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Mrs. Marilyn Sykes will again take part in the March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon on April 15th. Mrs. Sykes has been the champion fund-raiser for the last three years.

Three-time winner ready to march again

What makes Marilyn Sykes like to walk?
First, she says, because it is a good cause - she walks so youngsters may someday walk. And then, she admits, she likes to have a new car to drive each year.
Mrs. Marilyn Sykes is the champion walker in the annual March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon. In the last three years, this smiling, claims and inquiry clerk at the Main U.S. Post Office, has won the full use of a new car for a year.
This year - the 7th annual Walk, which will start at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, April 15th, from the Memorial Coliseum - will be her fifth. Last year from her sponsors she collected \$2,621; the year before was \$1,801. Already in the first week of March she has pledged of more than \$2,000 for the 20-kilometer. And, she admits, she has been slowed by a sick child.
The main prize is the use of a new Volkswagen Rabbit for one year, donated by Riviera Motors. The top prize for walkers eleven years old and younger is a trip to Disneyland for two. But the young walker must have pledges of \$1,000 or more to be in contention.
Nearly 10,000 walkers raised approximately \$250,000 last year for the March

of Dimes important research into the cause, effect and the alleviation of birth defects.
How does Mrs. Sykes, who with her husband Earl, are employees of the Postal Service, get so many sponsors. Well, many of her average 450 sponsors are fellow employees of the Postal Service.
"I've got one good fellow employee who donates \$10 per mile, or \$200," she reveals. "That's a big help right there. And then, there is a secretary of a company, near the Post Office, who donates \$100. But many of the donations average \$10."
Mrs. Sykes has an eight-year-old son, Earl Jr., who was struck with tuberculosis meningitis, when a few months old. It's now a birth defect, but it has caused the son to be spastic on his right side and caused some mental retardation, his mother said.
"It's not a birth defect, but my many visits to hospitals and seeing the suffering from birth defects has made me all the more sympathetic to the March of Dimes' cause."
On April 15th, Marilyn expects to be "rarin' to go" at 7:00 a.m. She will be accompanied by daughters Carmen, fif-

teen, and Vanessa, fourteen. In addition, there will be her nephew Michael Washington, fifteen. Of course, she'll also have the usual entourage of postal employees, who like to walk with the "Champ".
Between Walk-a-Thons Marilyn keeps fit by walking and taking other exercise. "I'm really not an athlete," she confesses, "but I do like to watch athletic events, such as the State Basketball Tournament."
Youngsters in Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties now are signing up for the Walk and scrambling to get sponsors. Each walker must have an official sponsor, and a minimum of five cents per kilometer is required.
Sponsor sheets may be obtained from KGW Radio, school offices or at the Tri-County Chapter of the March of Dimes headquarters in the Woodlark Building in downtown Portland. The office is open Monday through Friday until 4:00 p.m.
Mark Gambee, a pre-med student at Portland State, again is youth chairman for the fourth year. Dave Twardzik, guard for the World Champion Trailblazers, again is honorary chairman.

Portland Muslims make pilgrimage to Mecca

Three Portland men, Emam Tauheed Saddrin, Nuntaisir Rushdan, and Nabeeh Qudair Dawan, were among 350 American Muslims who participated in the annual Hajj. The group was sponsored by the World Muslim League and they were guests of the government of Saudi Arabia.
The Americans, members of the World Community of Islam in the West (formerly the Nation of Islam), were accompanied by Emam Wallace D. Muhammad. This is the first time that a large group of American born Muslims have participated in the Hajj.
The Hajj is the Fifth Pillar of the Muslim faith, required of all Muslims who are physically and economically able to go, and is a visit to the holy places at Mecca involving prayer and sacrifice.
"This was an experience that has completely changed my life," Nuntaisir Rushdan said. "I continuously remember the things that happened and the things I learned. It is still hard to imagine that I walked on the very ground where Abraham walked." Nabeeh Qudair Dawan explained the feeling of unity gained by being among 2.5 million people - all with the same purpose. "Although we were with people from all over the world and from all walks of life, there was no conflict. Everyone found a way to communicate."
Dawan explained that for the first time he found himself in a place where he had no fear and felt no hostility. "I became aware that I didn't have to constantly watch behind to be sure I was safe.

Everyone had the same feeling of brotherhood - everyone was equal. It was a revelation to return to this country and when landing at the airport to feel the hostility and the conflict. There was none of that in Arabia. Although there was security and of course police and an Army, there was no outward show of force."
Among the holy places visited were the Kaaba, built over the remains of the house built by Abraham. Pilgrims walk around the Kaaba seven times and visit other historic areas including the place where Huggar ran between the mountains Safa and Marwa seeking water for her baby.
At Arafat they visited the Mount sermon, now the site of Namra Masjid, and climbed the Mountain of Revelation.
During the Hajj, a gown is worn so that all pilgrims have equal status. "You could be standing next to a Prince, but no one would even know. The rich and the poor are equal at this time."
Although many native languages are spoken, greetings and prayers are in Arabic. The three Portlanders had the opportunity to talk to hundreds of Muslims from nearly every nation and also attended seminars and classes. Dawan, who hopes to go again, plans to study more Arabic so he can communicate more easily.
Muslims come from all over the world, many at great personal sacrifice. For example, a large group walked all the way from Nigeria. Although the Americans were housed at a university, most of

the pilgrims camp in small tents in the desert. The mutual sacrifice and barren living conditions is an equalizer that not only puts all of the participants in equal circumstances but emphasizes that many of life's luxuries are not necessary. "I came back with a great appreciation for the physical comforts we have in America, and although I enjoy having them, I now know that I could get along with less," Rushdan explained.
The United World Community of Al Islam in the West is now directed by Wallace D. Muhammad, the son of its founder, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. Formerly called the Nation of Islam (or the "Black Muslims" by the press), the group emphasized Black pride, separation from whites, and economic development. When Wallace D. Muhammad took over the leadership three years ago, after his father's death, he changed the direction to reject racism and bring to the organization the true beliefs and practices of Islam.
In the words of Dr. C. Eric Lincoln, "Wallace D. Muhammad does not stand in his father's shoes, but on his father's shoulders. The vista he sees from that vantage point is in broader perspective, and it is multi-dimensional. Under his leadership, the Nation of Islam has in orderly and timely transition become the 'World Community of Islam in the West.' Respected by Christian and Jews alike, it is bidding for a responsible place in that traditional triumvirate of great religions, here in America."
[See pictures on Page 5.]

Hamilton seeks Teen-Age title

Attractive activist Camille Hamilton, seventeen, West Linn High School is the first girl student body president and the first non-white student body president in its 53 year history. Ms. Hamilton is a national contestant in a prestigious scholarship program and state finalist in "Miss National Teenager" contest.
Having won competition for nomination by West Linn High School chapter of the National Honor Society, Ms. Hamilton is now a candidate for National scholarship honors in the society. She is also scheduled to participate, as a finalist, in the "Miss Oregon National Teenager" Pageant at the University of Portland May 12th through the 14th.
The University of Portland pageant is the official state finals in the Miss National Teenagers selection process. The winner at this level will receive a cash scholarship, a tuition-paid scholarship to Barbizon modeling school and an expense-paid trip to Atlanta. At the national pageant in Atlanta, Georgia, in August, more than \$10,000 in cash scholarships will be awarded.
The Miss National Teenagers Pageant is not a bathing beauty contest, according to its national director, but a selection process stressing high scholastic achievements, poise, personality, participation in school and civic affairs and voluntary community service. In addition each finalist is required to write and recite an essay on "What's Right About America."
The Afro-Asian-American beauty declines to speculate on her chances of breaking the color barrier to become "Miss National Teenager" or "Miss Oregon" in the Miss Teenager Pageant. She is quick to point out that other participants have impressive credits. Moreover, fifty percent of the judging process will be applied on the basis of 'beauty,' a very subjective matter. She concedes she would be happier if more emphasis were given to objective factors.
By objective standards Ms. Hamilton's record of achievement would appear to be competitive. Despite a heavy schedule of academic, extracurricular, social and community activities, she has maintained a straight "A" average during her senior year and an overall average during her high school career of "A." At the same time she continued to perform her newspaper editorship, student government, and leadership activities at a level which won her class vote for the leadership award and the designation of "girl most likely to succeed."
Recently she was a state finalist in the Daughters of American Revolution "Good Citizen Scholarship Award" after having won first place at the chapter and district levels competition. She was unable to



CAMILLE HAMILTON

attend the DAR Convention in Medford last Saturday because she was busy competing successfully in district speech elimination meet for the right to go to state in a new event. Having peaked in poetry last year when she won the gold medal, after taking two silvers in successive years, Ms. Hamilton switched to expository this year and tied for first place in eliminations at district last Saturday.
By appointment of Governor Straub, the civic minded Ms. Hamilton has served this year as the only high school student on the Citizen Foreign Policy Council in the "Speak-Oregon" project. By appointment of State Superintendent of Public Instruction she is serving as the representative of all students in the state on the Competency Based Educational

Program Policy Board. She has served as a volunteer at the Urban League's Senior Adult Service Center.
Prior to her senior year, her most rewarding special talent was reading and writing poetry. With points accumulated in poetry events she won the Goldfinger Award two years in succession and the right to have it permanently. The Forensic Club voted her best freshman, best sophomore, best junior and president of the club for her junior year. At district competition level, she took two first and one second place in poetry during her first three years in high school. She had the same fortune at the WILCO League level. At the invitational tournament level she picked up eight first place trophies and one second place. (Please turn to Page 4 Column 3)

Commission hearing addresses domestic violence

Thousands of women in the Portland area endure repeated physical abuse in their own homes. Is there any way out for these women or must they accept abuse as a fact of life?
A public hearing on the subject of domestic violence is being organized and co-sponsored for the Portland area by the Governor's Commission for Women, Bradley-Angle House and the Coalition for Battered Women. The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, March 21, 1978 in the Portland State University Ballroom commencing at 6:30 p.m. The hearing

will consist of a panel presentation by Multnomah County law enforcement officials and others who are familiar with the problem of domestic violence, followed by testimony, questions and comments from the public. The purpose of this public hearing is to gather information from the public concerning the nature and extent of domestic violence in the Portland area.
Victims of domestic violence are invited to share their experiences and concerns by giving testimony during the public hearing. However, for those persons who wish to share their experiences but are unable to do so during the

public hearing, testimony will be taken privately by representatives of the sponsoring organizations in Room 353, Smith Center, Portland State University between 5:00 and 6:30 p.m. on March 21, 1978. Persons who cannot attend the hearing but who wish to make a statement can do so by calling 281-2442 or by sending a written statement, signed or unsigned, to the Governor's Commission for Women, 116 Labor and Industries Building, Salem, 97310.
For additional information, call Marilyn G. Miller, Executive Director, Governor's Commission for Women, 378-6520.



Dr. Erasmus Ogbuobiri of Bonneville Power gave Desiree King and Karla Talley, students in Portland State Educational Center's pre-engineering course for minority high school students, a guided tour during PSU Engineering Department Open House. The students were accompanied by their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman King and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Talley.

Juvenile crime: Myth and reality

by Elliott Currie
MARCH 2 [PNS] - Since the massive looting in the wake of New York City's power blackout last summer, the image of a violence-prone urban youth has brought fear and concern to American cities. Legislators, newspaper editors and criminal justice professionals have used the same image of a rising wave of juvenile violence as the rationale for a "get-tough" policy toward youthful offenders.
That policy has led to stiffer sentences for juvenile criminals, accelerated youth prison construction and a new emphasis on control instead of rehabilitation in the juvenile justice system.

But is the image a fair and accurate one? Recent evidence from the Justice Department offers a different, less dramatic picture. Contrary to the standard myths, the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Reports show that:
• Juvenile crime is less serious and widespread than adult crime, which still accounts for most crimes of violence. Juvenile offenses are most often aimed at property, not people;
• Juvenile crimes of violence, while serious, are not increasing. In fact, of the four major crimes of violence - murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault - the statistics show a marked decrease in juvenile offenses;

• juvenile offenses are not directed disproportionately against the elderly and the helpless, as often portrayed. Actually, juveniles themselves are most often the victims of juvenile crime.
It remains true that teenagers do commit more crime than their proportion of the total population would indicate. In 1976, according to the FBI's statistics, youths under eighteen accounted for about 25 percent of all arrests across the country, while they constituted about 31 percent of the total population.
While these figures seem to suggest that young people commit fewer crimes than their proportion of the population, they ignore the fact that youth crime is

concentrated in the higher age brackets, from fifteen to eighteen.
Still, the statistical portrait of youth crime provides a different picture than the myth: In 1976, people under eighteen accounted for only 9.2 percent of all murder arrests - while Americans over 45, supposedly the least crime-prone segment of the population, accounted for 13.5 percent. Youths under eighteen committed 1,302 murders in 1976, while the much smaller 25-to-29-year-old group committed more than twice that number.
For most other crimes of violence, the picture is similar. The only officially designated violent crime in which teenage youths are over-represented is robbery - 33.5 percent of arrests in 1976 were of youths under eighteen. Significantly, robbery is a property-related crime. It is in crimes against property that juveniles are clearly over-represented, accounting for slightly more than half of all arrests for burglaries and motor vehicle thefts, and about three-fifths of arrests for vandalism.
In terms of violent crime, juvenile offenses are actually declining, both in the nation as a whole and in the cities. Between 1975-76, the number of juvenile arrests nationwide dropped 17.3 percent for murder, and 19.3 percent for robbery. Youth arrests for rape and aggravated assault also dropped by 3.4 percent and

4.4 percent respectively.
For the most serious and terrifying of violent crimes - murder - juvenile arrests have been declining since the early 1970s. Between 1972-76, juvenile murder arrests dropped by more than 27 percent.
JUVENILE VICTIMS
Not only are the stereotypes about juvenile criminals misleading, but so are those regarding the victims of juvenile crime. Data from recent surveys by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration show clearly that life is far more threatening for juveniles than for adults - and, in general, least threatening for (Please turn to Page 2 Column 4)