

Ecclesia From Page 1.

sonal work and follow the vision of Broussard.

It reads, in part, "I do hereby declare all of my ambitions, desires, past and future commitments, relationships, expectations, assets, gifts, talents and connections under the total control of Eldridge John Broussard Jr. All my decisions — financial, social, recreational, educational, dietary, romantic and any not mentioned above — must pass his scrutiny and obtain his approval.

"I relinquish even the rights of decision-making. I make this statement by personal conviction as I feel bound by faith in Jesus Christ to the leadership of Eldridge John Broussard Jr."

The contract, however, allows a person to reconsider his or her vow and "leave the entire experience" at any time.

Also included in the information sent to the county was a copy of Broussard's own vow of poverty. In it, he vows to dedicate himself and his co-workers as church servants "with the full understanding that I am 24-hours-a-day bound to the furtherance of God's kingdom on this planet."

A statement concerning Broussard's ministry explains that Broussard is the spokesman and chief lecturer for the Ecclesia Athletic Association and Watts Christian Center Inc.

A statement to the Internal Revenue Service, a copy of which was sent to the county, says that the Ecclesia Athletic Association Inc. and the Watts Christian Center Inc. are both non-profit corporations.

At the press conference, Van Brunt said that Broussard has a national plan and will explain his vision during a one-hour presentation in Los Angeles. He then will allow three hours for questions from reporters, Van Brunt said.



Members of Ecclesia were packed up and ready for a trip to California on Tuesday.

She also set conditions for reporters covering the press conference on Saturday. "When Eldridge speaks, all cameras will be on him at all times," she said.

More than 20 reporters and photographers attended the Sandy press conference, which was held in front of a house at 49512 S.E. Baty Road. From 60 to 75 adults and children sat in front of the house as Van Brunt and Ruth Culmer, the president of Ecclesia Athletic Association, spoke to the press.

At one point, all of the Ecclesia members ran in front of the television cameras and waved, all talking at once. "We have been accused of not letting everyone talk," Culmer said.

A concern raised at a recent meeting of the Sandy Elementary District board was that many of the children would attend Sandy schools in the fall.

Van Brunt said at the press conference that the Ecclesia children would receive private instruction. "We will not be infiltrating the Sandy school system," she said.

Van Brunt said all of the children with the group in Oregon are accompanied by their parents.

Van Brunt said the athletic club was only a part of Broussard's plan. Athletics and entertainment are ways of reaching young people, especially young black people, she said.

Van Brunt said Broussard chose to bring Ecclesia to Oregon because he

gained an affinity for the state when he played basketball for Pacific University in Forest Grove.

In an open letter to the Sandy community that was submitted to Clackamas County planners, Broussard wrote that he was disturbed by comparisons with the Rajneesh and Jim Jones, leader of the People's Temple.

"I must defeat this cult spirit that surrounds us and me right here in Sandy or it will follow us wherever we go," Broussard wrote.

When asked about how the group had been treated in Oregon, Van Brunt said Tuesday, "Nobody has come in and said, 'Hey, hang in there, team.' But they haven't burned any crosses, either."

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gram. "It is very much needed and long overdue," he said.

Verne Buhler, principal at Sandy Grade School, said the district has had a "hit and miss program in the past. It's not like we've ignored the problem."

In addition to costing \$12,000 this year, Shepherd said the program would cost an additional \$6,000 to \$8,000 to complete next year. Included in the \$12,000 would be enough materials to begin the program in all

grade levels. There is also a high school program that goes with "Here's Looking at You 2000." It was suggested the high school board might want to consider that program.

The elementary district board is expected to take action at a meeting on Thursday, July 2, at 7:30 p.m. at the Cedar Ridge library. The outcome of the levy on the mail-in ballot also will be discussed.

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Radios Continued from Page 1.

were paid for that year. The increase in the proposed 1987-88 budget is due to increases in salaries and fringe benefits.

Branson said the transportation cooperative had been managed in a fiscally conservative manner, which allowed them to save enough for the radios.

Heaton is opposed to spending money for radios if there is going to be an increase in the cost of transportation.

Heaton said there are other safety issues that also need to be considered. One is an "automatic chain" system, which allows a bus driver to pull a lever and put chains on the tires of a bus without ever leaving the driver's seat. Seat belts are another safety issue.

"There are lots of things to consider for safety," Heaton said. "But we also have to consider what we can afford."

Branson is hopeful that he can make a presentation to the board members from the three districts that will convince them the radios are needed.

With a relay station on Polivka Hill in Boring — where there are already a number of relay stations — Branson said the sprawling 750-square-mile SUHS District could be tied together with the radios.

Although there are some "dead spots," Branson said the radios should allow someone in a valley to get through to another bus, and the driver of the second bus could then relay the message to the bus barn, which serves as the dispatch center.

Branson's said as part of his research he talked to communications specialists who work on Clackamas County's emergency dispatching system. Those people recommended a more expensive setup than he thinks the district needs.

The system he is proposing would be powerful enough to reach Salem on a good day. "We would even be covered on most field trips," Branson said.

Branson said surrounding school districts, such as Estacada,

Reynolds and Oregon City, all have radios. School Bus Services, which transports students in Gresham, also has radios, Branson said.

Although two-way radios would likely be the first item on the agenda, Heaton would like to see the committee deal with other transportation

issues as well. "I think we need a renewed understanding of how the transportation consortium works," Heaton said.

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