



We see the world  
through Black eyes

## A middle school for Albina

We agree with the Jefferson Reorganization Committee's recommendation that Ockley Green become a middle school for the Jefferson attendance area.

The assessment of area Superintendent Will Fletcher that after Black and white students attend middle school together they will want to remain together through high school is correct. Even more important, white parents will find that going to school with Black students is not so bad. The escape of white students from Jefferson should decrease.

We are concerned, however, about the students in the Jefferson area who still will not have a school of their own. The upper grade students of Woodlawn area who live in the Jefferson area of that district, are going to James John and to Roosevelt. They will not go to Ockley Green. Students living in the Boise district that is in Jefferson will not have the option to go to Ockley Green, but will go to Jefferson. Upper grade students in King section of Jefferson are now bused out and cannot go to Ockley Green.

Humboldt causes yet another problem. All of the children are bussed out at the third grade level. These children will continue to be dispersed throughout their school careers.

We believe the answer is a middle school in the Albina area that would serve these children as well as the upper grade students of King, Sabin and Boise. The district has determined that a middle school will not be placed in Albina because it would be all Black. That this is not necessarily true has been proved by the number of white pre-school children voluntarily attending King and Humboldt.

A middle school -- placed at Eliot, for example -- could draw white students from all those areas that have turned down middle schools. There are parents in Beaumont and the southwest schools who want middle schools and have none. This new middle school -- with a new name and a new image -- could draw from throughout the city.

The School Board needs to take a hard look at a program for the orphans of Albina who don't seem to fit anywhere. We were told that middle schools on the periphery of Albina would be the answer, but these children are barred from those schools. Now the district needs to design a school for them.

## The year of a Black queen?

Is this the year for a Black Rose Queen? We've been asking that question for years and the answer has been "no".

Many of the young ladies in past years have had the beauty, grace and talent to be Queen but they were not selected solely because of race.

What better year to crown the first Black Rose Queen than the year that the NAACP National Convention comes to Portland.

All over the South Blacks are being chosen as college Queens and now we have a Black Miss Universe. It's about time for affirmative action in the Rose Festival. Come on Portland, let's catch up with the world.



## McCoy's task is to regain confidence

by Herb Cawthorne

As with the rest of the Gladys McCoy campaign, the fundraiser at the First National Bank Tower was well organized. The food was excellent. The people mingled and talked and were friendly. The candidate, Ms. McCoy, a long-time member of the Portland Board of Education, was warm and confident. With a strong handshake, she spoke personally to each supporter: "I appreciate your being here." I went to Ms. McCoy's fundraiser and, quite honestly, I was impressed.

Why would I go to demonstrate my support of one whom I have criticized harshly both in public and in private? The answer can only be framed with words of mixed emotion. I went because I wanted very much to accept Ms. McCoy as a candidate for the County Commission, while seeking some way to minimize my unfavorable impression of her record as a member of the Board of Education. When I left the champaign session that evening, I wanted very much to write glowing words about Ms. McCoy's campaign. Those words never reached my paper.

The dilemma is clear: Ms. McCoy's record on the Board of Education is

dismal; yet she can win the race for the County Commission. The pressures of school supervision are one thing; the demands of county policy-making quite another. Should her dismal performance as a member of the Board of Education disqualify her as one worthy of the Black community's active support?

The answers vary. Some can in no way lift a finger to assist Ms. McCoy. Others waiver. They want to help, but are frozen in indecision by the negative image of a politician who refused to carry the aspirations and concerns of Portland Black community to the school administration. Still others are indifferent, as they are always, no matter whose seeking what. Then there are the pragmatists. They dislike the record, they recognize the shortcomings. But the pragmatic ones say, "Ms. McCoy is our best chance of getting a Black representative on the County Commission. No matter her record on the School Board, we must help her in this race. She will not be the same. The position demands are different, the pressures from the community are different."

When I went to Ms. McCoy's fundrais-

er prior to the primary election, I suppose my leaning was toward the pragmatic side of the issue. As I tried to flush from my mind good words of endorsement, the realization hit home: To write good words and glowing terms is difficult, since it is by judging the past that one makes predictions for the future. McCoy's record precluded my ability to make predictions about commitment, and community leadership, and responsiveness. The realization made one thing quite clear.

The support of many in the Black community depends on Ms. McCoy. If she is misunderstood, if we do not truly appreciate the depth of her concern, then it is incumbent on her to talk with us and explain her program. If we have misread the record, she will have to come forward to set us straight. It is a difficult task. She must regain the confidence of our community. It would be a political disaster for Ms. McCoy or any one around her to dismiss her standing in the Black community.

It is essential that it be improved. With her political know how and several months campaigning ahead, I believe it can be done.

## Through the eyes of Mr. W...

by Harold C. Williams

Many things are changing in the Portland area that will have great impact on the Black Community.

It is important that we as Blacks stop re-inventing the wheel and take note from the old soldiers who have gone before us.

There are many people who have paid their dues on the front lines to survive in the State of Oregon. They seldom get credit for their efforts. The reasonable amount of comfort that we have in Portland today is due to the blood, sweat and tears that these people gave on our behalf.

Soldiers like Chalmers Jones who is a trailblazer in state government, has opened doors when there were no doors. He made pathways when there was no path. Few give him credit for the dues he has paid.

Senator Bill McCoy, a trailblazer in politics, is in the most vicious arena that one can be in and he is given very little credit for his ability to endure the hardship and pain that has been cast upon him. He has paid his dues in more ways

than one can imagine. The same goes for his wife, Gladys McCoy, who is soon to be Multnomah County Commissioner. She has given up a lot of blood and a lot of tears to get where she is today. We, as Black people, should start giving our own credit for the sacrifices they have made on our behalf.

The Plummer family has been strongly involved in politics long before most Blacks in Oregon realized the importance of politics. It is important that we give this family its due recognition.

The Reynolds family has a strong impact in education and medicine and have been a positive image for all people to pattern after. They too have not been given their just due.

Belton Hamilton has been a guiding light in the legal field and has been a symbol of intellect for many years. He has been an inspiration to many young Blacks desiring to achieve greatness.

Leon Broadous Sr., a business man, church leader, a man who has fed and clothed many who have come to Portland who were down on their luck, has not asked for pay and sometimes has not even received a thank you. He paid his

dues many times over where it counts and where it's most needed. He has helped those who were not able to help themselves, he has given dignity to those who have yet to learn its true meaning.

Mrs. Clara M. Peoples, a lady who fed the poor, who gave totally of herself, to her community and to the people has received very little in return. She has truly paid her dues. She has spoken up for those who didn't know how to speak and opened doors for those who didn't know how to knock.

The people I've mentioned are just a few of the many, many people who have paid their dues and gotten very little thanks of appreciation. There are names that I could use that would fill many, many pages, that have given of themselves for the benefit of many Blacks today and by no means am I trying to overlook their efforts. I want to make a point, those of my age and younger, must not forget the bridge that got us over. It is time that we sat down and had counsel with those that have been before us. To all the old soldiers that paid their dues, I truly thank you for the freedom of opportunity you've given me.



## Study compares citizen views of neighborhoods

(Continued from page 1 col. 3)

**Sense of Community:** Maplewood perceives and exhibits a stronger sense of community than Sabin or Boise.

**Streets:** Many Maplewood streets are unpaved and there are few sidewalks. Boise and Sabin residents complain about bad streets and sidewalks. Sabin streets are dirtier and more littered than Boise's but Boise citizens perceive them as a more serious problem.

**Boise streets are the most hazardous** with 1.5 per cent of the residents involved in traffic accidents. Boise has more traffic through its boundaries.

**Dogs:** Sabin has the worst animal control problem.

**Yards:** Boise has the most problems with condition of yards: litter, excessive storage in yards, abandoned and dilapidated buildings, tall grass and weeds.

**Parks:** Boise residents are closest to their park (Unthank) but do not use it out of fear that it has unsafe equipment. Sabin residents are farthest from a park and use it least.

**Noise:** Boise is noisier than the other neighborhoods.

**Refuse:** Boise residents say that their neighborhood is dirtier and that the dirt is more pervasive; Sabin complains about litter.

**Abandoned autos:** This problem is worst in Boise.

**Parking:** Maplewood residents own more vehicles but generally do not park in the street. Boise has the highest percentage of street parking. Parking is not perceived as a problem.

(Next Week: How livable is Boise?)



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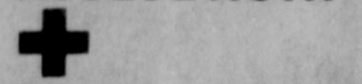
I am presently confined in the penitentiary and without contact from the "outside" world. Since I have no one to correspond with, in reaching out for new possible friends. I do not seek pity, but only your sincerest friendship and understanding.

To possess a few while I am in confinement here would surely allow a ray of sunshine to penetrate my otherwise dark and lonely situation.

Hopefully someone out there will care enough to hear my appeal, and write to me as soon as possible. I will answer all letters regardless of color, religion, or sex, and will answer with complete sincerity.

Your Truly,  
Anthony L. Hartson  
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P.O. Box 45699  
Lucasville, Ohio 45699

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