin he would change, if he could, would be condemned row.

As for the state's current standoff over prison overcrowding between Gov. Jerry Brown and federal judges Thelton Henderson, Lawrence K. Karlton, and Stephen Reinheart, Andersen said, the judges should come into the prisons.

"Those judges should visit us here and not make edicts based on arbitrary numbers,"

said Andersen. "The prisons aren't suffering from overcrowding now, two and half years ago we were."

"I think North Block is 400 design capacity, basically one inmate per cell, but we've got two in one cell. If we had one, it would be more civilized, but I think we're getting by well with double occupancy," said Andersen.

He said he remembers when San Quentin had inmates double bunked inside North Block in the walkway space called broadways.

"The military was basically discharging people so I chose to complete my present tour and get out"

"That's what overcrowding was when we had the gym filled with 350 inmates, and we had broadways in every unit: Alpine, Badger, Donner, and West Block," Andersen said. "Then we had exceeded 6,000 inmates for a while; right now we're around 4,200."

"I'm Navy retired, I wanted to fly when I got out of college, so I joined, but I got out in the early '90s. This was just after the cold war. Actually when



Photo by Lt. Sam Robinson

Lt. Loren Andersen standing in front of the West Entrance

the USSR dissolved, there was a draw down in the military," explained Andersen.

"The military was basically discharging people so I chose to complete my present tour and get out," Andersen said. "I fulfilled my 20 years, but I still think about it and miss it."

Andersen commented that the people he admired in his career were San Quentin Wardens Jeanne Woodford, Mike Martell and Kevin Chappell.

"They all have very upbeat and positive personalities. So does Correctional Counselor Mike McGarvey," Andersen explained. "He had that honesty, a way of looking through things and going by the law."

Right now Andersen said he is ready to do three things: relax golf and focus on his family.

"They're the most important part my life, I've given time to my country, I've given time to San Quentin, and now it's time for the people I love--and that's my family," said Andersen.



Photo by Lt. Sam Robinson

Lt. Andersen outside of San Quentin by Tower 1

American's Prison Population Declines

But the number of lifers continues to grow

By Ted Swain
Staff Writer

With the closing of prisons in many states and initiatives to modify tough on crime laws, America's prison populations are declining. Despite this, the number of people sentenced to life in prison continues to grow, says the non-profit Washington think tank, The Sentencing Project.

Between 2011 and 2012, seventeen states closed one or more prisons. However, more and more inmates are serving life sentences without the possibility of parole (LWOP). According to Ashley Nellis, Ph.D., and Jean Chung, authors of the recent report, LWOP is the preferred sentencing tool by a majority of states. The analysis documents

long-term trends in use of life imprisonment.

During most of the 20th Century, "life" generally meant that one would eventually get out of prison. When the Supreme Court struck the death penalty in 1972, only seven states had LWOP sentencing available. After the court re-instated the death penalty in 1976, the other 43 states enacted LWOP statutes. According to Nellis and Chung, prior to the boom in LWOP, a life sentence typically meant that one would be released after a decade or so. Now, after the LWOP explosion, there's a popular saying that "life-means life."

As punishment and incapacitation became the primary tools of criminal justice, many people abandoned the idea of reforming

offenders and it became common to put people away forever. As a result, by 2012 there were 160,000 people serving life sentences, a 12 percent increase since 2008. Today, one of every nine people in prison is serving a life sentence.

POPULATION

The population of prisoners serving life without parole (LWOP) has risen more sharply than life sentences with the possibility of parole. There has been a 22.2 percent increase in LWOP since 2008. Approximately 10,000 non-violent offenders are serving life sentences with the possibility of parole.

The broadened use of life sentences has been a symbol of transformation in corrections policy. All states have LWOP statutes, however only five states, California, Florida, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, and Michigan have more than 60 percent of the nation's lifers. In recent years, budgetary constraints and factors pointing to failure of such programs have caused states to re-think sentencing policies. After a decades long growth spurt, some politicians and policy makers recognize that "lock-em up forever" programs, simply do not work.

Much of the LWOP population is made up of people like Larry Yarbrough of Oklahoma. He is typical the many cases comprising the LWOP population, says the Sentencing Project. Yarbrough was a 63-year old married restaurant owner, with five children and 13 grandchildren. He received a life sentence for selling one ounce of cocaine and three marijuana cigarettes. So far, Yarbrough has served 18 years and seems likely to spend their rest of his life in prison.

Not only is the number of people serving a life sentence at an unprecedented level, 30 percent of them are LWOP. With 160,000 people serving a life sentence, over 49,000 have no

possibility of parole. While homicide makes up over 64 percent of the commitment offenses, many are like Clarence Aaron who was a 23 year old college student arrested in 1993. He had served as liaison between two drug dealers, but was not present or even knowledgeable about the overall drug transaction. He was convicted and held responsible for the total amount of drugs. He is now in his 20th year of a three life-term sentence.

Racial disparity is a factor when examining those serving prison sentences. While African Americans comprise 12 percent of the general population, they are 28 percent of total arrests. They are 38 percent of those convicted of a felony and sent to prison; 47 percent of lifers are African American and 58 percent of LWOP prisoners are African American. Overall, two thirds of all inmates are non-white. In some states the percentages are higher. In Maryland, 77 percent of lifers are African American. In Georgia, 72 percent of lifers are African American.

MISCONCEPTIONS

Politicians often bolster misconceptions. The Sentencing Project Report points to the example of Maryland Governor Parris Glendening. Glendening famously told his parole board "do not even recommend - do not even send to my desk - a request for murderers and rapists" unless they are terminal or very old. Then Governor Gray Davis also got attention saying individuals convicted of homicide would only leave prison "in a pine box."

Evidence demonstrates that lengthy prison sentences do not produce the desired result and are counter-productive. In 1994, Georgia passed a "two strikes" law which resulted in a mandatory life sentence without possibility of parole for a second serious offense. However, despite the law's intended purpose, only

half those sentenced under the law are convicted of a homicide.

California maintains 25.2 percent of the nation's life-sentenced population. The Three Strikes Law is responsible for 22 percent of the state's 40,000 lifers. The law passed on the promise that it would take persons convicted of serious and violent offenses off the streets. However, in reality, more than half of persons sentenced under three strikes were not convicted of a violent or serious offense. According to Nellis and Chung, the United States is far out of step with other countries in terms of sentencing offenders to life. Whole life sentences are very rare in other countries.

In the United Kingdom, only 49 people are serving life without the possibility of parole. In the United States, over 49,000 are serving the same sentence. The study concludes that support for life without possibility of parole is based on the false promise of public safety. The Sentencing Project draws on additional data analysis and reports of other public safety enterprises. As an example, one such report is a 2011 study of results of 860 people convicted of homicide, sentenced to life, and who were all paroled beginning in 1995. Analysis of the outcome finds that in the years since their release, only five of the individuals have been returned to prison for new felonies.

Mounting concerns about mass incarceration are rooted partly in the monetary issues plaguing many states. In August 2013 U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder delivered a speech that has reinvigorated discussions on mass incarceration. However policies and practices around life sentences remain unchallenged despite a sustained period of low crime. According to findings of the report, the violent crime rate is now close to half of what it was 20 years ago.

Lawmakers Scramble For Prison Funding

By Chris Schuhmacher
Journalism Guild Writer

Throughout the nation, lawmakers are scrambling to find ways to fund the out of control costs of state correctional systems.

The United States maintains the highest rate of incarceration in the world with 2.2 million people housed in prisons or jails. The math is simple, unless prison populations are reduced and correctional costs controlled, states will be forced to slash educational and health care services, according to a recent study by The Sentencing Project. "State lawmakers in at least 24 states adopted 41 criminal justice policies that in 2012 may contribute to downscaling prison populations and eliminating barriers to reentry while promoting effective approaches to public safety," the study finds.

Legislators are focusing on policy reforms in sentencing, probation and parole, collateral consequences, and juvenile justice.

In 2012, California voters passed prop 36, also known as the Three Strikes Reform Act. The new law could lead to the release of 3,400 inmates who received their third strike and a 25- to-life sentence for a non-serious/non-violent offense.

Marco Davidson, sentenced under the Three Strikes law is serving a 35-to-life sentence. Davidson serves as the secretary and facilitator for the Hope for Strikers group at San Quentin. "Our mission is to educate inmates on what will be required by the courts and the parole board in any future proceedings," said Davidson.

Senate Bill 260, another policy reform recently signed into law, pertains to juvenile justice in California. It establishes a parole review process for individuals who were under 18 years of age at the time of the offense and prosecuted as an adult.

There are currently over 6,500 people in California prison who

were under the age of 18 at the time of their crime. SB 260 allows the parole board "to provide a meaningful chance for release for people who were juveniles at the time of their crime to be released on growth and maturity," according to the www.fairsentencingforyouth.org website.

Michael Nelson was convicted of murder at the age of 16. He was sentenced to 25 years to life as a juvenile. He serves as the Chairman of Kid CAT, a support group for juvenile offenders at San Quentin.

With the looming reduction of state revenues and potential cuts in federal funding on the horizon, the Sentencing Report emphasized that lawmakers are now pushing prison policy reform as a viable solution to taxpayer's woes. Highlights include:

- Relaxed mandatory minimums: Seven states, Alabama, California, Missouri, Massachusetts, Kansas, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania, revised mandatory penalties for certain offenses, including crack cocaine possession and drug offense enhancements.

- Death Penalty: Connecticut abolished the death penalty, becoming the 17th to eliminate death as a criminal sanction.

- Sentence modifications: Two states, Louisiana and Oklahoma, authorized or expanded mechanisms to modify sentences post-conviction. These policies allow prosecutors and judges to reduce the prison sentences of individuals who meet eligibility requirements.

- Parole and probation revocation reforms: Seven states, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Missouri, and Pennsylvania, expanded the use of earned time for eligible prisoners and limited the use of incarceration for probation and parole violations.

- Juvenile life without parole: Three states, California, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania, authorized sentencing relief for individuals sentenced to juvenile life without parole.

County Jail Construction Bogs Down

By Charles David Henry
Staff Writer

Six years after California lawmakers authorized \$1.2 billion for counties to build more jail space, not a single county has finished construction, according to the Sacramento Bee.

"Since then, demands for county jail space has spiked due to a 2011 California law that re-directed lower-level offenders to counties rather than state prisons," the Bee reported.

Officials in the counties cited a maze of bureaucratic state hurdles that prove too difficult to navigate.

According to the Bee, "state officials provided the counties with an 80-page document explaining the requirements, such as verifying property ownership, revenue sources and design plans."

"The red tape is unbelievable. It's not an easy process," said

Manuel Perez, Madera County's corrections director.

Madera County is one of the few counties that have managed to build new space with state funds. However, the \$30 million, 144-jail bed expansion is not expected to be completed until late 2013.

Other county sheriffs released nearly 153,000 (28 percent) inmates in 2012.

"State officials in 2011 chose to fund counties that had sent the most criminals to prison," the Bee reported, "thus recognizing that the same counties were also likeliest to need more jail space after the state began redirecting inmates their way in 2011."

Projects in bigger counties, such as Orange and Los Angeles, are not expected to be completed for at least five years.

Sacramento County, ranked seventh in the state for sending offenders to prison, had its application denied, but county of-

ficials plan to reapply for similar funds, the Bee reported.

The state has authorized another \$500,000 to build local correctional facilities in addition to the \$1.2 billion already approved. Curtis Hill of the Board of State and Community Constructions wants smaller counties funded with these appropriations.

Don Specter, director of the Prison Law Office, is opposed to expanding bed space in the county jails. He filed federal lawsuits against the state, Fresno and Riverside counties for poor jail conditions imposed on inmates.

He argues, "Fewer people need to be held in jails prior to trial and more need to be sentenced in ways that don't involve incarceration, such as GPS."

Specter "supports the focus of the latest jail construction," the Bee reports, as long it "provides more mental health and rehabilitation services."

Brown's Realignment Poses Challenges for County Jails

By Haro Agakian
Journalism Guild Writer

Governor Jerry Brown's realignment strategy to reduce state prison overcrowding is presenting challenges for county sheriffs. California county jails now house more than 1,100 inmates serving sentences of five years or more in jails designed for stays of a year or less.

"We are not set up to house inmates for this period of time," said Nick Warner, the California State Sheriffs' Association's legislative director.

According to a report by the Sheriffs' Association, in addition to finding space in their often-crowded jails, counties must provide specialized programs that are more costly than those for traditional county jail inmates.

The Sheriffs' Association found that out of the 1,153 inmates in county jails sentenced

to at least five years, 44 inmates are serving sentences of 10 years or more. Most of the inmates are sentenced for vehicle theft, identity theft, and burglary, although a Riverside County inmate is serving nearly 13 years for felony child abuse and a Solano County inmate is serving more than 10 years as a serial thief.

The report covering all but six of the state's counties shows that the Los Angeles County Jail is holding 35 percent of all long-term inmates, including one sentenced to 43 years for drug trafficking.

According to the Associated Press, the number of long-term inmates in county jails will keep growing as the state diverts more low-level inmates from state prisons to comply with the realignment policy, which resulted from federal court orders to reduce the population in the state's 34 adult prisons.

Before the realignment in 2011, the only prisoner who might have spent more time than a year in a county jail would be someone awaiting trial in a complicated case such as murder.

Although the number of long-term inmates represents less than two percent of the 77,000 prisoners who can be housed in California's 58 county jails, sheriffs say they command a disproportionate amount of money and attention. Sheriffs contend in the report that most county jails lack the large exercise yards, classrooms, and treatment space required for inmates who are incarcerated for years instead of a few months.

Jeffery Callison, a spokesman for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, acknowledged that sheriffs need a different type of facility to handle long-term inmates, but he noted that state lawmakers



Courtesy / Los Angeles County

Prisoners being escorted chained together through Los Angeles County Jail

authorized \$500 million last year to help counties renovate jails and add space. "The jails are getting modernized," Callison said. "They're able to offer programs to their inmates."

According to the Associated Press, lawmakers have approved \$1.2 billion in bonds for building new jails, many of which are under construction.

Communities are getting \$865 million in operating mon-

ies through the state fiscal year, budgeted to exceed \$1 billion next year.

"The U.S. Supreme Court ordered California to dramatically reduce its population," said Elizabeth Ashford, a spokesperson for the governor. "Rather than release prisoners early, the state is complying through realignment." The state will keep helping counties as they implement the policy, she added.

Prison Arts Project's Effectiveness on the Prison Culture

Continued from Page 1

relationship between philosophical thought and social action.

Through the vision and efforts of Eloise Smith, the WJA began the Prison Arts Project in 1977 as a pilot program at the California Medical Facility (CMF) prison in Vacaville. Since that time, the WJA has dedicated itself to providing arts experiences to incarcerated individuals in the belief that participation in the artistic process significantly and positively affects one's views of oneself and the world.

Professional artists provide in-depth, long-term arts experiences for incarcerated men and women. The program selects and hires professional visual, literary and performing artists to teach in California state prison facilities. It also establishes Artists-in-Residence programs for the National Endowment for the Arts and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

There also has been much interest by some elected officials regarding the positive possibilities of arts being part of the bigger picture. In 1980, State Senator Henry Mello was responsible for getting legislation passed to expand the Arts in Corrections (AIC) programs.

Jack Bowers, WJA Chairman of the Board of Directors based in Santa Cruz, began working at Soledad State Prison as a music instructor with the AIC program. He understands the significance of doing something beneficial for prisoners. Bowers was successful with his effort to instill the qualities necessary to become a good all-around musician, and he intimately understands the rehabilitation and inestimable benefits of such programs.

Brooks is an artist, a potter by trade who has been with the William James Association since 1989. According to Brooks, "The WJA is also sponsoring a film screening to benefit the Prison Arts Project, At Night I Fly (Im-

ages from New Folsom Prison), a film by Michel Wenzler."

The benefit organizers wrote, "Images from New Folsom, men at one of California's most maximum security prisons, let us see their world. At Night I Fly shows the artistic human journey these men take, as well as the need that fuels it, and the beauty and pain encountered along the way."

The San Quentin Prison Arts Project is presently working on a huge mural comprised of sixteen 4'x8' panels that will be displayed in San Quentin's North Dinning Hall.

Scott McKinstry said, "Laurie and Steve Emrick [Community Partnership Manager], got the William James Association to run the Prison Arts Project here."

Brooks told the San Quentin News, "I have six artists working on this composition." Work on the mural is in a small art studio crammed with musicians/band equipment and actors involved with the Marin Shakespeare Theater Company on a daily rotating basis. With limited workspace and time the artists managed to trek on, determined to complete this creative undertaking.

"Art has had a positive affect on my life and keeps me away from trouble," said artist James Norton.

According to Brooks, "Art programs in prison are vital. That's why I'm involved. The contact is special—it's freedom, it's a place of individualism. You have to go with the flow working in this environment; it's a different reality in prison making it all

work under the circumstances. We try to keep the program constant and moving forward."

When asked about the PBS film project just completed about arts programs in San Quentin, featuring prisoner/artist "Santos," Brooks said, "It was wonderful that Santos was allowed to undergo that artful mission. Someone in charge took a risk and 70 years later it's being recognized."

writer Quentin Hancock are also major contributors to the WJA.

In 2010, state funding for arts facilitators was eliminated. The WJA partnered up with Bread & Roses and the Marin Shakespeare Theater Company to continue bringing professional artists and teachers into California's prison system. This collaboration allows art facilitators to continue bringing music, painting, acting and songwriting workshops into the prison system.

"We are fortunate that Laurie brings other artists in who encourage us to stay with it," said Norton.

The California Rehabilitation Oversight Board (C-ROB) is an important group whose board members include Inspector General Robert A. Barton, Secretary of the CDCR

Jeffrey Beard and Administrator of Adult Education Programs Patricia S. Terry. In a September 2013 report, the group wrote:

"Effective programming is essential to reducing recidivism, and offenders who participate in arts programs have lower rates of recidivism. The board reviewed the Arts in Corrections pilot program and is pleased with the initial results. The department should continue working toward developing a dedicated Arts in Corrections program, to be administered statewide."

The C-ROB board is pleased with the initial results from the Arts in Corrections pilot program, and said they are aware that offenders who engage in arts programs experience better parole outcomes and lower rates of

recidivism. "The board recommends the department continue to work collaboratively with the California Arts Council Lawyers Association to develop dedicated arts in corrections programs to be administered statewide."

"The art program is very important because studies show that disciplinary and recidivism rates are lowered," said McKinstry.

Brooks said, "Working with the California Lawyers Association for the arts is wonderful. They help us to restore funding for the arts, and with Legislative and Senate hearings."

The Joint Committee on the Arts held hearings in Los Angeles at the Grammy Museum Auditorium. Speakers/advocates for Arts in Corrections Program who spoke at the event included Jack Bowers, Jim Carlson, Laurie Brooks, Wayne Cook, Craig Watson and Wayne Krammer—rock guitarist for the legendary 60s mega-group MC-5. Krammer started the program Jail Guitar Doors (the name came from a song written about Krammer by The Clash when he went to jail). Krammer donates guitars to incarcerated men and women.

In September the CBS Sunday Morning show ran a segment on prison art programs. Hollywood actor Tim Robbins was featured at the California Rehabilitation Center highlighting that prison's theatre programs. Some men and women involved with the arts continue to grow as artists with their involvement in reentry programs such as the Poetic Justice Project based in Santa Maria California, made possible by artist/writer Deborah Tobola.

Brooks said, "It's gratifying to be -a part of the talent behind these walls. It's an opportunity for San Quentin artists to display their talent. We as WJA artists/facilitators have this great opportunity to be part of the creativity demonstrate by those involved with the program." www.williamjamesassociation.org



Photo by Steve Emrick

Top row: Justus Evans, Bruce Fowler, Laurie Brooks, Scott Mc Kinstry, Bottom row: James Norton and Christopher Christensen

Emmy Award winning documentary filmmakers, Paul and Lori Sutton, a husband and wife team at San Diego State University, spent three days in October filming and recording Santos's massive World War II era murals in San Quentin's West Chow Halls, the current mural project, the Marin Shakespeare Theater Company and San Quentin's Wall City Band.

According to Brooks, the William James Association is funded in part by the Puffin Foundation and Indiegogo.com, a crowd-sharing group who also donated funding for the mural. The Marin County Foundation and the Kalliopeia Foundation contribute to the WJA as well. David Kaun, Professor of Economics at UCSC, and Santa Cruz

John Kelly's Journeys and Experiences of Humanity

The system can't discriminate between those who are rehabilitatable and those who aren't

Continued from Page 1

A friend invited him to conduct a spiritual weekend at the prison. "My first reaction was, 'who in the world would want to go into San Quentin State Prison?'" he said. He grew more skeptical of visiting the prison when he heard that if the prisoners take you hostage, the guards won't help, he said. But his fears were washed away when he first met with who he calls residents there in 1991. "After that one weekend, I decided I was home," he said. "It was one of the most powerful experiences of my life."

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Kelly, 84, lives in a senior community in San Mateo, and still visits San Quentin three times a week. He talks with groups of 15 to 20 residents about a variety of topics, from anger management, empathy, forgiveness and staying connected with family. The degree of sharing that goes on in these groups is far beyond what he has witnessed in groups outside of prison. "It's just so straightforward and honest," he said.

His work at the prison has turned him into an advocate for restorative justice. The main idea behind restorative justice is the idea that human nature can change, said Kelly.

One part of restorative justice program at San Quentin is encouraging criminals to take full responsibility for their actions. The program also focuses on the victims coming to terms with their grievances. Sometimes the victims will visit the prison and talk directly to the perpetrators

about what it has taken for them to reconcile and forgive, said Kelly. "Some powerful sharing goes on," he said.

A third element of restorative justice is making sure the next generation is not doomed to repeat the same mistakes. Residents explore what life circumstances lead them to their own criminal activity, and through this they discover that their upbringings had a lot to do with it.

"Imagine being a kid at San Mateo High School and you see kids driving up to school in brand-new cars"

One resident who speaks at the prison starts his talk by saying, "When I was born, my dad was in prison and my mom was a dope addict," he said. "Some of their stories are unbelievable." When Kelly learned about their backgrounds, he discovered the residents were simply leading the same lives and making the same mistakes as the people who raised them.

"They say, 'it was my turn to do what was happening to me,'" he said.

But some of these people who are victims of terrifying childhoods can change, he said. "When people inside change, they become the most powerful advocates," he said. "There are some very fine human beings in San Quentin

State Prison. I tell them, 'you have a wisdom that this world needs.'"

A CHANCE FOR CHANGE

The people who end up in prison are lucky if they are afforded an opportunity to change, said Kelly. He acknowledges that not all people will change because some have suffered too much trauma at an early age, but said prisons do not do enough to help those who can change. "The system lacks the ability to discriminate between those who are rehabilitatable and those who aren't," he said.

"The first response when someone becomes incarcerated should be to rehabilitate, not to simply keep them away from society," said Kelly. Most prisoners are not as lucky as the ones in San Quentin, which has about 3,000 volunteers, said Kelly. "They get excited to transfer to San Quentin," he said of the residents. "They are so excited to finally get to do something with their lives."

BASIC NEEDS FOR KIDS

Along with helping criminals and victims, the concept of restorative justice focuses on addressing the issues that lead to incarceration. For a community to prevent the cycle of incarceration, schools need to address the basic needs of kids, said Kelly. "Imagine being a kid at San Mateo High School and you see kids driving up to school in brand-new cars," he said. "And when you go home, you're lucky if there's dinner on the table." The disparity between rich and poor is growing and these disparities affect how kids perceive the world, said Kelly. "It's going to affect your view," he said.

Teachers should realize that they have to do more than teach, he said. They have to look at what kind of support network each child has or does not have. The problem is teachers lack resources themselves. Prison guards, through working overtime, make twice as much as teachers, said Kelly. "We don't respect the teaching profession enough," he said.

SAMARITAN HOUSE

Kelly did not have long-time aspirations to develop a service organization like Samaritan House, but the task found him. In 1984, before the multitude of vibrant community assistance organizations existed on the Peninsula, Kelly was helping out with a program to distribute meals

through the Martin Luther King Community Center in San Mateo. "Before I knew it, they were twisting my arm to run it," said the San Francisco native. Before he knew it, he was enlisted by the county to help establish a system that would provide basic needs for people.

Samaritan House came to the Peninsula in 1985, and Kelly was named the director. What started as a referral service grew into a direct service provider offering a shelter, food assistance, medical clinics, case management, clothing and worker resources. "Samaritan House is the most diverse hu-

man services agency in the county," said Kelly. The success of the Samaritan House was largely due to the can-do attitude of its board, said Kelly. No matter what need arose in the county, "our board of directors said, we'll do it," he said. Building an organization that bettered the community was extremely rewarding for Kelly. "It was an amazing experience," he said. "As much as this is an affluent area, there is that not-so-visible group of people who are struggling to survive." For more information on Samaritan House visit samaritanhousesanmateo.org.

Reprinted with permission

Folsom Women Achieve Diplomas and Trades

'Programs like this offer stability'



Courtesy/Folsom Telegraph

Folsom women graduating from the programs

Continued from Page 1

Cal-PIA representative, to "do everything," reports the Folsom Telegraph.

"Programs like this offer stability, confidence in [women's] ability to do non-traditional work and sustainability"

The result of this cooperation is a group of incarcerated women who have learned to make the best of bad situations, according to the report. For example, only a few years ago, the

Folsom Women's Facility was just a collection of vacant buildings, but under the oversight and tutelage of professionals in the construction industry, the women of Cal-PIA transformed those wasted buildings into a women's prison.

Commenting on the program, Folsom Women's Facility Warden Robin Harrington said, "Programs like this offer stability, confidence in [women's] ability to do non-traditional work and sustainability so they become contributors to society ... rather than takers..." This highlights another way the women in Cal-PIA's construction program have made the best of bad situations.

These women have taken their first steps to better lives that, before, lacked opportunities, according to Cal-PIA officials.

Reprinted with permission

Sgt. Wright: Words and Spirit

Continued from Page 1

or a love song to remind us of our loved ones. He was our 'live and in your face' disc jockey!"

"You got this, you can do it!" was the recurring theme from "Bubba" to everyone. Sergeant L. Perez, who met "Bubba" while at the CDCR training academy, spoke of the vote of confidence she often received from him during challenging circumstances, "You can do this, I got you."

"The way you go into it, is the way you come out of it"

He never wavered in supporting anyone who needed help. His heart was as big as he was. He was truly a unique and special soul who is unforgettable and also irreplace-

able."

C/O E. Sanford, who went through the academy with him, recalls their four months of training: " 'Bubba' picked me up and drove me home each day because my car was inoperable."

To co-workers, family and friends, "Bubba's" warmth and personality continue to radiate in their lives. "The Big Teddy Bear lives on in our hearts," his wife Koren said. "Bubba's big smile and laughter was like sunshine in our lives. It raised me up when I was feeling down." One of his daughters remembers the last words of hope she heard from her dad: "The way you go into it, is the way you come out of it."

"Bubba's" words and spirit continue to live on. He was a truly special human being in the hearts of all within San Quentin and beyond. Remembering his passing brought tears of sorrow and of joy for having been a part of his life. It is a comfort to hold on to his big and awesome love.

CDCR Trained and Certified 48 Instructors

Continued from Page 1

This training along with the complete equipment refresh of all Office Services Related Technology programs and ac-

tivation of 15 new Computer Literacy programs will increase student certification eligible programs from 7 to 58. DRP salutes all participants for their hard work and com-

mitment to Career Technical Education (CTE).

Please contact Mike Valdez, Office of Correctional Education michael.valdez@cdcr.ca.gov.

EDITORIAL

The Great Legacy Of Fernando Mendez

By Arnulfo T. Garcia
Editor-in-Chief

Fernando Mendez was a troubled youth and addicted to drugs that led him to prison, but leaves a legacy that still impacts many lives, including mine.

Fernando was a mentor and role model for me. He taught me, and uncoupled other prisoners, that when you change your life, you can help others change their lives too.

It was a tragic loss for me and numerous others when Fernando was hit and killed by a car while crossing the street in Arizona in 2007. He lives on in my heart.

I am reminded of him when I reflect on this time of thanksgiving. I offer special thanks for a friend who made a significant, positive impact on my life.

Fernando means "ready to journey," and he was always ready to travel in aid of others. To those of us who knew and respected him, he was also known as "Nano."

I have many good thoughts and memories about Fernando. He was a kind, and thought-

ful man who cared deeply about others and always tried to help. Flying from Tucson, Arizona, he often came to the Amity program at Pleasant Valley State Prison, where I met him.

Nano was a counselor and mentor for the prisoners. He drove and flew hours to reach Coalinga, and then went on to other prisons. Although he worked out of Tucson, he traveled the prison circuit mentoring prisoners on how to change their lives.

As a kid, Fernando wandered the streets in Arizona, like many other youngsters, trying to find a place in life. Like many others, he made bad choices that got him into trouble. He became involved with drugs, and eventually succumbed to being a heroin addict. This lifestyle led him in and out of Arizona prisons for 15 years.

Fernando struggled with school, as most kids do when they wander the streets and with little or no formal education. He continued to make bad choices, but inside he knew he wanted a better life, but he just didn't know where to turn.

He found his way to the Amity Foundation in 1985, where he found people with love for the less fortunate. He says the very embodiment of Amity's belief is that each of us is our brother's and sister's keepers. That convinced him he could abandon his criminal past and contribute positively to society.

Many of us looked to him as a mentor and a good friend.

"Fernando introduced me to a new way of living," Courtney Hammond, a former gang member, said in an interview with the Tucson Citizen. "He



Photo courtesy of www.amityfdn.org/Library/Photo Archives/NayaFernandoretreat804.jpg

Naya Arbiter and Fernando "Nano" Mendez

taught me that I didn't have to be violent."

After the negative start to his life, Fernando joined Amity's substance abuse program. Fernando and founder Naya Arbiter began traveling to various prisons on behalf of Amity. It was obvious to everyone that Nano's heart was with the inmates. He lived and taught that actions speak louder than words.

Arbiter is an internationally known leader in the field of rehabilitation for people suffering from addiction. As a participant in the White House Conference on a Drug-Free America, Arbiter was one of only 125 national experts the president selected to attend the conference.

Nano and Arbiter co-wrote much of Amity's curriculum. The two took Amity's work to prisons throughout Arizona, New Mexico and California. Now Amity has expanded to China.

Nano worked inside and outside the prison with treatment programs such as AA and NA.

"Without Fernando, I'd probably still be in jail," Michelle

Espinosa, one of the many he helped, told the Tucson newspaper.

Amity has long been a pioneer of drug treatment programs. Nano and Amity tried things that others did not do. Fernando knew that primarily, Amity is about families. With a strong faith in God and intense desire to help, he prayed all the time. He prayed before meals, walks, and stopped beside the road to pray. He prayed for men and women to change their thinking, and life.

Fernando wanted to show anyone who would listen that there was a better way, according to Arbiter. She also said, "He was one of the most unusual people I have ever met."

Nano claimed that he didn't like pets, although his story of a childhood pet cat called Percy belied those remarks. He was a complex man who only wanted to help people. He didn't like social events, but he planned some incredible ones.

Once while working in the San Diego area, Naya said Fernando had a feeling they were

needed at Donovan Prison. It was Halloween and after five hours, they finally arrived to find that he was correct. There had been some difficulty that needed attention and they were able to quickly take care of it. He always told people in trouble they were better than they realized.

Here are excerpts from The Amity Philosophy, which Nano applied to his life:

Our philosophy is based on the belief that life is an apprenticeship to the truth... Nothing is at last sacred but he integrity of our minds. We must press on, for nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm... No person is an island unto himself. Each of us must consciously participate in our own evolution, helping ourselves and reaching out to each other... As long as we willingly accept ourselves, we will continue to grow and develop our potentialities.

Mendez, 52, went to Amity in 1985 to seek treatment for addiction to heroin. Within a year, he had received his GED and stayed on as a counselor.

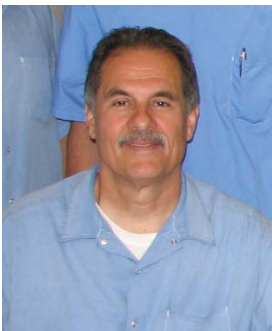


Photo by Lt. Sam Robinson

Arnulfo T. Garcia

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Carpenter Interview Prompts Heated Controversy

From S.Q. Prisoner:
Randall S. Maluenda,

I concur with Mr. Davidson's contention that Mr. Carpenter's gracing on the front cover of SQN's July issue was inappropriate. I say inappropriate because it deviates from stated editorial policy.

The mission statement "we want to hear from you!" section, which I take to mean says the paper, "is not a medium to file grievances." Yet, insisting on one's innocence and undertaking an appeal of a court judgment does not an innocent one make and is just a Trojan House, back door way trumpeting his version of what happened in the guise of an empathetic human interest

story.

Twenty-four column inches covering his case is a distraction from the ongoing rehabilitative work being done on a daily basis by the rest of us.

For sake of argument, if he is indeed innocent, let him take his contention to another relevant forum. Let San Quentin News be reserved for us guilty people who have offended, who seek mercy and forgiveness, and undertake a lifetime work of redemption.

I want to make this clear. I have no animus to Mr. Carpenter. Neither do I make a judgment on his character. Now, I include him in my prayers along with others.

From Prisoner:
Michael D. Murphy

Dated: Labor Day, Monday, September 2, 2013, Page 1 of 1 Notice: Pre-self censored-pre-screened handwritten correspondence communication via United States Postal Service U.S. First Class mail. Re:

"Failure" allegedly by San Quentin News to provide adequate and sufficient "Balanced" news coverage of crime victim related issues to the general public at large.

Dear Mr. Chappell, Robinson, Baxter, and Eagan:

I, Michael D. Murphy, hereby would like to--your attention the "failure" of the San Quentin inmate-prisoner

editorial staff to provide adequate and sufficient "balanced" news coverage of "crime victim related issues" to the general public at large.

The San Quentin News allegedly seems to be doing a great "disservice" to victims of crime everywhere, by "failing" to "acknowledge" and "provide substantive reportage" of the various facets of "crime victim related issues."

There allegedly seems to be in existence the overt obvious appearance of "gross impropriety," that seems to suggest and indicate possible and potential tendency towards psychological mental state of "acute," "psychopathic personality disorder"

among the San Quentin News inmate-prisoner editorial staff and advisers for "failure" to "acknowledge" and provide "balanced" news coverage of "crime victim related issues."

Editor-in-Chief, Arnulfo T. Garcia's "failure" to provide "balanced" news content is quite shocking, this failure does a direct "disservice" to both "victims" and "prisoners" alike who both would like to bring "meaningful accountability" and "credibility" to their own respective "causes" and "plights" through the "electronic" and "written print" medias of "ethical" and "professional" journalism.

Sincerely, Michael D. Murphy

Research Focus on Juvenile Recidivism

By Emile DeWeaver
Journalism Guild

Therapeutic programs that focus on building skills, repairing relationships, and sharpening insight reduce juvenile recidivism more than those that employ discipline, deterrence through fear, or surveillance according to new research.

This new class of juvenile delinquency prevention programs can also save taxpayers \$7-\$10 for every dollar invested, researchers Peter W. Greenwood and Brandon C. Welsh claim.

CATEGORIES

There are three distinct categories of effective programs: brand name, generic, or principles.

Brand name programs are those with distinct names that have reputations for successful reformation, such as Functional Family Therapy.

Programs that employ strategies traditionally regarded as effective, such as counseling, fall into the category of generics.

Principles programs employ techniques, such as focusing on repeat offenders that have typically proven beneficial in the past.

These programs are considered evidence-based, meaning the scientific process has verified the effectiveness of each program.

However, despite the proven effectiveness of these programs, state governments continue to focus their efforts and taxpayer dollars on criminal justice programs that do not reduce juvenile delinquency, the report claims.

STATES

California, Connecticut, Florida, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington lead the country in promoting evidence-based programs, according to the study. Programs that rely on less therapeutic forms do little to reduce juvenile recidivism, the research concludes.

Several states responded to these findings with explicit steps to implement programs with more therapeutic characteristics, but even among proactive states, these proven programs comprise a small portion of the whole. In addition, 95 percent of the youth eligible for that small portion do not participate in the programs, the research found.

Greenwood and Welsh give several reasons for the disconnect.

One reason is the low-level of accountability the juvenile justice system has for performance. Another is the political resistance from established programs, their advocates, and the politicians who benefit from them.

"Allocating contracts among social service, drug treatment, and mental health providers is one of the biggest perks of local political office, especially in lower income areas," writes Greenwood. "We can hope that in the future, political officers will choose to benefit the larger community as a whole instead of a few selected individuals when allocating contracts to programs proven to work."

Report Indicates Taxpayers Fund Empty Contracted Prison Beds

By Seth Rountree
Journalism Guild Writer

The combination of low crime rates and lockup quotas built into private prison contracts have caused taxpayers to pay for empty prison beds, according to Tulsa World.

Nearly 65 percent of the 62 private prison contracts that were analyzed include occupancy guarantees causing taxpayers to be forced to pay for empty beds if the lock-up quota is not met, the report finds.

"What corrections should not be is a turnkey for profit machine," said Justin Jones, former Oklahoma Department Director. "That's exactly what we've turned them into when we guarantee occupancy, with no requirement to produce results."

Arizona, Louisiana, Okla-

homa, and Virginia have occupancy guarantees, which demand the highest requirements, with quotas between 95 percent and 100 percent for the required occupancy.

Cimarron in Cushing, Davis in Holdenville and the Lawton Correctional Facility, three of the Oklahoma prisons included in the data have a 98 percent occupancy guarantee provision, Lawton's operated by the GEO group—Davis and Cimarron are run by the Corrections Corporation of America (CCA).

CCA, the largest for-profit program company in the country, sent a letter to 48 state governors offering to buy their public prisons. CCA offered a 20-year contract guaranteeing, 90 percent occupancy for the contract period. No state accepted the CCA offer, according to Shar Habibi, research and

policy director for In the Public Interest (IPI).

IPI recommends governments ban "lockup-quota" language from contracts with private prison providers so the taxpayers' interest is protected.

"They have gamed the system and tied the hand of the policy makers," said Habibi. "We urge lawmakers nationwide to end this practice."

The Center for Responsive Politics reported that the CCA spent \$17.4 million in lobbying expenditures from 2002 through 2012, while GEO spent only \$2.5 million from 2004-2012.

In addition, CCA spent \$1.9 million in political contributions from 2003 to 2012 and the GEO group spent \$12.9 million in the same period. Both operate and own multiple prisons in Oklahoma.

Former North Carolina Prisoners Gets \$12 Million to Settle Lawsuit

Two prisoners spent a total of 31 years behind bars

By Ted Swain
Staff Writer

Two former North Carolina prisoners were paid more than \$12 million to settle lawsuits they brought against the state for wrongful convictions, according to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation.

Floyd Brown and Greg Taylor, spent a total of 31 years in prison for crimes they did not commit, News & Observer of Raleigh, N.C. reported.

Brown was confined in a psychiatric hospital for 14 years based on the false testimony by an agent of the State Bureau of Investigation. Brown received \$7.85 million in compensation. (He also reached an undisclosed settlement with Anson County, which had investigated his case.)

Greg Taylor reached a settlement of \$4.625 million for the

wrongful conviction of a murder he did not commit. Taylor, who was convicted in 1993, spent 17 years in prison before a three-judge panel declared him innocent. The three-judge panel is an independent judicial commission focused on wrongful convictions. It is the first judicial panel in the United States charged with adjudicating wrongful convictions.

In addition to these two wrongful convictions, in 2009 North Carolina settled a case with Alan Gell, who spent nine years on death row for a murder he did not commit.

Releasing 878 'Violent' Convicts From Texas Prison Shocks Capitol Hearing

By Haro Agakian
Journalism Guild Writer

The revelation of the release of 878 "most violent" convicts directly from solitary confinement in Texas state prisons onto the street without receiving any rehabilitation caused shock waves at a capitol hearing.

An Austin website, www.statesman.com, reported that although Texas has received national recognition for its innovative prison treatment and rehabilitation programs, it provided almost none for its toughest convicts who have spent years in solitary confinement.

According to the report, prison officials at the state capitol hearing acknowledged that 878 convicts were released last year directly from administrative segregation onto the street.

As many as 8,100 convicts are in administrative segregation in Texas' 111 state prisons. Convicts in administrative segregation spend 23 hours a day locked in their cells. Barring trouble, they get out one hour a day for recreation and to shower, prisons officials stated at a capitol hearing.

"So these people were too

dangerous to be in general population in a prison, but they are being released directly into our neighborhoods with no supervision?" asked State Senator John Whitmire, Chairman of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee. "That's scary, we need to review the process."

Appearing shocked, members of the Senate committee pushed prison officials to come up with a plan to provide programs for the toughest convicts.

Brad Livingston, Executive Director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, said Texas has never provided much in the way of programs for convicts in the highest security classifications. He added, "Sixty percent are confirmed members of prison and street criminal gangs."

Livingston and Rick Thaler, the agency's assistant director over prisons, said the toughest convicts are difficult to provide programs for safely. They cannot be included in regular treatment and rehabilitation programs offered to the state's other imprisoned felons "because we can't endanger the offenders in general population," Thaler said.

At this, Senator Whitmire asked, "But you can let them

discharge into the street when they finish their sentence, straight from spending every day for 15 years locked up alone in a small cell. Why not give them some life-skills or some faith-based programs or something that can prepare them for when they get out, rather than just turning them loose?"

Livingston said that in July, officials started offering an education and life-skills programs to 65 volunteers at the Estelle High Security Unit outside Huntsville.

Several senators questioned whether Texas should consider modifying its policy and offer programs for felons in administrative segregation, especially for those who are due for release within a year.

Senator Whitmore asked, "Do you want them coming out with no supervision at all, or to be paroled with intensive supervision for a time - where they can be tested for drugs and alcohol, and we can keep a close eye on them?"

Prisoner advocates and justice groups echoed that sentiment, arguing that years of isolation do nothing but make prisoners more anti-social and violent and can spur mental health problems.

Mississippi Prison Acts Prompt ACLU Suit

Unconstitutional standards at a Mississippi prison have spurred legal action.

Although private corporations actually run the prison, MDOC is responsible for making sure that conditions meet constitutional standards.

UNDERSTAFFED

The East Mississippi Correctional Facility (EMCF) is a violent and dangerously understaffed prison with a large number of attempted suicides and other acts by prisoners to hurt themselves, according to a lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

The legal complaint details 83 pages of abuse by the prison.

Prisoners at EMCF allege they routinely are denied adequate medical and mental care and are subjected to on-going acts of violence. Additionally, they say they are subjected to extreme force, filthy, danger-

ous conditions, as well as insufficient nutrition, and inhumane solitary confinement.

Gabriel Eber of the ACLU National Prison Project said that the lawsuit was filed after a lengthy investigation.

ASSESSMENTS

Eber indicated after an assessment made by two correctional health care experts and many attempts to work with the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC). However, MDOC failed or refused to improve conditions, prompting the lawsuit.

Despite the lawsuit, the Mississippi Department of Corrections issued a press release stating, "The fact that MDOC has settled prior litigation with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) shows its willingness to sit at the table to listen, to do what is right, based on the facts."

—By Ted Swain

Critics Worry Realignment May Be Counter-Productive

California Courts Still Sentences Most Felons to a State Prison

By Micheal Cooke
Journalism Guild Writer

The centerpiece of the state's prison reduction effort is Assembly Bill 109, also known as "Realignment," which shifts some inmates from prisons to county jails. Proponents of the law insist the goal of realignment is to reduce recidivism among the state's prison population. Opponents worry that realignment might actually prove counter-productive in this regard. Critics question whether the legislation is a "shell game," that threatens public safety.

In an April, report for the Federal Sentencing Reporter, Aaron J. Rappoport surveyed the research of a wide variety of criminal justice experts to assess how California's realignment program is working after three years. His sources included: sentencing experts Judge J. Richard Couzens and Prosecutor Lisa Rodriguez, San Francisco Chief Probation Officer Wendy Still, Los Angeles Sheriff Leroy D. Baca and Commander Gerald K. Cooper, and policy experts Kathryn Jett and Joan Hancock.

One concern cited by the report is that sheriffs with packed local jails may be compelled to order the early release of some inmates. Another concern is that the early release of prisoners may increase the risk of recidivism.

Some detractors worried that county probation departments lack the ability to meet their added supervisory obligations under realignment. The law requires the department to supervise not only offenders released from jail under mandatory supervision, but also offenders released from prison on Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS).

Rappoport said one way to un-

derstand realignment is to view the criminal justice system as a balance between two competing values. One is the public interest in promoting public safety and fiscal prudence. The other involves the interest of criminal offenders themselves. Some observers have argued California's sentencing and correctional system has shown too little concern for the well-being or rehabilitation of offenders.

Realignment was designed in part to help achieve a balance between the two goals, and to reduce the state's prison population in order to comply with a federal court's inmate population reduction order.

The realignment legislation implemented three core changes. The first changes the location of incarceration; the second, the sentencing rules applicable to certain low-risk offenders; and the third, the structure of post-release supervision.

California sentenced most felons to state prison. However, under realignment, the responsibility for supervising and incarceration changes location. Thousands of additional felony offenders are now serving sentences in county jails with the responsibility for supervising them post-release in the hands of the state's 58 counties.

Rappoport said some critics question whether the legislation will actually produce fewer inmates. The policy did not release inmates. Instead it reduced the prison population by transferring inmates to county jails. In that sense, critics contend, realignment is simply a shell game.

The report pointed out that many local facilities are already severely overcrowded. They are not equipped to handle long-term prisoners or provide the educational and drug treatment

programs that prisons are currently re-fitting to do. County jails have few outdoor areas and less visiting space and they often lack medical facilities capable of managing serious or long-term medical conditions.

Realignment does not guarantee the conditions of incarceration will improve—or that the total number incarcerated will decrease. Its success depends on how it is implemented.

Counties are due to receive nearly \$2 billion dollars over the first two years of realignment to carry out their new responsibilities. They have three potential options for using their new resources: building additional jails to alleviate some overcrowding (an option that continues the emphasis on incarceration).

A second option is to improve existing jails to provide services for long-term inmates. Some of Rappoport's sources conclude this option is shortsighted if it is the only response to realignment, since it will also maintain the state's reliance on incarceration as the answer to California's crime problems.

The final option is making use of "the split sentence" for non-violent offenders. This effectively shortens the sentences of these offenders, and thus reduces the jail population. According to Rappoport, "the non-violent offender will serve only a portion of his sentence in county jail. The remaining portion will then be served in the community under what is called mandatory supervision, under the authority of the county probation department.

Prior to realignment, when judges gave out long sentences, the state paid the cost of imprisonment. That's no longer the case with non-violent offenders. With jail overcrowding at the local level and county finances

pressed, county judges may feel pressured to shorten expensive custodial sentences. The split sentence offers one way to do that. But according to Rappoport, that is a viable option only if county officials take steps to develop appropriate community services, treatment centers, halfway houses and other alternative sanctions to deal with these kinds of offenders.

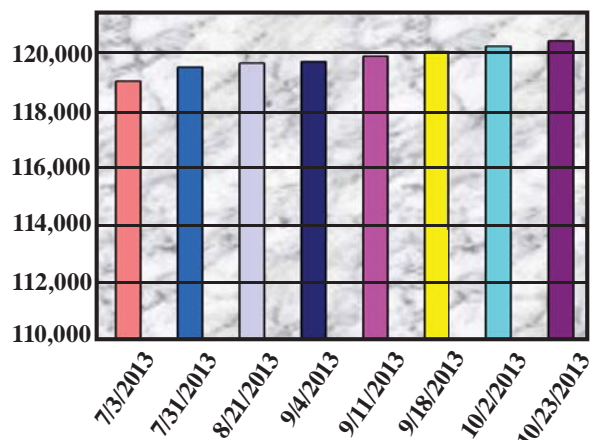
Since realignment legislation went into effect appropriately 23 percent of those sentenced to county jails are split sentences, according to a mid-2012 study done by the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC). These early results highlight another concern cited by Rappoport—that realignment policy may ultimately result in significant sentencing disparities.

The report concludes for realignment to be more than a shell game, judges will need to

make use of the split sentence option for a significant number of non-violent offenders. Jails will have to renew efforts to handle the more serious offenders and make treatment available to address the underlying needs of jail inmates. And efforts must be made to ensure that realignment does not generate new and troubling disparities in the way low-level offenders are sentenced and treated.

"Ultimately," Rappoport wrote, "time may be the critical factor determining Realignment's success. In many jurisdictions, time will be needed for programs to come on line and become effective, and for successful strategies to propagate. But patience is not a common trait in the criminal justice field. If crime rates start to rise, it will be easy to demagogue on the issue and claim that Realignment is to blame."

CDCR POPULATION = 120,534
DESIGNED CAPACITY OF 34 PRISONS
[STOCKTON HOSPITAL ADDED] = 81, 574
COURT ORDERED CAP: 137.5
PERCENT OF DESIGNED CAPACITY = 112,164
8,670 ABOVE COURT ORDERED CAP



Marin Assistant D.A. Speaks to S.Q. Restorative Justice Event

By Rahsaan Thomas
Sports Editor

Participation in the Restorative Justice Symposium at San Quentin was at an all-time high and even included a Marin County Assistant District Attorney as a guest speaker.

Over 109 inmates attended this 12th event, along with 55 outside guests.

Restorative Justice is a new way of thinking about dealing with crime. It focuses on healing the victim and offender instead of punishment. "Our mantra is hurt people hurt people, but healed people heal people," said sponsor Jean Ramirez.

It was brought to San Quentin by former inmate, Leonard Rubio, who has paroled and is still active in the movement. "He's the president of the state's Restorative Justice Group," informed Ramirez.

The Sept. 21 symposium consisted of several speakers, both outside guests and transformed inmates. Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Hulsey and Don Carney, Director of the Marin County YMCA Youth Court, where Restorative Jus-

stice is used. It was the first time an active ADA came into the prison to participate.

Hulsey of Monterey County spoke to the audience.

"I can't go back and make a new start, but I can make a new end. Nobody should be put in a little box. You inmates are ambassadors for goodness, redemption, on the outside," she said.

"Our mantra is hurt people hurt people, but healed people heal people"

Prevention is one of her passions, and she is helping in the area of truancy. She recognizes that offenders are also victims. She knows that her job is to seek justice not just to convict, but to help everyone seek a new end. 85 to 90 percent of juvenile cases do not go to trial but use rehabilitation and restorative justice. "If you don't solve the problem, what's the point?" she added.

"I don't have the street cred

you guys have. The juveniles will listen to you. We need you out there," Hulsey told Troy "Kogan" Williams.

Williams is inside leader for Restorative Justice. He, along with Dwight Krizman keep the program organized. Williams also is the founder of the San Quentin Radio program. "All shareholders have to come to the table so we can all talk and listen objectively, even if they despise us, otherwise nothing will change," said Williams.

Carney has worked in the fields of juvenile and social justice for over 40 years. He works with difficult juveniles using restorative ideas. In youth court, other youngsters act as the jury and decide the offender's punishment. Fellow juveniles even take on the roles of defense attorneys and prosecutors. Using Restorative Justice, the number of juvenile convictions has gone down from 120 to less than 40.

Restorative Justice is starting to grow in acceptance. It is currently "being pitched to all 50 state courts, and it's part of a law that now requires restorative justice to be attempted

before any suspension and expulsions," Carney told the crowd.

Inmate speaker Darnel Washington gave a summary of his crime and his journey to restorative justice. "We need to become one big web of connections, working together so there will be no more victims," said Washington, who was convicted of murder.

The event also included "circles" where outside guests and inmates were divided into groups of about seven each. There, all were given a chance to answer questions, like "What steps can you take to bring positive light to yourself and others?" Everyone was given a chance to share and the answers were insightful, moving and brought many guests to tears.

"The students, staff and faculty I brought in were inspired, moved and deeply impacted by the level of depth, intelligence, kindness and character that we witnessed," said Monique LeSarre doctor of psychology from the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco. "I left even more inspired to continue to intervene

against poverty, systematic racism and to treat the traumas in our communities early, before the cycle of violence starts to spin," she added.

The numbers of inmates waiting to join the movement is growing. Between symposiums, the men, along with a few sponsors, meet every Thursday. Currently there is a waiting list of 100 inmates long. "We are working on adding Wednesday's," said Krizman.

The symposium ended like every Restorative Justice meeting, with their pledge:

*We believe... that violence is not a solution to any problem
...that every person is endowed with a sacred dignity.
...that every person is capable of changing, healing & being restored.*

I pledge to respect the dignity of every person.

...to overcome violence with love and compassion.

...to accompany and support anyone affected by crime on their healing journey.

...to be an instrument of restoration. Of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Our Fading Hidden Mural of 'The Last Supper'

By Tommy Winfrey
Art Editor

Climbing up a six-foot ladder into a roof access hatch and catching the first glimpse of a fading mural of the Last Supper, that may be close to 100 years old, is a humbling experience.

Catching a glimpse of the fading mural, which is thought to be San Quentin's oldest, in person is something that many people have rarely been able to do.

Tucked behind the historic South Block is the building that used to be commonly referred to as "Bay View" when it housed San Quentin's women's prison population.

Built in 1927, the building was transformed into the prison's hospital in 1933 by Dr. Leo Stanley, and renamed the Neumiller building, after Charles Neumiller, an influential member of the Board of Prison Terms.

The Neumiller Building housed women prisoners up to its conversion in 1933. After this point, all 28 of the women prisoners at San Quentin were transferred to their new home in the southern Sierras, at Tehachapi.

Today, the building sits empty, a shell of its former self, waiting for either the wrecking ball or a major facelift.

Either way, the mural that is

hidden inside a tiny three-foot-by-three-foot roof access hatch will more than likely be completely destroyed one day.

Inside the hidden chamber is a roof space that has long since been covered by retrofitted construction. The chamber measures approximately 30 by 50 feet in size and is rarely accessed. Maintenance workers only go up in the hidden chamber about every six months to maintain the heating.

The mural has deteriorated because of leaks in the original roof that sits above. When the leaks were repaired at one point the walls were scraped and most of the mural was destroyed.

The chamber the mural is hidden in is continually plunged in darkness and full of stale air.

Boards are laid across metal joists to allow access to the ventilation equipment housed in the chamber. The boards laid across the skinny three inch wide joists are the only path to safely cross the chamber, otherwise there is a real danger of falling through the roof.

The wall where the mural is painted used to be the wall of the prison chapel the women prisoners utilized during their stay at San Quentin.

The mural's subject matter indicates that it was painted during the building's use as a



Tommy Winfrey standing in front of the fading mural of the Last Supper

Photo by Lt. Sam Robinson

prison chapel, dating the mural to sometime before the 1933 departure of the women prisoners.

It is also more than likely that the mural was painted by a woman since men were not allowed near the women during their stay at San Quentin.

When viewed in this context the hidden mural becomes an even greater treasure of San Quentin's history.

At first glance, an eerie feeling arises from the fact that Jesus and the Disciples to his immediate left seem to have glowing orbs in the dim light where their eyes should be.

Under closer inspection it seems the paint has simply flaked away, revealing the white under painting.

Prison maintenance worker Ian Brown said, "When I first saw Jesus with missing eyes I was a little bit creeped out."

But after sitting with the mural for a while Brown's attitude has changed. He says he respects the beauty and history that the mural encompasses. "I feel privileged to be one of the few living people to ever see the mural that may not last out my lifetime," says Brown.

The mural is in poor condition today, and lit by a flood light from over 20 feet away, it is hard to make out individual brush strokes. But there is a beauty and softness to the figure's faces.

The artist chose to re-produce Leonardo da Vinci's version of the Last Supper.

It is barely visible, but Jesus is framed by the light of a doorway, which has the effect of making Him the central figure of the mural.

The Apostles are all looking inward toward Him, reinforcing His position at the center of the

table.

Painted in 1495, Leonardo's version was unique because of his composition and the experimental techniques he used. He changed earlier interpretations by hiding the projecting ends of the table, inserting Judas within the row of his fellow Apostles, and taking St. John from his traditional spot of sleeping at Jesus' breast.

The changes bring symmetry to the mural by dividing the Disciples numbers in half.

The movement and gestures of the Apostles lead the viewer's eyes to the focal point of Christ.

The experimental techniques Leonardo used caused the Last Supper to tragically deteriorate in his lifetime.

The same has happened in the faded copy of Leonardo's mural at San Quentin.

But even in the mural's deteriorated state it is easy to see the artist's talent at capturing Leonardo's vision of the Last Supper is superb.

The figures dominate the mural because of Leonardo's lack of emphasis on an ornate background that older versions of the Last Supper focused on.

What colors remain on the wall are vibrant and full of pigment, which is another hint the mural was painted pre-Warden Duffy era of the late 1930's through early 1950's. Warden Duffy only allowed Alfredo Santos, the creator of the South Dining Hall murals, to use one color in his work. Duffy's reasoning for this lack of color has been attributed to his unwillingness to allow paint to be used for escape paraphernalia.

Scrolled at the bottom of the mural is the remaining letters U-P-P-E-R in an almost cryptic fashion.

The message has the effect of leaving the viewer pondering if there is some higher message they should take away from the word upper while viewing this work of art.

San Quentin is full of history and this happens to be one of the walls that are actually talking, it would be a real shame to lose it.



Photoshopped by Correctional Officer Fitzsimmons

Faded Last Super Mural that's been Photo shopped

Greetings from around the World

From around the World is a new section in San Quentin News. We invite people from around the World to send us a picture of you reading the newspaper. We hope you would include a well-known Landmark in the background of your photo.

We also invite you to give your take on the newspaper. So far, Amsterdam and Germany has answered the call. What says the rest of the world?



Professor William Drummond Oct. 16, 2013 in Amsterdam in front of the Media Studies Building of the University of Amsterdam



"I enjoy reading San Quentin News. I share with all my friends." Reinhard Scheurich in Frankfurt/Main, Germany

File Photos

Helping Children Deal With Their Incarcerated Parents

By Boston Woodard
Staff Writer

The latest U.S. census numbers show that of the 2.5 million incarcerated men and women, one in 28 is a parent, and about two-thirds of these parents are in for non-violent crimes. <http://www.rawstory.com/rs/2010/09/one-28-kids-parent-jail-study/>



File Photo

POPS Co-founders:
Dennis Danziger and Amy Friedman

Author Amy Friedman and her husband, Dennis Danziger, a teacher in Venice High School in the Los Angeles Unified School District, organized Pain of the Prison System, (POPS) to help children with incarcerated parents.

Danziger said he understands the prejudices that prisoners' families and friends suffer after a loved one becomes incarcerated. He noticed that when asked to write about their experiences, some of his students left out mention of their incarcerated parents.

But one of Danziger's students, Kylie, a normally quiet student, finally opened up about her brother's incarceration. "It was as if that word 'Folsom' had unleashed a torrent of memories she suddenly was able to share," Danziger said. After he told Friedman of

the "Kylie miracle," Friedman suggested, "We should start a club for these kids."

The ensuing mission statement says, "POPS is a school club that welcomes all those students (and other school personnel) whose lives have been touched by prison. We offer a space where members are encouraged to express their truths. POPS recognizes potential where others might see only despair. We thrive on seeing the world as it is while imagining it as it could be. POPS creates hope by tackling shame and fear and building a community based on dignity and openness."

"The club is about prison," said POPS member Alondra Magallanes. She said although their dad went to jail for only a little over two months, "It was like a bomb went off in our family." Then they went to a POPS meeting. "My brother Ariel accompanied me to the club... There were at least 15 students who showed up, probably more, and what happened over the next 25 minutes was not what I could have ever anticipated. My brother and I, who are usually quiet people, became surprisingly open and talkative. Ariel immediately began pouring out his emotions. He couldn't stop. I followed."

Friedman says, "Seeing some of the kids climb out of their embarrassment, their silence, their shame and fear, wow! It's amazing."

Friedman's third memoir, *Desperado's Wife*, is about her previous marriage to an incarcerated man and her struggle to endure the hardships of the relationship.

Danziger and Friedman say they wish to see a POPS club in every school with the hope to take away the shame and sorrow young people must deal with in having an incarcerated parent.

Anastasia Stanek, a co-founder of POPS, said, "It is by far the most important work I have ever done, and I am truly thankful. I have found these kids. I draw strength from their willingness and courage, and I take it with me when I leave that classroom. I am a better woman for it. I have never felt stronger. I knew with all my

being that I was right where I was supposed to be."

In a POPS meeting, student Magallanes said, "One adult speaker explained how her earlier life became so difficult that she turned to drugs and alcohol and her sister attempted suicide multiple times." She said the two of them then "turned their loss and sadness into a non-profit organization that helps women who have been victims of violence."

The sisters are writer/producer Maxine Lapiduss and branding expert Kelley Whitis. They created "Linda's Voice," a program designed to engage, educate and empower women to work together to end domestic violence. Both sisters are now POPS club board members.

POPS student Nelvia Marin, wrote of the anguish harbored by many youths with a parent in prison. "Seen him a few times... All that's left in my household



File Photo

Documentary film maker
Christina McDowell with Bruce Lisker

are negative comments, with a bad vibe. But you will find him behind bars, in jail, wearing an orange jump suit/black numbers on the left side of his chest."

Another supporter of POPS is Spoon-ful of Wisdom, which is a question and answer forum where inmate Spoon Jackson at Lancaster State Prison answers questions posed by POPS members.

"I'm going to visit my dad in prison for the first time in 11 years. Is there anything I should know or specifically prepare for," asked one young person. Jackson responded: "Your dad will be blessed and beyond happy to see you—it will be like paradise on earth to him, and his smiles and laughter will be endless, like a big sunset. The visiting room is a special, sacred place for us—a place of honor full of love and family."

In 1978, Jackson began serving a life without the possibility of parole (LWOP) sentence for a crime he committed while a teenager. Jackson published has several books since his incarceration. He's also received four PEN American Center's Prison Writing Program awards. Jack-



File Photo

POPS club member: Joslyn Stevens

son is an actor, poet, a teaching artist, and is featured in Michael Wenzler's award winning 2011 documentary *At Night I Fly—Tales From New Folsom*.

"My godfather has been away in prison since I was three years old," asked another POPS club member. "I want to try and make

to start clubs at their school.

Lunch is a vital part of the POPS experience. "Lunch nourishes all of us. It makes the club a place of nourishment, spirituality, emotionally and physically. And lunch puts everyone in a good mood—another element of bonding," said Friedman. "Nothing fancy, peanut butter sandwiches, brownies, juice and water, chips, and whatever can be hustled up for the kids."

A POPS supporter, fellow school teacher Tory Toyama, received a donation of baked goods from Panera Bread for the lunch program. One local vendor, Pitfire Pizza, has offered to donate free pizza for POPS club members once a month. Others who have stepped up to contribute to POPS are baker Pain Quotidienne, and Susan Broussard and Nicole Quessenbury, two chefs who frequently make lunch.

"Whenever we're in a room with the kids, it's as if that room has lifted off the floor—the sense of community, comradeship, safety, understanding, joy, yes joy at no longer carrying a secret so many of these kids have carried," Friedman said.

Friedman hopes for additional community support. To help write to Friedman and Danziger at popsvenice@gmail.com or to Friedman directly at Friedman@Friedmanfriedman.net or at POPS the Club, Venice High School, 13000 Venice Boulevard, LA, CA 90066. Their website: www.popsclub.com.

[Author's note: "I was a POPS kid before there was a POPS club."]



Photo by Sam Hearn

Guest Speaker: Bruce Lisker



File Photo

POPS club members:
Tony Lopez-Figueroa and Nelvia Marin

The Long History of the S.Q. Laundry Room

By Charles Brooks
Journalism Guild Writer

Since San Quentin Prison was first built in 1852, its oldest laundry room has moved to many different locations.

Housing mostly rugged outlaws, rouge cowboys and thieving gold miners, the laundry room was probably not a top priority. In fact, back in the day, prisoners were responsible for making and washing their own clothes. The first industrialized Singer motor sewing machines emerged in 1910 and probably made their way to San Quentin shortly after.

"In the last 25 years, the laundry room has moved its location at least four times," said staff worker Gary Sae. "In 1989, for example, it was located on the main yard next door to the mini canteen. Today, that building houses educational classes, perhaps hobby and San Quentin's media center. The laundry room was so spacious and fully equipped, back then, that we washed our own blues, whites and bedding."

A few years later, the laundry room was move to another small location on the West Block yard and, as of May 13, moved to the old mini canteen space on the Lower Yard.

"The new Laundry procedures and location are much

more efficient," said Sae.

Laundry room workers including Charles Tatum, inmate worker An Dao, and the general population all have mixed feelings about the recent changes that took place on May 17.

"It used to be that H-Unit, at one time, had their own clothing room and clothing cards," Sae said. "Sometimes (during) the old way, the inmate could be without his clothing issue for two weeks up to a month if he was moving from dorm to dorm. Now all clothes and clothing cards are centralized where we could track who got what and when."

"Now it's much better. We are more efficient," he concluded.

"Another advantage we can change our white sheets, towels and pillow cases each week" said Tatum. "And new arrivals can come at anytime," added Dao.

"However, on the third week of each month, we exchanged everything including blues that's damaged, too small etc. The schedule remains the same at top" said Doa.

"All PIA, kitchen, and porter workers get boots when they present work ducats. There are no half shoe sizes," Doa added.

"The tennis shoes are issued to all inmates except for noted workers," said Sea.

For laundry bags, there is a



San Quentin Archive

Prisoners working in the Old San Quentin Laundry room

three-day turn around for any kind of lining that goes out, according to laundry staff.

"Try not getting upset, because everything will be alright," said inmate Shawn

Garth. "The laundry staff and workers will take care of you."

The laundry schedules are as follows:

Mondays – New Arrivals Only

Tuesdays – North Block Only

Wednesdays – West Block & Donner Only

Thursdays – H-Unit Only
Fridays – PIA Workers Only

Film Crew Director Offers Views of Mural Artist Alfredo Santos

By Tommy Winfrey
Art Editor

San Quentin recently hosted a film crew capturing footage of art and artist behind the legendary walls.

The film crew came to San Quentin to make a documentary about Alfredo Santos, the artist who created the South Dining Hall murals.

The crew's director, Paul Sutton, made the first documentary about prisons in 1980 titled *Doing Time*.

Doing Time earned three Emmy awards, and its sequel *Doing Time Ten Years Later* was the recipient of two Emmy awards.

Sutton also made the film *Prison Through Tomorrow's Eyes*.

Making movies has become a family affair for Sutton. On this

shoot his wife and cameraperson Lori Sutton, daughter Roberta Sutton, and son-in-law Christian Kelly joined him.

Although this film started out to be about the life and work of Santos, the idea has evolved. "Film making is an organic process, and every time we talk to someone new the more the original idea changes," says Sutton.

The original name for this film was *Broken Mold – The Life and Art of Alfredo Santos*. The title reflected the life story of Santos. Sutton says many people tried to break Santos throughout his life by taking advantage of him, but they only managed to break the mold and not the man. Each time Santos faced a hardship in his life he emerged a stronger person.

Sutton says these hardships reflect in his art.



Photo by Troy Williams

Bill Meredith talking to Paul Sutton in North Block while Lori Sutton videos the interview

Sutton says he is not really a filmmaker. He recently retired as a professor of criminal justice

at the University of California at San Diego.

"My motivation was to show the reality of prison," Sutton said about making prison documentaries.

Before becoming a professor, Sutton was a data cruncher doing research on prisons. This led to his first documentary *Doing Time*.

Right after *Doing Time* was released the Penitentiary of New Mexico exploded with the bloodiest prison riot in recorded history.

Sutton has answered this question with what he sees as a more val-

id question, "Why don't more prisons explode?"

This question has sent him all over searching for answers.

He has spent the last 24 years leading a tour for his students at UCSD up and down the state's prison system.

Every year he visits San Quentin on this tour. "The most interesting thing about San Quentin is the relationship between custody and the fel-las," Sutton says. "I've never seen the warmth I've seen at San Quentin between these two sides anywhere else."

Sutton says in his time in this business he has come to know the reality of prisons that most of the public never gets to see.

"The public sees shows like *Lock Up* and think that is real," Sutton says.

Sutton recognizes blood is what usually sells, but that is not the reality of prison.



Photo by Paul Sutton

Lori Sutton on the first tier in North Block speaking to Andress Yancy as Roberta Sutton and Christian Kelly checks the camera equipment

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Book Review

By Randy Maluenda



ADAPTABILITY (By M.J. Ryan) Learn to survive and thrive through unexpected changes.



WHY THINGS ARE (By Joel Achenbach) Good answers to curious questions, from bugs to philosophy, from the trivial thru the sublime.



EMOTIONS REVEALED (By Paul Ekman) Technical read on living well through emotional literacy.



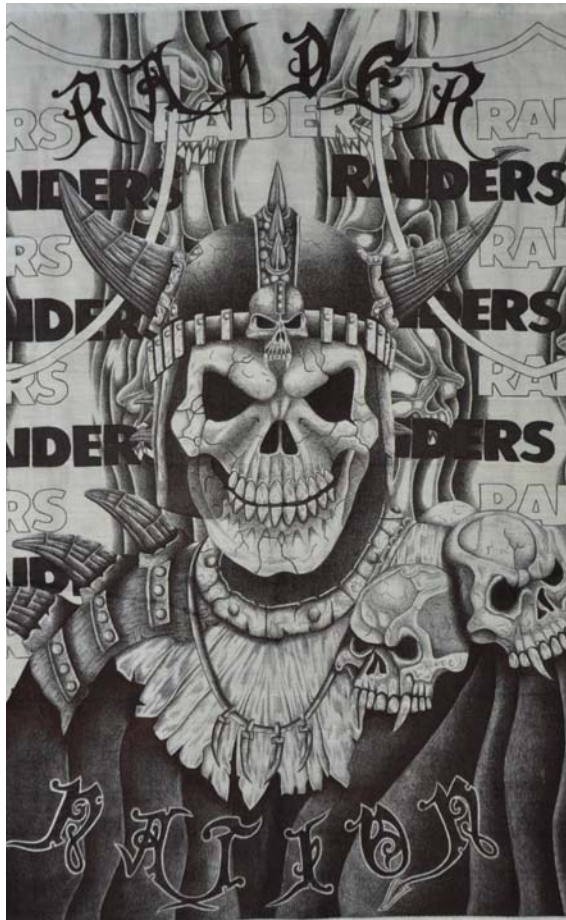
RECIPES FOR DISASTER (By Crimethinc Agents Provocateurs) Alternative living strategies for various situations.



SO WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? (By Fritz Ridenour) Survey of various belief systems compared with Christianity.

RATINGS:

Top responses are four trophies progressing downward to one: Responses which are two or less are not recommended reading.



Featured Artwork By James Norton

Sudoku Corner

By Ashmus Troy

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | | | | | | | | 5 |
| | | 7 | | | 3 | | | |
| | | | | 2 | | 1 | | |
| | | | 6 | | | | 9 | |
| | 5 | | | 1 | | | | |
| | | 2 | | | | 3 | | |
| | 1 | | | | | | | 5 |
| 8 | | | 5 | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 | | | 9 |

Last Issue's Sudoku Solution

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 2 |
| 9 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 4 |
| 5 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 8 |
| 8 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 6 |
| 2 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 5 |
| 6 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| 7 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 3 |
| 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 7 |
| 3 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 1 |

Snippets

Considered a U.S. holiday, thanksgiving is a celebration held on the fourth Thursday of November. It commemorates the Pilgrim's celebration of the good harvest of 1621.

Remembered for their religious acts, the pilgrim traveled to shrines or holy places to practice their religion.

American National Turkey Federation calculated that 46 million turkeys were eaten in 2007 during Thanksgiving.

Native Americans played a vital role in helping the American settlers survive during the winter by teaching them how to harvest agriculture.

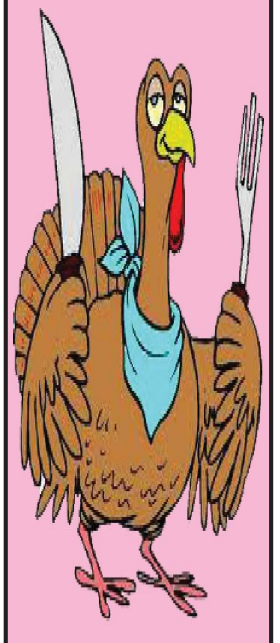
By 1620, Pilgrims came to America on a ship called the Mayflower.

Everything from fish, lobster, bass, and clams was the original celebration food on the menu for Thanksgiving.

Remembering where the classic nursery rhyme "Mary Had a Little Lamb" came from. A influential magazine editor author Sarah Josepha Hale's intentions were to make Thanksgiving a national holiday in the 19th century.

Reminder that there are three different definitions for the word turkey. A bird identified with the Am fowl. A slang for an inept, stupid, or unpleasant person. In bowling a turkey, is referred to bowling three strikes in a row.

Yearly, the president pardons the White House turkey on Thanksgiving day.



Complete This Puzzle Win a Prize!

With 10 quarters in your hand, you flipped each quarter one-by-one and every time the results were tails. What are the odds that you will get all tails the next time you toss the quarters?

The answer to last month's puzzle is: Leap year, February 29.
The winner to last month's puzzle is: Craig Gerstner

Congratulations to the following contestants who also got it right: Bernie Castro, Edward Wycoff, Marc Radcliffe, Johnny Leo Capistrano, Don Brooks, Hyung-Jin An, Evan Nakahara, C. Ward, Troy Smith, Bernard Pearle-Van Pelz

Rules:
The prize will be for completion of brain twist-er puzzles. All puzzle submissions should be sent via u-save-em envelope to San Quentin News/Education Department. Only one entry per person.
All correct submissions will be placed in a hat. The winner will be picked by drawing a name from that hat.
The prize winner will receive four Granola Bars. Prizes will only be offered to inmates that are allowed to receive the prize items. Inmates transferred, sent to ad/seg or otherwise not available to claim their prize will result in forfeiture.
The answer and the winner's name will be published in the next issue of the San Quentin News.

Making a Connection With Ericka Huggins

By Watani Stiner
Staff Writer

In October 2009, I met with Fania Davis. Fania spoke around the concept and practice of “restorative justice.” After that meeting, I approached her and formally introduced myself. After extending my welcome and profound gratitude for her talk I shared a little of my history, telling her I was present at UCLA on the day that Ericka Huggins’ husband John and “Bunchy” Carter were shot and killed.

Fania (Angela Davis’ sis-

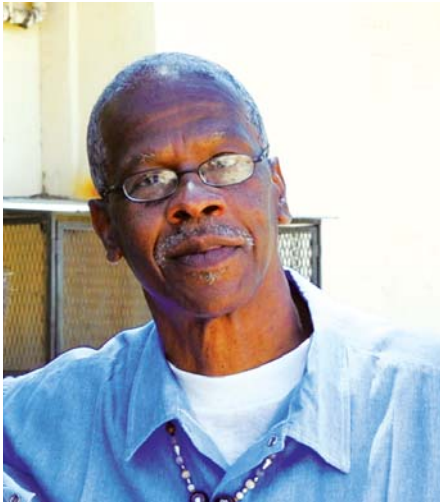


Photo by Sam Hearnes

Watani Stiner

An ‘OG’s’ Perspective

ter) seemed both surprised and excited that I had the courage to embark upon the “restorative justice” process. Since she and Ericka were good friends, Fania was more than willing to make the initial contact.

I questioned myself: would she be furious at my attempt to reach out to her after all these

y e a r s ?
Would my act of writing to her bring back terrible memories and open up old wounds? What could I possibly say to Ericka now?

I n s t e a d of continuing to ask myself, “what-if?” I decided to write. This letter was my first step t o w a r d

“restorative justice.”
A letter to Ericka:

Dear Ericka:

In my heart I have written this letter to you and your daughter many times over; Yet, now that I’m confronted with how it might be received by you, I can’t seem to find the “right” set of words. I hope what I have to say is received by you in the loving and compassionate way in which it is felt and conveyed. My name is Watani Stiner and during the tumultuous Black Power era of the 60’s I was a member of Maulana Karenga’s “Us” organization. On January 17, 1969 I was present on the UCLA campus when a shooting erupted between members of Us and the Black Panther Party. In the aftermath of that tragic encounter, John, your husband, and Bunchy Carter were both shot and killed. I am currently incarcerated at San Quentin State Prison on a “conspiracy” charge related to their deaths.

Although I did not pull the trigger of the gun that took the lives of John and Bunchy,

I have carried a heavy burden of guilt, knowing that I had contributed to the mindset and atmosphere resulting in the deaths of two human beings.

My journey of love and sacrifice for my own children has opened up my heart and allowed me to feel the emptiness you must have felt on that dreadful day you learned of John’s death -- confusion, the questions, the pain, and the realization that your daughter would never get to know her father. For that, I am truly sorry. No words could ever fill the space left in a father’s absence.

Moreover, it is my contention that the UCLA shooting remains one of the most unresolved conflicts within the Black Power movement. And because it hasn’t been properly addressed and ultimately resolved, a vacuum and a model were established for the resurgence of violent gang formations in Los Angeles. Notwithstanding external forces of the FBI’s Counter Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO), I don’t think it is too much to suggest that the feud between the Crips and the Bloods is in many respect an extension and continuation of the violence between Us and the Panthers.

After listening to Fania Davis give a talk of “restorative justice” to a group of young men here at San Quentin, I introduced myself to her and expressed my desire to make contact with you for dialogue and reconciliation. Since Fania is actively engaged in promoting restorative justice, I asked her to help me reach out to you and to facilitate the process of reconciliation.

I trust that with Fania’s guidance we can enter into a process that will help us confront and challenge many of the myths and lingering speculations that have surfaced after the UCLA killings. Hopefully, many of your questions will be asked and answered through honest dialogue.

During my 20 years in exile, I wrestled with what had happened at UCLA and what I would and should have done differently. There is no justification for the killing of another human being. I thought about you and your daughter often, wondering how you and she were making it without John. How were Bunchy’s son and family? I imagined myself meeting up with you and visualized the conversation we would have, what I would say to your daughter, how she and you would respond.

There must have been many difficult, emotional times as you tried to cope. The many questions that must have plagued the mind of your daughter: what daddy was really like, the things he would

have done for me, the places he would have taken me, and his presence at my graduation and marriage. Yes, Ericka, all of the things I have experienced (or wanted to) with my own children were denied your daughter.

It is said that time heals all wounds. But even if this saying is true, I’m sure it does not remove all of the scars. And I wonder just how many scars were left on you and your daughter over the years following the death of your husband John.

“Would my act of writing to her bring back terrible memories and open up old wounds?”

The tragic irony of my situation (still doing time for a 40-year-old conspiracy conviction) seems utterly preposterous. I believe that because there was never any serious dialogue or genuine attempt at conflict resolution between Us and the Panthers, history was unable to reveal to us and teach our children anything about truth, reconciliation and forgiveness. I’m wondering if there is anything that can be done about it now.

The positive contributions both organizations made to our communities cannot be denied. However, in a culture of violence, absent any creative and bold intervention, the cycle continues. Would you be willing to join me in setting up a Truth and Reconciliation Forum as a model for our youth? I’m sure that there are others from the Movement who feel partially responsible for the violence permeating our communities today.

I also have an emotional and intellectual interest in trying to understand and combat the gang situation in L.A. My two teenage sons, recent residents of this country for almost five years have already been drawn to gangs and consumed by the criminal “justice” system.

Thank you Ericka for receiving my letter. I hope that you and your daughter are well and that you will be willing to communicate. I hope we can begin the necessary process of reconciliation. Of course, there is no guarantee that dialogue will lead to reconciliation, but there is a certainty that we cannot arrive there without it. If nothing more comes of this humble gesture, I’m at least grateful that you’ve received this letter and that I was able to express my feelings of regret at the deaths of John and Bunchy.

May you and your daughter receive good things without number and many blessings without end. —Watani--
(corresponding for three years...)

BOOK REVIEW

Dissent and Disobedience Misunderstood

By Juan Haines
Managing Editor

Prison officials may be a wee bit nervous about seeing a review on Concerning Dissent and Civil Disobedience, by Abe Fortas, in a prison newspaper.

No need to panic, Fortas’ argument [in which I agree] initially takes into account what his brethren, Associate Justice William O. Douglas, said about law and order: “I fully accept the principle that each of us is subject to law; that each of us is bound to obey the law enacted by his government.”

That being said, “A function of free speech is to invite dispute. It may indeed best serve its high purpose when it induces ... unrest ... or even stirs people to anger.”

The subject of dissenting opinion by people subject to the state is an interesting discussion, considering California prisoners last hunger strike. The prison officials and the inmates might have come to terms sooner if principles in Concerning Dissent and Civil Disobedience were understood and followed.

Dialog between the government and the people, no matter who the people are, is always a productive course of action

when a legal policy instituted by state officials is debatable.

During the hunger strike, state officials wanted the legal and established means utilized to express opposition, while the strikers wanted immediate action to end their alleged frustration and suffering.

“A function of free speech is to invite dispute.”

“A democratic society should and must tolerate criticism, promotes, demand for change, and organizations and demonstrations within the generally defined limits of the law to marshal support for dissent and change,” Fortas’ analysis of the dilemma would have considers. “It should and must make certain that facilities and protection, where necessary, are provided for these activities.”

Fortas recognizes that the courts “have the ultimate responsibility of striking the balance between the state’s right to protect itself and its citizens.”

While acknowledging the right to protest is not “absolute,” Concerning Dissent and

Civil Disobedience argues that even the hunger strikers have a right to protest their living conditions.

One of the demands of the hunger strikers—that they not be punished for protesting individuals—individuals who refuse to comply with the rule of law must assume that they will be punished “and it requires peaceful submission to punishment.” Moreover, when Gandhi was asked, “Is nonviolence, from your point of view, a form of direct action?” he responded, “It is not one form, it is the only form.”

Fortas’ philosophy that state officials must accept dissent from individuals follows the Jeffersonian tenet: “Not every difference of policy is a difference of principle.”

Understanding the divide between the individual and the state, Concerning Dissent and Civil Disobedience gives the reader a simple lesson: “The story of man is the history, first, of the acceptance and imposition of restraints necessary to permit communal life,” Fortas writes. “And second, of the emancipation of the individual within that system of necessary restraints.”

Who Are You Most Thankful For?

Asked On The Line

By Angelo Falcone
Journalism Guild Writer

As the holidays approach, the hearts of the people in the San Quentin community flood with thankfulness.

"Asked on the Line" conducted 11 random informal interviews with the men in blue and asked them to respond, with the first thing that came to mind and heart: Who is the one person or group of people that you are most thankful for having in your life?

And, what is the one thing—tangible or not—that you are most grateful for having at this very moment?

It took some men back in time and for others in brought them to tears.

Robert Frye said he is thankful for "all the beautiful people" in his life and for God. He is also thankful for his recovery.

Jesus Flores said he was thankful for his parents. "They have always been there for me. Ev-

eryone else in my family moved on with their lives. I don't blame them, but my mom and dad have stood by my side for 20 years." Flores is also thankful for having his health. "Without it, I wouldn't be alive."

"Am thankful for the loving support of a mother who has never wavered in her love and support, despite my shortcomings"

Nate Collins said that he is most thankful for his family, especially his "mom, brother, auntie, and uncle." He is also thankful for having courage. "I can look at myself with a critical eye to fix my flaws and accept my short comings."

Chapple Sims said he was thankful for having a loving family, especially his wife. He is also grateful for having peace in his life.

Dexter Coleman said that he is "thankful for having people in his life who love me unconditionally." He also said that he is grateful for his "ability to experience all of the emotions that a person, son, brother, father, and grandfather could go through in life, no matter the location."

Orlando Harris is thankful for his mother. "I am thankful for the loving support of a mother who has never wavered in her love and support, despite my shortcomings." He is also grateful for "being blessed with a changed heart."

Randy Maluenda is thankful for his father, Victor. "I am also thankful for God's blessings and challenges, for His grace and life's setbacks. For everything!"

Valeray Richardson is also thankful for his family. "I'm

very thankful for my family, especially my daughter." He also expressed gratitude for his health and his new outlook on life.

Eric Boles is most thankful for his daughter and is grateful for his health.

Billy Allen was thankful for his family and is grateful for having good health.

Yours truly is eternally thank-

ful for my parents, Albert and Marie, and my daughter, Janie. I love them beyond words. They have my unconditional love and I know that they love me in the same way. As far as the one thing I am thankful for having in my life right now, it would have to be the opportunity to help others. I never thought I would ever be able to help so many people. Over the years, I have been graced with the opportunity to help others in the most unexpected of ways. Happy Thanksgiving.

Sesame Street

Little children, Big challenges: Incarceration



Photo by Brant Ward, The Chronicle

Sesame Street's Elmo paid a visit to San Quentin State Prison on November 14, 2013.

A full article will be printed in our SQ News December edition.

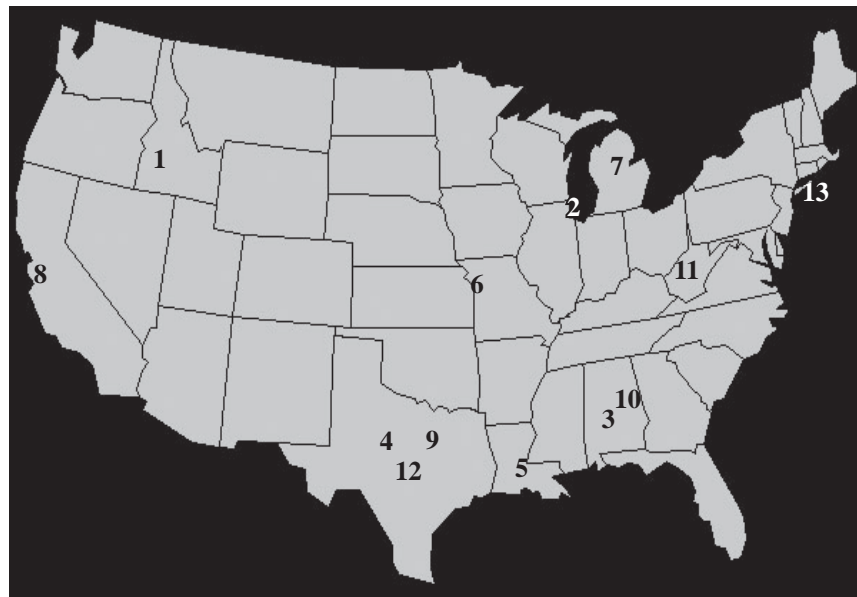
1. Boise, Idaho – Corrections Corporation of America has been held in contempt of court by a federal judge because of chronic understaffing at a prison south of Boise, reports The Associated Press. The case began in 2010 when the American Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit on behalf of inmates, alleging the prison was so violent that prisoners named it a "Gladiator School." CCA denied the claims, but subsequently promised to increase staffing levels at the prison. However the judge issued a 24-page ruling pointing out inconsistencies in CCA claims about staffing levels, and warned CCA would suffer "fines as big as needed" to force compliance to adequate staffing levels.

2. Chicago—In 2011, the average daily jail population at Cook County Jail was 8,900. Most were detainees awaiting trial, reports the Chicago Tribune. In 2013, the daily count is more than 10,000, the highest since 2007. According to the Tribune, about 5 percent of the detainees have been awaiting trial for more than two years.

3. Alabama—State officials are worried that its prison system might fall into federal receivership because of "horrific conditions" similar to those in 1976, when it became the first prison system to come under federal oversight, reports The Montgomery Advertiser.

4. Texas—Crime rates in the state have been falling the past 20 years while the overall population has risen significantly, reports Grits for Breakfast, an on-line blog for Texas criminal justice policy. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the state had

News Briefs



the second largest decline after California, down 5,852, the report finds.

5. Angola, Louisiana—Herman Wallace, one of the "Angola 3" died three days after he was set free from what a judge ruled was an unconstitutional conviction, reports the Los Angeles Times. In 1972, Wallace was found guilty of stabbing a prison guard. He was subsequently sent to solitary confinement. Wallace always maintained his innocence, according to the Times. Wallace, 71, died of complications of liver cancer.

6. Kansas City, Missouri—The Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists has urged state officials not to use propofol in

a scheduled execution, reports The Associate Press. Propofol is the most commonly used execution drug in the U.S. The anti-death penalty European Union is weighing whether to limit exporting the drug to the U.S., raising unease about a shortage in the U.S.

7. Michigan—State lawmakers plan to re-sentence more than 360 or so inmates who were under 18 when they committed crimes. Lawmakers are responding to the U.S. Supreme Court striking down mandatory life without the possibility of parole for juveniles, reports The Associated Press.

8. Santa Cruz—In an innovative response to realignment,

county officials are boosting the use of home confinement for 370 offenders. Inmates must serve a third of their jail sentences to become eligible for confinement at home with electronic monitoring. With some counties scrambling to add more jail beds, the Custody Alternatives Program helps Santa Cruz avoid that problem, reports the Santa Cruz Sentinel.

9. Texas—The Texas Department of Criminal Justice has refused to return lethal injection drugs purchased from two compounding pharmacies, despite calls from the firms not to use their substances for executions, reports IPS news service. "The drugs were pur-

chased legally and we were upfront with the vendors that their names would be subject to public disclosures after the purchase," Texas DCJ's spokesman Jason Clark told IPS. "We are not going to return the drugs."

10. Wetumpka, Alabama—An HIV-infected female inmate testified in a closed hearing about the prison system's policy of segregating HIV-positive inmates. The purpose of the hearing was to determine whether the policy is legal, reports The Associate Press.

11. Charleston, West Virginia—Correction Corporations of America and Community Education Centers of Houston have submitted bids to house inmates out-of-state, reports The Associated Press. The state has more than 1,600 inmates who should be in state prison, but are still in county jail because of a lack of beds. The state's constitution bans sending prisoners out-of-state, involuntarily, so the inmates would have to agree to the transfers, the report states.

12. Huntsville, Texas—Michael Yowell, 43 was executed with a controversial lethal injection drug—a compounded pentobarbital, reports Reuters. Yowell was convicted in 1998 for killing his parents and blowing up their home in Lubbock.

13. New York City—Jailing inmates in NYC for one year is more expensive than a four year Harvard undergrad degree, finds a new report by Al Jazeera America. The Independent Budget Office found the 2012 annual incarceration cost for each inmate was \$167,731, while the annual tuition for a Harvard undergrad is \$38,891.

New York Panel Tackles Bias in Justice System

'Recognizing that most crime results from a lack of opportunity'

By Kevin D. Sawyer
Journalism Guild Chairman

During a three-day conference in New York City, a panel presented what it called "major issues," and discussed what could be done to reduce bias at the charging, pretrial detention, jury selection, and at the sentencing stage of criminal proceedings.

Participants at the conference emphasized the need to look at the entire criminal justice process: "Rather than belabor what has gone wrong or

has not worked, participants shared innovative disparity-reduction practices from around the country, as well as new ideas for reforming policies that produce mass incarceration."

Sponsors of the conference identified the magnitude and scope of the U. S. criminal justice system, citing statistics such as "2.2 million people incarcerated as of 2012, at a cost of \$70 billion." The report found nearly one in four adults has criminal records in the U.S., or 65 million people.

Many of the offenses are non-violent.

New York State Supreme Court judge Marcy Friedman noted a 2007 study showing that 69 percent of New York City's arrests were for misdemeanors or lesser violations. "Never before have so many been arrested for so little," said Judge Friedman.

"Recognizing that most crime results from a lack of opportunity, the first priority was a community-wide survey, conducted door to door, to understand what people saw as

the biggest issues in the neighborhood," finds a report on the conference by the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL).

Various reforms were presented to combat "racial disproportionality at every stage of criminal proceedings," including reducing reliance on long jail sentences in an effort to reduce crime.

Further reforms include:

- repealing mandatory minimums
- zero-tolerance policies in schools
- reforming bail policies
- outlawing racial profiling by police
- decriminalize non-violent drug offenses
- end the practice of adjudicating juveniles in adult courts
- repeal post-conviction impediments that hinder re-entry

Experts at the conference said "their practice is blind to race," and prosecutors said in many cases they "do not know the race of the defendant until arraignment."

According to the report, a by-product of even a minor conviction will cause individuals to suffer one, if not more, "collateral consequences" like loss of housing, jobs, the right to vote, student loans, or deportation.

Providing services to prevent crime, such as lifting barriers to employment and housing, along with creating policies for sentencing reforms that promote crime prevention, and

reducing some misdemeanors to infractions were also among the recommendations.

"Job developers, educators and social workers are all part of the equation, not just lawyers and judges," said James Brodick, a project director with the Center for Court Innovation.

The report cites the Fair Sentencing Act signed by President Obama in 2010, which reduces the "disparity between crack and powder cocaine," and the Second Chance Act signed in 2008 to help individuals "returning to communities from prisons and jails."

"America is the land of second chances, and when the gates of the prison open, the path ahead should lead to a better life," said former president George W. Bush in a Journal of Prisoners on Prisons publication.

At the end of the conference, participants advocated moving forward in two areas to reduce racial disparity in the criminal justice system. They said there needs to be "structural reform at points of entry and sentencing," and "fair administration of justice reforms to minimize the impact of existing racial and economic disparities."

"Without greater efforts to address harsh policing and sentencing policies, initiatives aimed at the fair administration of justice in courts will be insufficient to eliminate the racial disproportionality that currently defines the U.S. criminal justice system," the report concluded.

Increasing Jail Time Works Better Than Longer Prison Sentencing

If policymakers want a safer public, research shows that increasing the certainty of jail time for criminal activity works better than imposing longer prison sentences.

"Contrary to deterrence ideology and 'get tough' rhetoric, the bulk of research on the deterrent effects of harsher sentences fails to support these assertions" that locking people up longer will increase public safety, according to The Sentencing Project.

Sentencing typically has several goals, including punishment, incapacitation, deterrence, and rehabilitation.

The deterrence theory assumes people are rational actors who consider the consequences of their behavior before deciding to commit a crime. But The Sentencing Project found often this is not the case, since "half of all state prisoners were under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of their offense." Therefore, it is unlikely persons are deterred by the inevitability or severity of punishment due to their diminished capacity.

Another problem in assessing deterrence is that would-be offenders first have to be aware of consequences prior to committing a crime.

"Potential offenders are also unlikely to be aware of modifications to sentencing policies, thus diminishing any deterrent effect," The Sentencing Project stressed. "People who perceive that sanctions are more certain tend to be less likely to engage in criminal activity."

"Half of all state prisoners were under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of their offense"

The Sentencing Project study analyzed the difference between an offender's length of time of prison and recidivism. It found longer prison sentenc-

es may relate to a three percent increase in recidivisms.

"Offenders who spent an average of 30 months in prison had a recidivism rate of 29 percent, compared to a 26 percent rate among prisoners serving an average sentence of 12.9 months," The Sentencing Project reported. Incarceration, versus remaining in the community, was linked to a seven percent increase in recidivism. "When prison sentences are relatively short, offenders are more likely to maintain their ties to family, employers, and their community, all of which promote successful reentry into society."

"Conversely, when prisoners serve longer sentences they are more likely to become institutionalized, lose pro-social contacts in the community, and become removed from legitimate opportunities, all of which promote recidivism," The Sentencing Project found.

In his 1950 book, *The San Quentin Story*, then-warden, Clinton T. Duffy wrote: "For some first offenders, 24 hours in San Quentin would be – and is – a nightmare, and is thus a sufficient deterrent. For others the critical point comes in a month, or a year, or years. But there is a saturation point in practically every man's servitude beyond which every additional hour is wasted and destructive punishment."

The Sentencing Project's findings suggest that reduced sentences may contribute to lower rates of recidivism. Research into evidence-based practices have caused some policymakers to look into the "practicality of current sentencing policies and over-reliance on incarceration."

It was estimated that a 50 percent reduction in the number of people locked up for non-violent offenses could save taxpayers nearly \$17 billion annually, without putting public safety at risk.

"Policies such as California's Three Strikes law or mandatory minimums that increase imprisonment not only burden state budgets, but also fail to enhance public safety," The Sentencing Project concluded.

– By Kevin D. Sawyer

New Computer Program Predicts Criminal Events

By Ted Swain
Journalism Guild Writer

PredPol is a new computer program used to predict when and where crimes will occur. Police officers can be dispatched to the scene in advance of the crime, once a prediction is made.

But the constitutionality of stopping and questioning someone based on a computer prediction raises legal problems.

That is only one of the issues about to erupt as more and more police departments begin to use computer modeling to predict criminal activity.

A Seattle police officer, Philip Monzon, was featured on a National Public Radio report. If patrolling an area, he said he wouldn't make stops solely based on computer predictions. That is probably the right an-

swer said Andrew Guthrie Ferguson, a law professor at the University of the District of Columbia. The constitutional implication of using information that was not part of the office's personal suspicion is questionable, said Ferguson.

On the other hand, it may turn out that computer predictions used to stop someone do have a constitutional basis. Some consider it more objective than an individual police officer's personal opinion. For one thing, it is less prone to racism and other kinds of profiling.

Ferguson says that argument may have merit, but society will need to be careful. Even though computers aren't biased, the statistics feeding it might be. And if police are going to follow an algorithm, we, as a society, should at least insist on checking the math.

Officials of Santa Clara County Offers to Pay Rent for 70 Ex-offenders

By Wesley R. Eisiminger
Journalism Guild Writer

There is more good news for some Three Strikes inmates now eligible for release due to the passage of Proposition 36 last November. According to local television station KPIX 5, Santa Clara County officials plan to offer rental help to about 70 ex-offenders by paying their rent for their first year out.

"There needs to be a limitation on the amount of money," said County Supervisor Joe Simitain. "There needs to limitation for how long this help is provided for. We need to make sure that people are working, at least after a reasonable period of time."

County officials say they will pay as much as \$1,000 a month. The final details of the rent subsidy plan have not yet been worked out, but the money will be paid directly to landlords, according to the report.

Proposition 36 gave judges the authority to reduce the life sentences of Three Strikes who committed non-serious/non-violent offenses. Prior to release, the judges have to determine that the offender will

not pose a danger to public safety. Some 3,000 inmates are eligible for release.

Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen said he thought the proposition would give the criminal justice system the tool to make the punishment fit the crime

"If they fail again they will go back to state prison at a cost of \$60,000-a-year"

The rental assistance program, scheduled to begin January 1, 2014, will be managed by Santa Clara County's Re-entry Resource Center. Officials say rental assistance aims to help ex-offenders get back on their feet and avoid repeat offenses.

"If they fail again they will go back to state prison at a cost of \$60,000-a-year for those of us that are taxpayers or they may end up climbing through our bedroom windows at 3am. That is not something we want to see," said, Simitain.

EDUCATION CORNER

New Vice Principal Speaks About Increasing Educational Opportunities

By Charles David Henry
Staff Writer

Vice-principal, M. Wheeless comes to San Quentin's Education Department with the experience of teaching in various middle schools and adult education departments throughout California's public schools. He also has experience at the district office level, which includes managing teachers and workers in other supporting rolls in the schools.

He said teaching in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation was a new challenge he was willing to accept.

"When seeking new opportunities, you never know what door will open," he said. "You just do what you can do to be prepared, and with a little luck, you'll be successful."

Wheeless said increasing educational opportunities for inmates is an important goal for CDCR. "Achieving edu-

cational goals should not be predicated on whether the person is in prison or in society."

**"When
seeking new
opportunities,
you never know
what door
will open"**

Teaching inside a prison has many obstacles. "It's different than teaching kids during their impressionable years, which is very rewarding," Wheeless said. "But, seeing inmates reach their educational goal is also rewarding. With this job, I have to be able to provide for inmates who have different educational goals and needs."

In order for the system to work, Wheeless said inmates, teachers, and custody must work together, in the same direction, adding that he believes the prison educational system is on the right path.

With Western Association School College scheduled to accredit San Quentin's Robert E. Burton Adult Education Department next spring, Wheeless said, "I will coordinate these activities with current members of the department." Adding, "I have been here a short time, and there is a lot to learn before the WASC committee arrives."

The accreditation evaluates the school, its programs, student learning goals, the school's progress regarding its own goals, the support services, how the school plans to implement and evaluate its success, and student/staff demographics. Major increases or decreases in the student population are also included



Photo by Sam Hearnes

New Vice Principal M. Wheeless

in the evaluation.

Wheeless urged inmates who are working toward their G.E.D. to come for testing as soon as possible.

The entire G.E.D. system is

being updated and automated, he said. "It will be a different test. If you only have a few parts of the test to finish, you should come in immediately or you'll have to start all over."

Pelican Bay Offers More Educational Opportunities for Prisoners

SHU INMATE GAINS A.A. DEGREE WITH 4.0 GPA

Supermax Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP) offers offenders more than its "worst of the worst" reputation, which is due to the high proportion of SHU offenders (36 percent) of its 3,000 inmates. As a result of Realignment, rehabilitation programs at PBSP have expanded to offer more educational opportunities to inmates than the traditional classroom (aka "Butts-in-Seats") environment: the Voluntary Education Program allows cell-front instruction

by Pelican Bay's credentialed instructors to SHU offenders, and Flex-time Scheduling of instruction reaching those general-population inmates who are employed in various capacities.

The expansion of delivery options for education has prompted a waiting list of 240 inmates who will begin taking courses once two more instructors are hired, bringing the total number of inmates taking academic instruction to approximately 1,000.

Additionally, Feather River Community College offers the COHORT program designed specifically for incarcerated groups. Now in its 4th year at Pelican Bay, COHORT offers an A.A. (Associate of Arts) degree using self-study in facilities. Instructional materials are mailed to offenders for independent study; some audio-visual instruction is available in certain courses (i.e. foreign language), and instructors will provide tutoring and proctor examinations.

Earlier this summer, PBSP congratulated two inmates (one of whom is in the SHU!) who earned their A.A. degrees in Liberal Arts. The SHU inmate is the first to graduate though the COHORT program, having been at Pelican Bay since 2008 and in the SHU since 2009 – and graduated with a 4.0 GPA! The 2nd graduate used Flex-time Scheduling to take courses around his duties in the prison laundry and plans to pursue a Bachelor's Degree while com-

pleting his sentence through 2020.

Principal Anderson also noted that other academic benchmarks drive behavioral changes. "When an inmate earns their G.E.D. or high school diploma, you can see the change. The light comes on in their eyes and they (inmate) approach everything with the desire to be successful."

Reprinted with the Permission of Rehabilitation Today

Solano State Prison Holds Educational Fair for Positive Change

California State Prison, Solano showcased CTE and Academic classes available for inmates through Vaca Valley Adult School on July 10.

Tables displayed completed student projects, textbooks, photographs, library services, self-help groups and working demonstrations of the CTE trades. Faculty and staff were on hand to talk with students, explaining educational opportunities to earn G.E.D. and college degrees, and industry job market trends. Student volunteers assisted teachers in explaining the various classes and programs available to their peers. Many inmates were interested in CTE training as well as obtaining their G.E.D. or Associates' degree, and were given enrollment information and direction.

Inmates performed a skit stressing the benefit of taking the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) exam to ensure



Courtesy/ candace.clevenger@cdcr.ca.gov

Prisoners with instructor celebrating the education fair

that inmates are placed in the correct education class or institutional job. Associate Warden Kim Young, Principal Pamela Ditto, and Dr. Kenya Williams, Office of Correction Education, addressed fair participants in group and individual sessions.

The Education Fair was the innovation of the KNew Mind Productions Group, an association of inmates focused on fostering education and promoting lives free of crime and other destructive behaviors. Their goal is to direct inmates to positive second chances, enabling them to build better lives for themselves and their families.

Please contact Dr. Kenya Williams, Office of Correctional Education kenya.williams@cdcr.ca.gov

Article submitted by Candace Clevenger, Vaca Valley Adult School, SOL candace.clevenger@cdcr.ca.gov

Reprinted with the Permission of Rehabilitation Today

SQUIRES Works With Outside Groups to Help Troubled Youth Curb Negative Behavior

By Ted Swain
Staff Writer

Drugs, gangs, school, parents, girls, peer pressure, and bullying are typical of the subjects discussed at meetings of the San Quentin SQUIRES. The program works with many outside organizations such as the Los Angeles Police Department, The Omega Boys Club, Rotary Clubs, the San Francisco Public Defenders Office, T & T House of Champions, and the Terrance Kelly Youth Foundation.

The outside partners bring young men and occasionally girls into San Quentin for a "day in prison." The day in prison program was started by a San Quentin inmate years ago as a way to connect his own son to reality. The outside partners bring youngsters in as way to show them what can happen to wrongdoers when they break the law.

SQUIRES counselors meet the kids early on Saturday morning and guide them through a day of discussion, deliberation, and visual impact about the fate of troublemakers. They talk about matters that may be troubling them. Working in groups of eight to 10, the youngsters work in a circle group session for counseling. In the discussions, they explore issues affecting their lives. Every young visitor is drawn into the discussion and solutions.

TOPIC

With input from all members of the group, no topic is left out. The young men get a "drop your drawers and bend over" type intake orientation at R & R, with a bag lunch with a baloney or peanut butter sandwich included.

Next, they get a tour of the prison, including a talk at the Death Row entrance door. By

the end of the tour, which includes being locked up in a cell, the kids know they don't want to end up living here.

On Oct. 12, the Terrance Kelly Youth Foundation (TKYF) brought 25 kids into SQUIRES program. TKYF was formed nine years ago because of a young Terrance Kelly being murdered in gang violence. To deal with his grief, Landrin Kelly, Terrance's father, said he formed the foundation with the aim of encouraging young people to make better choices.

Today, TKYF is run by Landrin and his wife Mary. Mary said the program started as an after school activity program. The foundation offers "home-work assistance programs, violence prevention programs, a computer lab, and a creative art class" says Mary. "We also have a culinary program so we can teach them to make a quick meal for themselves." Offer-

ing life skills, including a high achievers program, the foundation aims to help young men and women have a safe future by staying out of violent situations. We want them to be "more conscious of life and the consequences of their decisions," said Mary.

Hector Garcia, a group leader at TKYF, says he really loves working with the young men and women. It's "just a God given gift, being able to work with the community in this way," says Garcia.

SPONSOR

Another partner, the Novato Rotary Club regularly sponsors kids and has hired a professional counselor to work with them soon after their San Quentin visit. Larry Levy, a long time Rotarian, has been sponsoring young men going into the prison for many years. Levy said his objective is to create a SQUIRES program at other California Prisons so that youth counselors, social workers, and parents throughout the state can access the prison experience as an additional tool.

Another outside partner, Terry Pace of the T & T House of Champions in Oakland, operates a group home focusing on safety, structure, life skills, and love.

Pace says the home teaches youngsters to start doing things that change their lives. She believes that "the kids come to San Quentin with a hard shell and the SQUIRES counselors get them to open up." Terry says the men start a "process of feeling." For some it's the first time.

Jack Omega of the Omega Boys Club also supports SQUIRES. Omega has been working with troubled youngsters in the San Francisco area for over 33 years. He works with the San Francisco Public Defenders Office and the court system to provide a safe and stable program for those who come in contact with the legal system.

Marynella Woods, a social worker at the public defender's office, says, "Jack is the Mother Theresa of kids saviors." Woods says it's amazing how many people around the U.S. know Jack. "We were walking around the train station in Philadelphia the other day and someone cried out, 'Hey Jack!'"

Referring to the inmate, Woods said, "The men in this room are better counselors than anyone outside." She says Jack has been bringing young men into San Quentin for 16 years, and it's always a great experience to see how the youngsters open up when talking with the men of San Quentin.

Woods said there's a need to talk about feelings. So, if the inmates talk about their feelings, then why wouldn't the kids? As inmate counselor, Tommy Winfrey tells the men in his group "keep it real!"

According to Hector Garcia, the SQUIRES program is one of the best ways to impact youngsters. One Rotarian, Susan Karch, puts it succinctly; she likes the SQUIRES program because it teaches young people to do just what one of her favorite writers, Ernest Holmes teaches: "Change your thinking, change your life."

Erroneous Documents Lengthen Prisoner's Manslaughter Sentence

By Julian Glenn Padgett
Staff Writer

When Henry Newman, 66, was sentenced to 21 years for inadvertently killing his son Alex, he was unaware the court used erroneous documents to give him a longer sentence for voluntary manslaughter.

Newman claims this evidence consists of two court cases attributed to him, which did not actually occur. These established him as being on probation at the time of the hearing, which caused his sentence to be longer than it otherwise would have been. The court also overlooked an important ballistics report that was favorable to his case.

On July 3, 2004, Newman got into a heated discussion with his son over the care of his granddaughter, Kilexia. Newman said he and Alex were discussing injuries Kilexia had allegedly sustained at her other great grandparents' house.

"Alex was being verbally abusive to me. He would drive away and come back. He repeated this process about three or four times," Newman said he shot at the back of his son's vehicle while it was still parked in front of his house, hoping that it would coerce him into leaving.

"I aimed directly over the right rear tire, and the bullet traveled to the left through everything and hit my son," Newman said. "When Alex got to the end of the street, he was dead at the wheel."

"I killed my son, Alex Newman, but it was unintentional. Forensic Ballistic expert Lawrence L. Baggett proved what I had confessed to in his report," Newman said.

Baggett's report concluded that a person, who is not familiar with the general power and

penetration capabilities of a firearm, might assume that the steel fender of a vehicle would be sufficient to stop a bullet.

"Mr. Baggett's report was concealed from me. My public defender, Carolyn Disabattino, didn't bring it out in court," said Newman. "I got it in 2009, four years after my sentencing, when I put in a request for my entire case file."

In his interview with San Quentin News, Newman produced two sets of minute order transcripts from the Long Beach Superior Court in California. One set of transcripts, case number 1LL04524, places him in a 13-month superior court trial for a misdemeanor at 8:30 a.m. The second set of transcripts, case number 9LL10915, puts him in a one-day hearing, on the same day, also at 8:30 a.m.

But neither of these case numbers correspond with Newman's actual hearing.

"The only court hearing I actually appeared in on that day was my arraignment case, and my judge was Arthur Jean Jr. in case number NA061974," he said. "And all three different cases are dated for the same

day—July 7, 2004."

Newman insists that his voluntary manslaughter sentence is based on this erroneous evidence. Newman said the court used case number 1LL04524 to place him on a two-year summary probation.

"That's not true, because for case number 1LL04524, I was never in any courtroom to be placed on summary probation," he explained. "Nor was I ever represented by Deputy Public Defender William B. Clark in any court hearing. Yet the court's minute orders reflect that all this took place."

During his sentencing hearing, Newman tried to inform Judge Jean Jr. of the fraudulent information regarding the phantom hearings.

"I said, 'your Honor, I wasn't aware,' then he quickly interrupted me, saying, 'the court finds a factor in aggravation that you were on probation at the time and that you did unsatisfactorily on probation.'"

Newman explained that he tried a second time to inform the court, but his efforts were rejected again.

"The judge immediately pronounced sentence, saying, 'this court chooses the high base term of 10 years with respect to the gun allegation and is to be served consecutively to the 11 year term for a 21 year term.'"

Prior to his conviction, Newman says the closest he ever got to the legal system was in his role as community activist for his neighborhood.

"I spearheaded a campaign to make a McDonald's restaurant they were closing into a Long Beach Police Substation," Newman said. "I met frequently with Long Beach Police Chief Anthony Batts to discuss the plan."

Newman has now been in prison for nine years.



Henry Newman in the education Building

Wellness Corner

By Kris Himmelberger
Staff Writer

Fitness and strength are meaningless qualities without health," says Convict Conditioning author Paul Wade.

Wade knows a thing or two about old school fitness and strength. In 1979, he entered San Quentin State Prison and needed to build strength to survive. Besides SQ, he has served time in Angola and Marion.

Wade believes true strength comes from calisthenics and uses the example of the Spartan warriors to support his conclusion.

The Spartans were renowned for using calisthenics as a training tool. One of the most famous accounts of calisthenics was from the historian Herodotus. When Xerxes' scouts reported that the Spartan warriors were busy training their bodies with calisthenics, they all laughed. Yet, three hundred Spartans were able to hold off Xerxes' Persian army, which numbered over one hundred and twenty thousand men, until Greek forces arrived.

You don't need weights to stay in shape, Wade says.

You can use bodyweight training. It requires very little equipment, develops useful and functional athletic abilities, maximizes strength, protects the joints and makes them stronger, and regulates your body fat levels.

Wade uses six power moves:

- Pushups
- Squats
- Pull-ups
- Leg raises
- Bridges
- Handstand pushups

These exercises will be discussed in detail next month. If you want to read about a particular health and wellness topic, let us know.

Hedge Fund Manager's Idea: S.Q. Investment Club

By Kris Himmelberger
Staff Writer

A renowned portfolio manager says San Quentin prisoners should create an investment club to learn how to make money with Wall Street stocks.

David Samra led a financial seminar sponsored by San Quentin Prison Report on October 8. Forty prisoners attended the event held in Protestant Chapel. Afterward, Samra commented that he was surprised at how clean San Quentin was and how nice the people seemed.

Samra is the managing director and founding partner of Artisan Partners' Global Value Team. He manages nearly \$28 billion of the Artisan Partner's \$96.6 billion in assets. He was invited to talk to the San Quentin group by KALW reporter Nancy Mullane, who thought it would be a good idea for Curtis Carroll to meet Samra.

Carroll, who goes by the nickname "Wall Street," is the co-founder of the SQPR financial literacy class. He learned to read while in the Alameda County

jail. "I reached for the sports section of a newspaper and accidentally picked up the business section. An inmate nicknamed OG asked me if I knew anything about stocks. I didn't know anything and he gave me the basics."

While in the San Quentin's Reception Center, Carroll met a fellow prisoner, nicknamed "Papa Joe," who was an avid investor. "I'd wait for Papa Joe to throw the Wall Street Journal in the garbage and pick it up. One day, he caught me and we got into an argument that resulted in a partnership."

Carroll used \$400 in profits from the sales of his tobacco-stamps business and added \$600 from a fellow inmate who paroled and opened an E-Trade account. Carroll did not consider it risky. "It was time to test my new skills," he said.

Years later, the partnership ended and Carroll received a percentage of the profits. Carroll claims to have purchased 2,000 shares of Akamai Technologies for .71 cents and later sold them for \$5.

Explaining his strategy, Carroll told Samra: "I buy undervalued dividend paying stocks and stocks trading at penny status, companies like BP, SiriusXM, and Rite Aid."

One financial literacy participant, who goes by the name Sam, has seen tremendous results from the class. "I've been participating in the class for three months. I follow the advice of 'Wall Street.' Every thing I learn in class, I share with my daughter, wife and other family members when I go out to the visiting room. My daughter is very excited to see her investment growing towards her future," he said.

Samra said in his investments he adheres to two rules: "Don't lose money. And don't forget the first rule." He recommends reading the Wall Street Journal, Barron's, annual reports and value line surveys. He does not recommend penny stocks and likes index funds, such as the S&P 500.

Carroll called Samra his super hero despite Samra's opinion that, "The job of a hedge

fund manager is boring. I spend my day reading financial publications and analyzing reports."

That revelation did not seem to bother Carroll, who called the stock market the "greatest inventions of all time."

Carroll spends hours a day reading business newspapers, magazines and analyzing companies annual reports. He created a research questionnaire us-

ing Yahoo Finance page to help select his stocks. One of those stocks was Citigroup. "It had to drop from \$50 to \$1," he said. "The government purchased \$45 billion dollars of Citigroup stock so I figured it had to be a safe investment. The government wouldn't spend \$45 billion on stocks if they weren't sure on a return, I betted the same way."



Photo by Sam Hearnas

Explaining strategies about trading

The Show: Generation Xbox, Read Option Quarterbacks

By Aaron "Imam Jeddii"
Taylor
Sports Writer

Kaepernick, 49ers. Wilson, Seahawks. Pryor, Raiders. Newton, Panthers. E.J. Manuel, Bills. A. Smith, Chiefs, G. Smith, Jets. RGIII, Washington. Glennon, Bucs.

Welcome to the new National Football League—prototype, read-option quarterback.

Football is changing. Coaches are going to become extinct if they continue to stay 'old'. Young Guns in the NFL have brought excitement back to the game.

Seeing a quarterback stand in the pocket and depend on his offensive line to hold up long enough for a passing lane to open was becoming boring, unless you liked seeing quarterbacks get their lower extremities broken. Once the pocket collapsed, they couldn't outrun your grandmother, let alone a defensive lineman. (Remember Dan Marino? Slow as grass growing!)

The day of the 'pocket passer' is dying off. Peyton Manning is the exception to the rule. He isn't

running a 'traditional' passing offense: his play calling is done at the line. He takes what the defense gives him. He does not allow his offense to run motion or anything because he wants the defense to set itself. In this way, he can read who is supposed to blitz, then, he calls out the pass protection. #18 is a pure technician.

This isn't to say that QB's Flacco – last season's Super Bowl MVP for The Ravens - Ponder (Vikings), Rivers, (Chargers), Luck (Colts), Schaub (Texans) and Dalton (Bengals) aren't exciting to watch – there's an audience for that traditional, stand tall in the pocket, deliver a pass even as you get your ribs crushed QB – but now?

We have quarterbacks with the speed of running backs, arm strength of a pocket passer, throwing accurate 35- 40 yard pass on the run, making defenses pay for blitzes – leaving 1-on-1 coverage – or drop back in a zone, leaving the underneath and middle open. This forces teams to depend on the tackling of linebackers and DB's to bring down these

elusive quarterbacks: "Danger! Will Robinson, Danger!"

Early this season, Terrell Pryor became the first QB since the merger to pass for 200+yds and run for 100+yds in a game.

The Read/Option may have just extended Michael Vick's career. Part of the reason Vick

kept getting hurt. Coaches kept attempting to turn him into a pocket passer. Enter new head coach Chip Kelly, fresh from the college ranks at University of Oregon, bringing the Read/Option with him. Barring an Injury, Vick has become reinvented and is still just fast enough to

escape a defensive lineman or a linebacker; elusive enough to make tacklers miss in the open field, and wise enough to slide, rather than go head-first into danger. Welcome to 'Generation Xbox' in the NFL.

And this, and this, and this is called The Show!

Editor's Note

The articles and opinions published in the San Quentin News are the responsibility of the inmate staff of the newspaper and their advisers. These articles and opinions reflect the views of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the inmate population, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation or the administration of San Quentin State Prison.

Website Offers Help to Families of those Incarcerated

A new and free search engine, www.PrisonPath.com, provides information for the public. The site helps users in clarifying confusion and fear of the unknown when a loved one is charged and arrested, or sentenced to imprisonment in the United States. PrisonPath provides information including the ability to find a person incarcerated, visitation rules, contact numbers, and more about every American prisons or jails. It also allows families and friends of inmates to communicate with each other on a specific page.

We Want To Hear From You!

The San Quentin News encourages inmates, free staff, custody staff, volunteers and others outside the institution to submit articles. All submissions become property of the San Quentin News.

Please use the following criteria when submitting:

- Limit your articles to no more than 350 words.
- Know that articles may be edited for content and length.
- The newspaper is not a medium to file grievances. (For that, use the prison appeals process.) We encourage submitting articles that are newsworthy and encompass issues that will have an impact on the prison populace.
- Please do not use offensive language in your submissions.
- Poems and art work (cartoons and drawings) are welcomed.
- Letters to the editor should be short and to the point.

Send Submissions to:

CSP - San Quentin
Education Dept. / SQ News
San Quentin, CA 94964
(No street address required)

To receive a mailed copy of the San Quentin News, send \$1.32 worth of stamps for postage to:

San Quentin News
1 Main Street
San Quentin, CA 94974

The process can be repeated every month if you want to receive the latest newspaper.



Official Photo

Kaepernick performing his signature move

San Quentin News

Current and past copies of the San Quentin News are posted online at:

(www.sanquentinnews.com)
(www.flickr.com/photos/sanquentinnews)

Permission is granted to reprint articles appearing in the San Quentin News provided credit is given to the author and this publication, except for articles reprinted herein from other publications.

Administrative Review

Warden's Office Lt. S. Robinson

Sgt. D. McGraw

Adviser..... John C. Eagan

Adviser..... Joan Lisetor

Adviser..... Steve McNamara

Adviser..... Linda Xiques

Adviser..... William Drummond

S.Q. News Staff

Editor-in-Chief Arnulfo T. Garcia

Managing Editor Juan Haines

Supervising Editor.....Malik Harris

Journalism Guild Chair-

man.....Kevin D. Sawyer

Staff Writer.....K. Himmelberger

Staff Writer.....Boston Woodard

Staff WriterJulianGlenn Padgett

Staff Writer Charles D. Henry

Staff WriterWatani Stiner

Staff WriterTed Swain

Sports Editor Rahsaan Thomas

Design Editor.....PhoenYou

Independent Researcher.....R.Lindsey

Design Editor R.Richardson

SPORTS

The Hardtimers Hold Off Diego Boys' Rally, 30-29

By **Rahsaan Thomas**
Sport Editor

The San Quentin Hardtimers softball team withstood a Diego Boys last minute rally to win 30-29 on a double hit by Mark Jordan, in eight innings of baseball.

Early on, the Hardtimers were up 11 runs.

Then Diego Boy Spencer Douglas whacked an approximately 400-yard home run. "That the longest home run I ever saw," said Hardtimer John "Hawkeye" Flemming.

Still, the score was 11-2 Hardtimers.

The Hardtimers increased their score, with a lead off home run by Carlye "Otter" Blake that started a 9-run rally, increasing their score to 21-2.

But the Diego Boys didn't give up. "No quit in these guys. Plus they can hit, hit, hit

and they have started to wake up and are making plays," said Diego Boys Coach Phil.

Diego Boys B-Rice and "Captain" Morgan hit three home runs between the two, bringing in several runs and helping to bring their team to within 7, 29-22 at the top of the of seventh, which threatened to be the end of the game.

Normally, there is only enough time to play seven innings, however, even though the Hardtimers were up, they agreed to play nine or until 7:30pm.

The Hardtimers went three up and three down, giving the plate right back to the Diego Boys who took full advantage.

In the eighth inning, Demar hit a 3 RBI homer, bringing the score to 29-26. Then Captain Morgan hit his second home run, to make it 29-27.

"Only two so far, I'm a little bit of an underachiever today," joked Morgan.

Next Diego Boy B-Rice hit his third home run of the day, bringing in the tying runs. However, their rally was stopped when Los's hit was caught by Blake at shortstop.

With time running out at the bottom of the eight, Mark Jordan came up to bat with one out and one man on base. He hit a double that sealed the deal.

This was the second time the Hardtimers beat the Diego Boys in five tries, however, the first came against a shorthanded Diego Boys team when five teammates weren't allowed inside to play, leaving an asterisk by that win.

"It feels real good. Everybody participated that's how you do it," said Hardtimer Coach John "Yahya" Pratt.

"I told you this would be the game," said Hardtimer Sandy "Rasheed" Lockhart, who hit a home run that bounced off the roof of the arc building. He also made a double saving catch by the benches.



Photo by Lt. Sam Robinson

San Quentin Hardtimers and the Diego Boys with Yard Officers

Fired-Up Bittermen Beat S.Q. Kings, 68-64

The Bittermen beat the San Quentin Kings, 68-64 sparked by 12 straight points scored by Ted Saltviet. Tim Hall and Steve S. of the Bittermen added 16 apiece.

The Bittermen showed more of a desire to win. Hall played hard and ended up on the con-

crete several times.

"He scrappy, we call him 'Timmy Ball Game,'" said Saltviet. "The Kings always beat us, I want this one," he added.

Saltviet came off the bench, missing his first four shots, but came alive in the sec-

ond half, hitting three three-pointers and making an and-one play. Spent, he sat out the rest of the game, leaving the close-out to his teammates. "I don't normally score a lot; my team can take it from here," said Saltviet.

The Kings had a chance to

take the lead back down 65-60 in the fourth with 13 seconds left when forward Oris "Pep" Williams was fouled at the three point line. From the free-throw line, he made two, but missed the third. However, it was rebounded by teammate Timothy Thompson who

made the put back, making the score 65-64 Bittermen.

Then Hall made a pass to teammate Steve S. for an inside lay-up that resulted in a game sealing and-one.

Williams led all scorers with 20 points.

—By *Rahsaan Thomas*

S.Q. Warriors, Kings Both Challenged Lacey and Christian Sport Ministries

Patrick Lacey had two double-doubles in back-to-back games against the San Quentin Warriors and Kings. He had 23 points and 10 rebounds for Christian Sport Ministries in the 88-84 win over the Warriors, plus 15 points and 18 rebounds in the 76-56 loss to the Kings.

Lacey played for Claremont-McKenna College and made it to the second round of the NCAA in 2008. He is currently a scout for the Golden State Warriors organization, according to teammate Ben Draa.

Bill Epling, who coaches and organizes Christian Sport Ministries teams, brought in

one group of guys to play the Warriors and another to play the Kings. The group scheduled against the Kings was shorthanded, and Lacey was enlisted to play in both. "I'm proud of my guys for giving up their Saturday," said Epling.

The Ministries team included NBA legend John Stockton's nephew, Dominic G. "Everything I learned about basketball, I learned from him," said Dominic. He had four blocks, seven rebounds and four points. "I got the height," said the 6'7" Dominic, who resembles Paul Gasol, according to Epling.

"Intense games. I had a great time. I'm tired," said Lacey af-

ter the Oct. 5 games.

The games were intense. Christian Sports Ministries, aka the Green Team, got off to a 10-0 start. At the half, they were ahead, 46-39, after Warrior Allan McIntosh missed a shot at the buzzer. Thereby, he lost a two push-up bet to Ministries forward, Mark "Socks" Ivy, who wore his lucky black and yellow Batman socks, complete with capes flowing from them.

The Ministries were heckled the whole game by San Quentin resident, Caesar "C-Money" McDowell. "After Scalabrino, is this all y'all could come up with? We don't let nobody with Batman socks win here," joked Caesar.

The heckling didn't stop Ivy. He went on to score 20 with 10 rebounds. "Every time I wear these socks I get a boost. They remind me to step my game up," said Ivy.

However, the Warriors came back led by Michael Franklin stealing the ball three times in a row and scoring all three times, including a slam dunk to take the lead, 51-50. Franklin went on to score 31. McIntosh and Anthony Ammons, 14 apiece.

Ministries were without a true point guard and the Warriors used pressure defense to

cause turnovers and take the lead, increasing it as much as four.

But, the Ministries were able to overcome the pressure. "Everybody help bring the ball up court 'cause we don't have a true point guard," advised Lacey. Ben Ilegbodu regained the lead with a three at the buzz to end the third quarter.

Warrior point guard, John Windham tied the score back up with an answering three at the start of the fourth. The lead went back and forth until Ministries took advantage of a defensive gap with long pass down court for easy baskets and closed the game out from the free throw line.

Ilegbodu, who averages 29.5 a game, only scored 15. "[Montrell Vines] is the reason I only had 15. His pressure defense takes me out of my game," complimented Ilegbodu.

Vines, aka, the Ultimate One-on-One Defender, shyly gave his testimony about the changes he has made, including becoming a Christian. "Always be ready to give a reason for the hope that you have," encouraged Epling.

The game had one solemn moment though. At halftime, Wright asked for a moment of silence for the soul of Ken Smith,

brother of Christian Ministries sponsor Don Smith. Ken was a rescue diver who died on Sept. 8, during a mission to recover a cadaver robot for the San Francisco Police Department. Smith didn't tell anyone about his brother's death when he came in September 20 with Golden State Warrior Coach Mark Jackson and the others, because he didn't want to put a damper on that event, said Wright.

In the second game, the Kings took an early lead and never looked back. Kings team captain and point guard, Brian Asey had a near flawless shooting day, hitting six of seven from the field, two for two from the line. He normally starts, but led his team off the bench with 16 points in this game. "I was relaxed. No pressure. I didn't start and was able to just play my game," said Asey about his success.

Fifty-four year old Epling had a double-double, coming off the bench to score 10 with 10 rebounds.

Aubra-Lamont "Coo-Coo" Moore came off the bench for the Kings and hit 13 points, including four three-pointers.

Win or lose, everybody had fun. "I wait all week for this," said McDowell, the heckler.

—By *Rahsaan Thomas*



Photo by Sam Heames

The San Quentin Warriors

Softball Hardtimers End Season With 46-13 Win Over Coed North Bay Bombers

By **Rahsaan Thomas**
Sports Editor

The San Quentin Hardtimers softball team ended their season with a win against the coed North Bay Bombers, 46-13.

The North Bay Bombers is made up of four women and six men, put together by Coach/Player Randy Ferino. The team even includes Pete, who used to work as a correctional officer in West Block. Many of the team members answered an invitation to play inmates in San

Quentin that came out in the Marin Independent Journal and was also posted on Facebook.

"I saw the ad on Facebook and clicked it, thinking hell ya. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to play against Quentin inmates," said Lindsey Sakasitz.

"Amazing, I can't wait to come in here. More fun than leagues in the street," added Courtney Jackson.

"We have to trust men society doesn't. I was scared at first, being a girl, however,

everybody is respectful," said the excellent first base-woman, Lori Carter, who is a reporter for the Santa Rosa Press Democrat.

"It's pretty cool to play here. I feel like there's a lot of guys who are trying to change their lives. By the grace of God, I'm not inside these walls. So it's cool to come carry the message that there's a better way," said Tracie Parker.

"They just want to play ball. Everyone thought it would be fun. They tried it, liked it and

the first time they had brand new blue and white, Dodger colored jerseys. "We got some new jerseys now. We hope they intimidated them," joked Ferino. The jerseys didn't work, as the Hardtimers were able to win 46-13.

"We're here to have fun. We only say that when we're losing," clowned Moses Ortega.

"It's a good thing you can't run," joked Carter, after Hardtimer third baseman Mark Jordan hit a deep shot into left-field. The stocky Jordan laughed, as he only made it to first base, while a teammate who was on first made it home.

The women can really play. Sakasitz hit an in-the-park home run that brought in three runs at the top of the fifth inning. She went four for four at bat. Carter tagged several men out at first. Parker turned a single into a triple on an error and brought in a run, and Jackson brought in one run.

It wasn't enough against the hot at bat Hardtimers, who had several rallies including two grand slams hit by John Windham. "We shall hang together or most assuredly we will hang separately," said Coach Phil about the team effort win, quoting Benjamin Franklin.



Photo by Sam Hearnes

Top row: Randy Ferino, Ken Beagle, Kevin, Chris, Brooks, Moses Ortega, Bottom row: Pete, Lori Carter, Tracie Parker, Lindsay Sakasitz and Courtney Jackson

Intramural League Champions Crowned

The Transformers won the Intramural Basketball Championship beating Madd Skillz 52-47 in game four of the best of five series.

Madd Skillz ("MS") had a chance to win.

Down two points, they used the press-trap defense to cause a key turnover. MS forward Michael Franklin was fouled with one minute left in the game. However, he missed both free throws, but the second was rebounded and put back in by Blade Kittrell, tying the score at 47.

Then the Transformers took the lead back with a free-throw made by Hanks with 40 seconds left.

At the other end of the court, Hanks blocked MS guard Antoine Heath as he went up for a 12-foot jumper. Transformer Larry "Ty" Jones was fouled to stop the clock and made both clutch free throws, making the score 50-47.

With 30 seconds left in the game, MS got the ball.

Kittrell forced up a three-point attempt with 15 seconds left, but it missed.

The Transformers rebounded the ball and forward Oris "Pep" Williams was fouled to stop the clock, but he made one free-throw, sealing Madd Skillz fate and winning by four.

Madd Skillz played well in this September 15th championship game.

Two Madd Skillz players scored double-doubles: Kittrell 16/15 and Franklin 16/12. They held four Transformers scoreless and their 3-2 trap defense caused key turnovers. But it wasn't enough—they had no answer for Maurice Hanks, who scored 25.

"I'm proud of my team. It's full of OGs and nobody thought we would win,"

said Hanks post game.

"We failed because I didn't step up and lead the team," said Kittrell.

"We lost to a better team. Unlike The Battleship, that was full of individual stars, the Transformers played as a team and won as a team," said MS coach Aaron "Imam Jedd" Taylor. "I am extremely proud of every last member of my team. They played hard all season, every game. We won the Eastern Conference and they played the finals with discipline and heart, but this was just one we couldn't win," added Taylor.

Madd Skillz lost veteran Paul Oliver to an injury in game two, which they won. He still showed up to the remaining games wearing a medical boot on his foot. "I'm here to support the troops," said Oliver.

The Intramural basketball league is full court and open to all the inmates in general population at San Quentin. It was started by former San Quentin News Sport Editor Drew Piazza.

"I started it when I saw a need with the new influx of inmates from West Block to give everyone something positive to do," said Piazza.

Right now there are no prizes or rewards for the winners, other than the thrill of victory and bragging rights. Piazza, aka "The Commissioner," hopes to remedy that by getting sponsors for the next season.

—By **Rahsaan Thomas**

All-Madden Flag Football Team Tops The Chosen in Opener

By **Aaron "Imam Jedd" Taylor**
Sports Writer

San Quentin's All-Madden flag football team opened their season with a 27-14 victory over The Chosen.

Adam Perez, former Milpitas High School quarterback, led The Chosen as their team captain. With him was Andre Jackson, his receiver at Milpitas High. Jackson is normally on the basketball court playing for Bill Epling's Green Team.

"Basketball is cool, but football is my first love," Jackson stated before the game. "We just came to play and share some brotherly love."

On the third play of the opening drive, Jackson put a double-move on All-Madden defensive back Ruben Harper and slipped behind safety DuPriest Brown to catch a 30-yard pass up the left sideline from Dante Perez (no relation to Adam Perez), who started the game at quarterback. Dante Perez played at the collegiate level for North Dakota State. Jackson caught two passes for 38-yards on the scoring drive.

Royce "Gator" Rose is the All-Madden quarterback and team captain, but their first two possessions were sub par. Rose threw an interception to Jackson on his second play of the possession. The Chosen's second possession, Dante Perez threw an

interception to All-Madden line-backer Cleo "Black" Cloman.

On their third possession, Adam Perez stepped in as quarterback and threw a 17-yard strike, followed by a bad snap the next play, losing 17 yards. Adam then cocked back and hit Jackson with a 45-yard strike that dropped between the All-Madden defensive back Granval "Buddha" Hunter and the safety Brown, scoring a spectacular touchdown; Jackson then caught the two-point conversion, giving The Chosen a 14-0 lead.

On their third possession, All-Madden sustained a 15 play scoring drive that included a 17-yard strike to Curtis "Wall St" Carroll, an eight-yard scamper by Christopher "Cuddy Bo" Smith, a six-yard completion to Charles "Pookie" Sylvester, and an eight-yard completion to Smith. The drive culminated in a two-yard touchdown run by Rose, making the score 14-6.

At halftime (as well as the beginning and ending of every game), members of The Chosen shared their personal experience, as well as how being a person of faith affect their lives. "I really appreciate the fact that you guys invite us to this environment and, believe me, you impact us as we as we impact you every week," said Don Nelson, one of the founding members of Christian Sports Ministries. The Ministries have brought teams into San Quentin for 15-plus years.

In the second half, All-Madden began to heat up. The team ran for a total of 32 yards on the opening drive of the second half, 15 of those on a QB draw by Rose; however, no score.

Jackson didn't play in the second half due to a pulled calf muscle. The Chosen threw an interception on their first play, putting All-Madden in striking distance. Rose responded with a six-yard scoring toss to Smith, followed by a completion to Carroll for the two-point conversion.

On The Chosen's next possession, Adam Perez threw two back-to-back strikes for 34 yards, but the drive ended with a 15-yard sack by All Madden defensive end Zaid Nicholson; C. Smith caught his second touchdown pass of the game, a completion in the back of the end zone that was questionable due to the official's delayed touchdown signal.

All-Madden's last offensive possession was just four plays that began as a disaster, but ended in a 37-yard touchdown pass to Cloman that he had to tip to himself as he was falling down — but the one-point conversion was incomplete.

Adam Perez threw an interception to All-Madden safety Brown with 16 on the clock that ended the game.

"This is what it's all about, just playing football. It doesn't matter where; it's still football," said Adam Perez after the game.

keep coming back," said Ferino.

"It feels human" to play against a coed team, said Hardtimer Sandy "Rasheed" Lockhart. "I love that you guys aren't afraid to come play us," he told them.

The Bombers came in the Oct. 6 game, 0-4 this season against the Hardtimers. For



Photo by Sam Hearnes

Larry "TY" Jones, Oris "Pep" Williams, and Timothy "Detroit" Long