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ORACLE

OPERATION

RESTART

A

CONTRACTED

LEARNING

EXPERIENCE

Offered through

Garfield Independent
Learning Center

4487 Oregon Street
San Diego, California
92116

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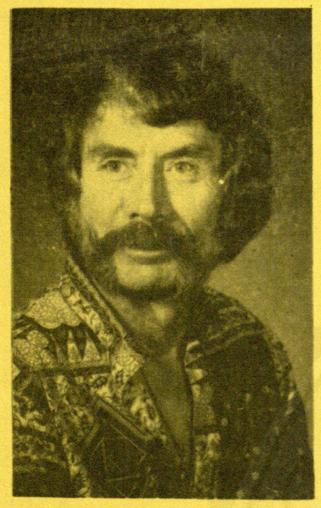

The picture of the rather hairy dude on the left is me! In January, 1978, I was selected to develop and supervise a pilot program of contracted independent study. The program was designed to carry the high school (9-12) education program to students in the home, or in the community. It was not intended to be a tutorial program, in that we did not spend time with the student in a teacher/student relationship. From its inception, it was determined that ORACLE was not intended to be an alternative form of education for those students who were currently enrolled in other school programs. ORACLE was designed to meet the needs of students on exemption. The pilot program was so successful that it was funded for the 1978-79 school year on an expanded basis. If I can borrow about 3 minutes of your time, I'd like to explain, in more detail, some of the outstanding features of the program.

1 NO SCHOOL - If being cooped up in a classroom all day is not your idea of "making whoopee," then forget it! We have NO school rooms. Your classroom is only as confined as your imagination. You can study at the beach, the park, the desert, or wherever YOU choose. When you need to meet with us for information or assistance, we'll meet with you at MacDonald's, your home, the library, or wherever you choose!

2 NO COMPETITION - You compete with no one except yourself. In the regular school, everyone becomes a 10th-grader at the same time in September, and then magically (ready or not) they all become 11th-graders in June. (Some could have been ready in March!). In our program, you are an entire class by yourself. YOU determine when you start and what you start, and YOU determine how fast and when you finish. If you can complete what we determine to be 20 hours of work in 10 hours, that's great, because you don't have to wait for anyone else to finish. YOU, ALONE, ARE THE ENTIRE CLASS! (You will, however, be expected to complete a minimum of 5 hours work, per subject, per week.)

3 NO REPEAT OF WORK PASSED - Remember when you were in regular school and, let's say, you passed the first quarter of your English class with a grade of "C." Now, during the second quarter, the surf was up and you didn't get to school very often and, as a result, you received a grade of "F" for the semester. In regular school, you had to repeat the entire semester, even though you had passed the first half! NOT WITH US YOU DON'T! In our program all student records are carefully evaluated. You only repeat that portion of a class failed. If you passed the first quarter, but failed the second, you only repeat the second quarter to gain your SEMESTER credit!

4 NO SET CLASS HOURS - Your hours are as YOU choose. No tardy bells ring at 8:05 A.M. (yawn!). No dismissal bells ring at 3:00 P.M. No notes to or calls from the attendance office. YOU choose when, where, and for how long you are in "YOUR SCHOOL" each day!

5 INDIVIDUALIZED ATTENTION - Our total team consists of seven full-time Teacher Assistants (T.A.s) and myself. Each T.A. works with ten students. This means that you will get far more individual attention than you would if attending a regular school. You won't be competing with 30 to 35 other students (per class) for help from your teacher. We are as close as the telephone at any time, and will set up a schedule to meet with you as often as you deem necessary.

Other services we offer include: career planning, ROP courses, employment assistance, and the many other services available through our school district. WHERE WILL ALL THIS LEAD YOU? To that all important graduation and diploma--that little piece of paper that can lead you to so many other places.