

Ferdie J. Deering

MAY 27 1974

Forced Busing Education Roadblock

ADULTS should be glad they won't have to go to school next September. Federal judges have supplanted locally elected school boards in policy making, the quality of education has skidded so far that it takes the fun out of resisting learning processes, and the struggle for survival on campus is a serious matter.

Forced busing to integrate races has been instituted as a sociological reform that most kids don't understand or care about, but it has become a political mania almost as bad as Watergate. School children don't think much of the idea of meeting buses in the dark in order to conserve energy, either. They have better ideas than DST on how to save energy, but DST will still be around next fall.

There was a lot less history to learn when I was in the Ada public schools in the 1920s and going to school had a lot of fun in it. Teachers concentrated on solid stuff, like reading the classics, learning the

multiplication tables, and rewriting test papers so that they could be deciphered.

The kids concentrated on reading for fun, figuring out ways to avoid doing chores, and writing witty slogans on yellow slickers that were in style then. There were no X-rated movies, no TV, and we got our exercise by walking to school, fighting along the way. But the worst that ever happened was the day that Jake Warner bit off the lobe of "Nothing" Smith's ear when we were in sixth grade.

Nobody was afraid of being mugged for his lunch money in a graffiti-smeared rest room. Only the daredevils smoked cigarettes on the school grounds and marijuana was just a weed.

Teachers used their own methods to settle down restless pupils. Churchill Thomas sent L. J. "Fats" Gregg and me out to do a few laps around the track before he tried to teach us general science. Nowadays, it might be the teacher going around the track, with an armed pupil in

pursuit.

It was a lot better and safer when teachers ran the schools and maintained discipline instead of trying out educational experiments, unionizing and expounding political philosophies.

They used to teach that it was an honorable, normal way of life to learn a trade or a skill, marry and work to support a family. Now, schools are infiltrated with liberals who discuss abnormal sex in the classrooms, denounce business profits as an economic sin, and advocate nationalization of nearly everything so that a socialist government can support everybody.

It is said that mankind's total fund of knowledge has doubled three times since 1900. There is so much more to be learned now, and it is sad to see roadblocks such as forced busing thrown in the path of learning. It was supposed to equalize educational opportunities, but it has served only to lower over-all quality.



FIDELITY BANK N.A.

JACK T. CONN
CHAIRMAN

May 28, 1974

Mr. Ferdie Deering
c/o Oklahoma Publishing Company
500 North Broadway
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 74102

Dear Ferdie:

Congratulations on your editorial appearing in the Daily Oklahoman on May 27. You said it precisely right. Churchill Thomas, Dad Fentem, Kate K. Knight and many others taught a subject far more important than that which appeared on the curricula -- they taught character. Regrettably, the teachers in our public schools are faced with so many disciplinary problems that they do not have much time to teach anything.

Again, my congratulations, and do come by to see me.

Sincerely,

Jack T. Conn
Chairman

JTC:bf

cc: Mr. Churchill Thomas
227 East 17th Street
Ada, Oklahoma 74820

Mr. L. J. Gregg
412 West Walnut
Seminole, Oklahoma 74868



GREGG CHEVROLET
Seminole, Oklahoma
Phone 382-0500
"Trade Today With L. J."

May 31, 1974

Ferdie Deering
Okla. Publishing Co.
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Dear Ferdie:

Just a note to tell you that I enjoyed
your editorial of May 27, 1974.

Some of these kids talking about their
"personal freedom" kinda scares me.

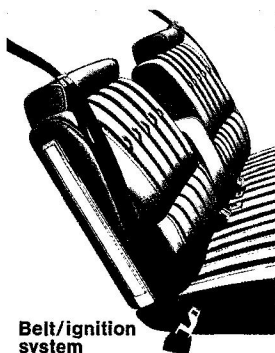
Mamma and Papa explained "my freedom"
in such a way that I grateful for what
hair they left.

Should you be in this direction drop by
and visit.

Very truly yours,

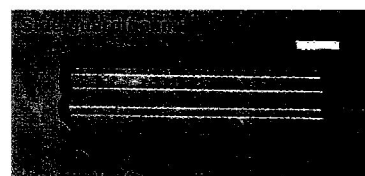
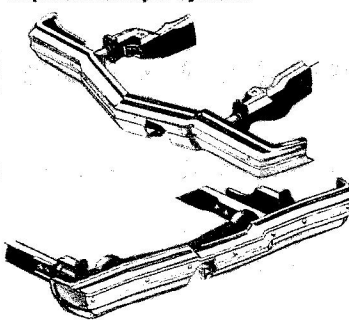
L. J. Gregg
L. J. Gregg

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Belt/ignition
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Improved bumper systems

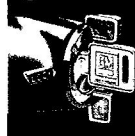


Energy
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STANDARD FEATURES FOUND ON MOST 1974 CHEVROLETS.