

An essay by

Before I came to the O.W. Holmes I thought I would be going to the same school I went to the previous year, the Rochambeau. When I heard about busing I was uncertain which school I would attend in September. When I received a letter telling me that I would attend the O.W. Holmes in September, I didn't want to go because I talked to most of my fifth grade friends and some of them weren't going to the same school. Most of them are now in the Grover Cleveland. The note also said that my sister and I had to walk! Some time later we received another letter saying we could ride the bus. We were relieved.

The school I went to last year had mostly White and Spanish-speaking kids. Everyone got along fine.

The school year 1974-75 was okay. The day I came to school I went to the cafeteria to find out which room I would go to. They told me to remember room 19. The lady who was there took me to my room and my homeroom teacher, Mr. Mulkern showed me where to sit. On the way to school the kids on the bus were saying, "Oh, that school's lousy." One of my friends said, "There are police all around the school." (I didn't attend school the first day) After a few weeks I didn't mind being bused. On television they were showing buses having rocks thrown at them, kids being stabbed and fights. There were also a lot of protests. During a protest in October, some protesters pulled a man from his car and started to beat him. The police tried to get at him to keep off the protesters. They finally reached him and circled around him and pushed away the protesters and

arrested a few.

Our class went on a few trips. We went roller skating, in February; to the Hale Reservation in April; and we're going skating again on Friday May 23rd. My marks for the first four marking periods were not too good, so I'm trying to improve them. If I do improve them I might not be kept back in the 6th grade. I just might go to summer school. This school year was fast, it seems like yesterday I came to school for the first day.

For next year I think I'm going to attend the O.W. Holmes again for the 7th grade. I don't know why, but I have a feeling I'm going to attend the Holmes. If Judge Garrity changes anything the school system might be different and if he doesn't, it might be the same. But I really don't know what will happen next fall.