

The Guardian

VOLUME 66

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1968

Dick Gregory, Comedian Speaks Here Tomorrow

By Doug Boston

Dick Gregory, black comedian and noted civil rights leader, is scheduled to speak here tomorrow at 11 a.m. in the football stadium.

The 35-year-old comedian will be traveling on a tight schedule. He will be at the University of California at Davis for a 9 a.m. appearance, here at 11 a.m., then on to Los Angeles for an afternoon engagement.

Gregory, who has changed his image from a comedian to a strong demonstrator and "statesman," has recently voiced his attitudes on the United States involvement in Vietnam, the "moral corruption of American society," and support of the peace and liberation movement.

CURRENTLY on a diet of vegetable and fruit juice until the day of the national elections, November 5, he is protesting the poor conditions in the ghettos of Chicago.

Gregory is an outspoken individual who, in his opinion, is "a statesman who can tell the truth because he is not tied to anyone."

On the night of President Johnson's "resignation" speech, Gregory called him "one of the slickest tyrants that has walked the face of the earth since Caesar."

Gregory is obviously upset over the progress of our nation. He tells his audiences across the country, "Brother, I'm gonna tell you straight and true, this nation is insane." "It's insane because it has been swallowed up by lies."

ON RACISM, Gregory says, "I don't believe in racism, but I sure do understand it. It's not a battle between black and white; the real battle is between right and wrong. I want to be your friend, brothers, not your black friend."

He hasn't made his political program specific, but he says his task is "to bring the country to its knees, and then rebuild it."

Official Publication of the
City College of San Francisco

NUMBER 8

APPEARING on television on April 16, Gregory announced his withdrawal and abandonment of plans by dissenting groups to boycott and demonstrate against the Democratic party at the 1968 convention on that group in Chicago. He advised that the convention be held in another city.

Gregory is disappointed in the war efforts. He told an audience in Chicago, "Maybe you remember I smoked a lot, six or seven packs a day. About six weeks ago I got to thinking a lot of my money for cigarets is going to the government, and they're using that money to buy napalm, and I decided I was going to stop smoking and I did."

He continued, "Would you be willing to stop smoking until they end the war? Cause once you stop, maybe you won't start again, and we can get them cats in the cigaret business to start carrying signs to end the war before they go broke."

ON THE RECENT tragic assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Gregory expressed his shock but stated that the "assassination of Dr. King was not unpredictable in light of a direct pattern of fascism in the shooting of John Kennedy, Medgar Evers, Malcolm X and Dr. King.

Only City College students will be allowed to attend the performance. Registration cards will be required for admission.