

Bowl Game  
Picks



Page 9

Fight  
holiday  
boredom



Page 8

Holidays  
in  
Portland



Page 2

# THE NEW PORTLAND OBSERVER

December 29, 1982  
Volume XIII, Number 12  
25¢ Per Copy

## Peace lobby fights MX

by James Ridgeway,  
Pacific News Service

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Congressional blockage of a full-scale startup of President Reagan's MX missile plan—the first significant setback of a major weapons system in decades—was largely attributable to an intense, behind-the-scenes lobbying effort by the nuclear freeze movement.

Whatever sort of compromise is ironed out on MX funding, the initial defeat for the missile in the House of Representatives is a sign that the freeze movement has become a political force with effects reaching far beyond the non-binding resolution voted on in November. The movement proved that it could rally its troops in a massive congressional phone lobby to influence the meaty debates over the shape and funding of the nation's defense systems.

When the new congress takes office in January, freeze movement operatives in Washington will seek to pass the freeze resolution through the House, but they also will be hard at work trying to cut spending for the MX and the so-called Euro mis-

siles, the Pershing II and Cruise missiles, now scheduled to be deployed in Europe.

The freeze movement consists of literally hundreds of local groups, most of them springing into existence over the last year. They are largely autonomous, and their activities uncoordinated. Some, but by no means all, are part of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign, a growing bureaucratic organization with upwards of 20 staff members and offices in St. Louis and Washington. The National Freeze, as it is generally referred to, is viewed within the overall movement as fairly conservative.

In addition to the National Freeze, the movement includes other prominent groups, various churches, and SANE. In Washington a national committee of about 20 of these groups meets to discuss policy, and every week a dozen or so lobbyists from different peace groups get together to set strategy.

Since the November election the freeze movement has split in its overall political objectives. The groups centered around the National Freeze want to push the basic resolution through the House of Rep-

resentatives where, because of the election results, they feel assured of passage in the spring. Then, this part of the movement would like to beef up the resolution, perhaps by tying its implementation to the budget process. That is, if the president did not heed the dictates of the resolution, the arms budget might be cut.

Another major section of the freeze movement, however, believes the freeze should pursue a more muscular political approach. Led by SANE, the Council For A Liveable World and the United Church of Christ, this group has sought to cut funds for nuclear weapons systems, with the MX and Euro missiles heading the list. Washington politicians who are friendly to the freeze argue against attacking specific weapons systems, and such leaders as Senator Edward Kennedy have maintained that attacking weapons will result in a loss of support.

None of this has had any effect on SANE or its colleagues in the United Church of Christ and Council For A Liveable World. They took the lead in tough lobbying against production funds for the MX, and the vote against such funding in the House is

(Please turn to page 12 column 1)

*May peace be with you  
in the coming year!*



## In the food stamp line

by Bob Lothian

What can a person do when they've been laid off, their unemployment benefits have run out, and they need food for hungry children? One place they are almost sure to turn to is the food stamp office.

According to statistics released by the Adult and Family Services Division, the number of inner Northeast Portland residents receiving food stamps has risen dramatically in the last year.

From November 1981 to November 1982, according to the "Monthly Food Stamp Benefit Summary," the total number of adults and children receiving stamps through the Albina office jumped from 6,089 to 8,363, almost 2,300 people and nearly a 40% increase.

During the same period for the previous year, Nov. 1980 to Nov.

1981, when the recession was not yet in full swing, there was only a slight increase—from 5,884 to 6,089. There were about 200 more people receiving stamps in 1981 than 1980, an increase of about 4 percent.

Total dollar value of stamps released through the Albina office is up almost 70 percent over 1980, from \$267,436 in Nov. 1980 to \$454,251 Nov. 1982. At the present rate, the Albina office will hand out nearly \$5½ million in stamps during the coming year.

The increases have occurred even though more stringent certification procedures introduced during the same period have made it harder, in some cases, to qualify for the stamps.

What about a family who finds itself out on the street, maybe living in a car or a tent? According to Ben Talley, Portland regional manager

for the Adult and Family Services Division, a two-parent family can receive 30 days' emergency assistance. It could include food and medical help, rent money and job training. They will receive "some kind of contact" within 24 hours, he said, and get the emergency assistance within three to four days. Single, employable males are not eligible for such assistance.

In order to get food stamps at the Albina office, it is necessary to show up for an orientation session at 8 a.m. on any weekday. By 7:45 on Dec. 15th, ten people were already waiting. At 8:33 the door to the meeting room was opened and the 25 or so applicants who had gathered by then sat down around a large table. Rules were explained by the food stamp worker, and forms were filled out. Then, at 9:05, it was

(Please turn to page 11 column 1)

## KKK slogans accompany Salem home arson



The South Salem home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. White was spray-painted with the initials of the Ku Klux Klan before it was set afire Thursday, December 23rd. When Salem firefighters arrived at approximately 5 a.m., the five year old house was completely engulfed in flames. The letters "KKK" were sprayed on one side of the house and "KKK Merry Xmas Niggers" was sprayed on the back fence.

The Whites were due to return to Salem on Tuesday, December 28th. According to the developer who sold the home to the Whites approximately a year ago, White is 36 years of age, was born in Libya and grew up in Morocco. He runs his own carpet cleaning company and sells vacuum cleaners, but he has not been working recently due to an injury. Mrs. Betty White has worked for a cannery but is now unemployed. The Whites are said to have an independent income from oil rev-

enues. The home is located in a new development off Barnes Avenue, S.E.

The owners of the \$55,000 home were absent at the time of the fire, having gone to California for a holiday visit. According to Officer Fuhrman of the Salem Police Department, there had apparently been a "rather extensive" burglary. Including in the missing items is the family's car.

The fire started in a rear bedroom where a window had been broken. A liquid believed to be diesel oil was spread in the house and two gasoline cans were found at the scene.

The Salem Police Department has the fire under investigation but has no firm leads at this time. Officer Fuhrman said the next step is to talk with the Whites when they return to determine if they had received threats or have personal enemies. "There is a real good chance that

(Please turn to page 11 column 5)