

# METROPOLITAN



Dances were important segment of celebration of Indian culture at Schunk Plaza. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

## Roses bloom on Portland festival

by Harris Levon McRae

The roses are in bloom, the sun is smiling—a perfect setting for the 74th annual Portland Rose Festival. Through the years, the festival has grown and matured until it now comprises ten full days of varied events.

Festivities will begin next Friday, June 4th with more than 50 events on this year's schedule.

The story of the Rose Festival goes way back into Portland's yester years to 1889 when some rose admirers held their first annual show in a tent. In 1902 the Portland Rose Society was formed. 1904 brought the addition of the Rose Society Fiesta to add more excitement to the show. Things progressed still further in 1905.

"Portland needs a festival of roses," said Harry Lane, then mayor of Portland, in an address at the Lewis and Clark Exposition. Civic leaders liked the idea, and in 1907 put it into action producing the first Portland Rose Festival. With the exception of the interruption of

World War I in 1918 and other difficulties in 1926, the Rose Festival has been held annually ever since.

The 74th year will begin with fireworks lighting the way for three large parades including the Starlight Parade, the Junior Parade, which has over 10,000 children participating, making it the largest parade of its type in the country, and the highlight of the Rose Festival—the Grand Floral Parade. The Grand Floral Parade attracts visitors to Portland from all parts of the world to see the floats decorated completely with fresh natural flowers.

After the floats have completed the parade route, they are taken to an organized display area where the public is invited to view them during the weekend.

Other major activities include the Festival of Bands, the Rose Show—America's oldest and largest, Rose Festival Queen selection and visits by American and Canadian navy ships.

Since 1930, the Rose Festival Queen has been a Portland high school senior, selected from a court of princesses—one princess selected by the student body of each high school. In 1932, when the present Rose Festival Association was incorporated, each princess received a college scholarship contributed by the Association; through September, 1981, nearly \$300,000 has been distributed this way.

The Rose Festival will end with the roaring motors of the G.I. Joe's Rose Cup Sports Car Races. The Races, which were sponsored by the Rose Festival Association for the first time in 1966 is a major annual attraction of the Festival. Thousands of spectators gather at Delta Park to watch the high-speed racers go after the thrill of victory.

Up With People, who performed to a sell-out crowd at Super Bowl XVI, will do two performances to add to the festivities.

As the slogan that Bertha Slater Smith originated goes, "For you a Rose in Portland grows."



Jasmine Community Marching Band In Community Performance. (Photos: Richard J. Brown)



Dr. Dan Beeson, Chiropractor, explains the function of the spine and how to protect it while marching to music of Jasmin Band.

## Jazmin Band joins Rose Festival

Harris Levon McRae

"I've been dreaming about this band for 12 years. I went through elementary, junior high, high school and college being involved with bands like this - in the south these bands are a way of life," said Thara Memory.

"I've been dreaming about this for the Jasmine Community Marching Band. The band was started last October and recently won three first place awards in the St. Johns parade. They are currently scheduled to march in the Rose Festival's Starlight Parade and would like to be a part of the Grand Floral Parade.

"We plan to protest vehemently

about being in the Grand Floral Parade. It has been almost 20 years since they have had participation from this community. There has been only one black queen in the Rose Festival in 30 years," Memory said.

"The fight to get this community to become an integral part of this city has just started. We live here too. The more they condense and franchise us the better they feel. It's time for the community to really wake up and understand that in order to solve it's problems it must expose itself to the world. Living in Portland and working here entitles you to a fair share," he added.

According to Thara Memory there are very severe tryouts to go

through before one becomes a member of the Jazmin Band.

"The tryouts are not based on musical ability - they are based on attitude and commitment to hard work. Parents experienced with marching bands help out. All kinds of professional musicians come through. We don't have the facilities and equipment - some instruments are donated, some are borrowed, so we have to have hard work," Memory said.

Memory feels that the chances for the Jazmin Band to win the Sweepstakes Award in the Starlight Parade are very good.

"We are trying to build kids that can be counted on - not counted out," he concluded.

## Other banks stop here. We don't.

You don't leave First Interstate Bank when you leave the state line behind.

Wherever you travel throughout the 11 western states, we're standing by. With over 900 offices where you can always cash checks. With over 600 Day and Night

Teller machines that let you withdraw up to \$200 from your checking and savings account or take a \$200 cash advance on your First Interstate Bank VISA card.

So if you want state-of-the-art banking, come to where you can bank in more than one state.



First Interstate Bank

Pause with Pepsi . . . . .  
 . . . . . and step into history.



WILLIAM EDWARD BURGHART DUBOIS (1868-1963)

SCHOLAR, SPOKESMAN, WRITER. Born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Won scholarships to Fisk and Howard Universities and the University of Berlin. Headed department of history and economics at Atlanta University for 13 years. Wrote for Atlantic Monthly and other magazines. One of the founders of the NAACP in 1908 and editor of its Crisis Magazine. In 1919, launched Pan-African Congresses in Paris. Published many outstanding books. First Negro elected to membership in National Institute of Arts & Letters, 1943. Regarded as one of the most profound scholars of his time and generation and the 'dean' of Negro Intellectuals.

Take The  
 Pepsi Challenge.  
 Let your taste decide.

