



WILLIAM HILLIARD

## Hilliard receives honorary degree

**PACIFIC UNIVERSITY, Forest Grove, Ore.**—William A. Hilliard, assistant managing editor of the *Portland Oregonian* and a Pacific University alumnus, was honored by his alma mater Tuesday afternoon with the awarding of the honorary degree of doctor of laws. Hilliard received a bachelor of science degree in journalism from Pacific in 1952.

Hilliard was cited for his "contributions to our society through his work with the Urban League; for his skills as a reporter and manager at *The Oregonian*, for his work with college students across the land, and

for his quiet work for his alma mater."

Dr. James V. Miller, Pacific president, said that *The Oregonian* editor has been a local and national Urban League leader, moved from copy boy to assistant managing editor at *The Oregonian*, and been an editor in residence at several universities and a Pulitzer Prize juror.

Hilliard's public school education was in Portland. Before studying at Pacific, he was a Red Cap at Portland's Union Depot, and served in the U.S. Navy at the end of World War II.

His degree was awarded during

the opening of Pacific's annual fall colloquium which has the topic of "food: The Global Issue." The opening address was by Dr. Warren Kronstad, Oregon State University leader in agricultural science, who talked about the Green Revolution which is the development of new strains of grain and rice to meet food needs in developing countries.

However, he said that the real problem to solve is "distribution of food, income, lands and the other basic necessities." He asked, "Are we intelligent enough to find solutions so that we won't all have to march to the same drummer?"

## Leggroan promoted

Springfield resident Russell L. Leggroan has been elected an assistant vice-president at Benj. Franklin Federal Savings & Loan Association, according to Robert E. Downie, association president.



RUSSELL L. LEGGROAN

Leggroan joined Benj. Franklin as a teller at the Lloyd Center office in June 1977. He transferred to the Stark Street office in downtown Portland in July 1978 and later that year was named assistant savings supervisor. In October 1979 he joined the downtown Portland headquarters in the loan department, where he worked prior to being promoted to branch manager at Springfield when the office opened for business in July 1980.

The new officer is a member of the board of the Springfield Kiwanis, the board of the Mohawk Shopping District, and is on the Retention Committee for the Springfield Chamber of Commerce.

Leggroan was graduated from Grant High School in 1972 and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business management at Pacific University in 1977. He also has completed courses in finance through the Institute of Financial Education.

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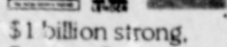
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## Cell Talk

by Asmar Abdul Seifullah aka Joe West #40404

On September 23, 1981, members of the ad hoc Minority Action Coalition and its outside supporters met with the Oregon Board of Parole. The primary reason for the meeting was to discuss parole date disparity between minority inmates and others. Another focal point was the allegation that the Matrix system employed by the Parole Board places a greater burden on minority inmates. The premise for this argument is found in the fact that most minorities, by and large, come from social circumstances that increase the likelihood of criminal involvement at some point in their lives. Statistics show that Blacks are imprisoned at a rate eight and one half times (8 1/2) that of whites.

Oregon, which leads the nation in incarceration of Blacks and other minorities per capita, has long been a bastion of racism in the area of criminal justice. Because of overt and covert action taken on behalf of the state to incarcerate minorities—incarceration without rehabilitation, increased mandatory minimum sentences, consecutive sentences and longer prison terms—the ad hoc Minority Action Coalition was formed. It is comprised of Black, Spanish American and Native American inmates. Support for the coalition is expressed from a wide sector of the outside community.

Outside supporters present at the second meeting are as follows: Kay Toran, Office of the Governor; Pearl Spears Grey, chair, Gov. Commission on Black Affairs; Ron Herdon, co-chair, Black United Front; Ruben Sholander, Chicano Affairs Center; Katherine Hayes-Ortega, Indian Culture teacher; Tina M. Jones, Indian Culture teacher; Bob Stalker, Director, Prison Legal Services of Oregon, and Ramon Gonzalez, State Migrant Education. Representing the Oregon Board of Parole: Hazel G. Hays, Chalmers L. Jones, Ira Blalock and Paul Aronson; also present was Ron Martin, executive assistant Minority Affairs, J.C. Keeney, Asst. Superintendent Oregon State Penitentiary.

A presentation of grievances and suggestions was presented by the coalition. Paramount among these suggestions was the formulation of a Community Advisory Committee.

(1) This committee would be composed of a specified number (such as 3) of members of the principle minority groups (Black, Chicano, Native American) from the outside community.

(2) This committee would make recommendations (in individual cases and for the group) to the Parole Board concerning minorities.

(3) This committee would sit in on policy meetings or be availed of transcripts of all such meetings.

(4) This committee would have access to all pertinent data upon which parole decisions are made.

(5) Consideration for mitigating circumstances in cases where factors in one's background over which one had no control, i.e., family structure, neighborhood conditions, etc., are present.

(6) Revise criteria for History Risk Assessment Score (E) Has no admitted or documented heroin or opiate derivative abuse problem, or has no admitted or documented alcohol problem... The last portion of this assessment has been deleted to accommodate people with alcohol problems, but nothing has been done for people with drug problems. Most of the people not effected by the deletion are minorities. We recommend that the assessment be amended to allow for point restoration if the client actively participates in a drug therapy program or group while incarcerated. Mitigation can be allowed if the client has successfully completed a drug program on the streets and is not confined on a drug-related crime.

The Parole Board was very candid during the meeting. Hazel Hays stated that she understood the criminal justice system was discriminatory and pledged to confront it whenever possible. Ms. Hays and Ira Blalock gave tacit support to the concept of a community advisory committee but stated that the power of decision lies in the legislature. Chalmers Jones was uncommitted and wanted to review the suggestions of the coalition. He stated that he was concerned about the statistics and whether they were factual.

Noted is the fact that the Parole Board met with the coalition voluntarily and it is my opinion that they were receptive and concerned about minority inmates' problems.

The ad hoc Minority Action Coalition completely disavows an article that appeared in the August 26, 1981, edition of the *Portland Skanner*. In the article Larry Baker reported that the Coalition was seeking to disband the Parole Board and leave the sentencing process entirely in the hands of sentencing judges. This was a blatant distortion of the truth and is perhaps the most irresponsible piece of junk Larry Baker has ever written. Anonymous copies of the article were sent to the members of the Parole Board and must be considered as an act of sabotage. Larry Baker is functioning as an agent provocateur and should be listed as Public Enemy No. 1.

Additional meetings are scheduled for the future and we would like to thank all those people who cared enough to support us with their physical presence and ideas. May Allah guide and direct this undertaking and may He provide us with patience and constancy.

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