



JUDGE MERCEDES DEIZ



DR. WALTER REYNOLDS

Humboldt honors Black History

Humboldt Early Childhood Education Center will celebrate Black History Day on February 25th with a program featuring local celebration. Among the speakers are: Commissioners Charles Jordan and Gladys McCoy; Judge Mercedes

Deiz; Dr. Walter Reynolds; *Oregonian* editor Bill Hilliard; Dick Bogle of Commissioner Schwab's office.

Principal is Thelma Brown; Master of Ceremonies is Talibat Taylor.

Still defends policies

by Lanita Duke

Grassroot News, N.W.—The tragedy of Trina Hunter's death will stain the hands of Portland for a long time. The Portland Police Department was charged with insensitivity, inefficiency and racism in the handling of the Hunter case—a charge denied by the captain of the ship, Chief Ron Still.

"There were a lot of misunderstandings about the Trina Hunter case," Still told this reporter. "Several members of my staff looked into the case and we came to the conclusion that it was an emotional outburst to a terrible death. The situation was unfortunate but the case was handled quite well. I am satisfied with the way we handled the case."

The public wondered if there was a clear-cut policy regarding missing persons being forced into underworld activities. Chief Still answered, Yes: "We have policies and procedures for all types of cases. But in the course of human behavior there are all sorts of things that enter into it. We have our policies on alleged missing persons but human judgement has to come into those cases. Allegations of persons being coerced into activities they don't want to engage in are worked daily by the Police Bureau. At issue in these cases is whether the person involved wants to be or is forced. Sometimes it tends to be both. A young girl will meet someone we refer to as a pimp who buys her clothes and is nice to her. The girl may go along with this attentive behavior of the pimp and later decide she doesn't want to go work the streets. Where is the line drawn between her wanting to be with the pimp and where he forces her to turn tricks? The issue is not black and white. You have to decide what she or he wanted to do and what they didn't want to do."

In October of 1982 Chief Still attended the March Against Prostitution. Afterwards he sent in reinforcements in the form of the horse patrol which cleaned up Union Avenue for awhile. Currently, a new crop of street walkers are parading their wares. Where is the horse patrol now? "The horse patrol will be used in various parts of the city based upon need. Crime occurs in all parts of the city; prostitution is just one of many crimes we have to deal with. Overall our crime rate is down in burglary and robbery. We are making lots of arrests. We made over twenty thousand arrests in 1982. A lot of those arrested were arrested time after time again. It's the same way with prostitution. Arresting prostitutes is not the prob-

lem. The problem is arresting once, twice, and re-arresting. When people look at those whores on the streets, I want them to remember that we arrested most of them before. The problem is, there is no damn jail space. People keep saying, 'Why don't you arrest the rils on the streets,' and my answer to them is we do, we did, but there is no place to put them. Now, we are going to keep working on getting more jail space."

Around this same time in October Still and the Mayor launched an anti-crime program. How effective has this program been? "The crime rate is going down. The credibility of the Portland Police Department rose, especially in Albina. I'm very proud of that. Crime is going down in every category except aggravated assault, which is caused by frustration over the economy. We are seeing a lot more check cases where people are over-drawing their checking accounts. The decrease in crime is not very significant but it's headed down. I think our efforts are successful. I wish to God that when we spent the taxpayers' money to arrest these people we didn't have to arrest them time after time again."

Does Chief Still feel that the black community is unfairly critical of the Portland Police Department? "The people I've talked with in Albina are not being overly critical of the Department. I've talked to some people who say the relationship between the community and the police is better than it's been in years. The best evidence is from a survey. Now this doesn't mean we don't have a lot of work to do. Whenever we get the money to hire more officers I would like to recruit more black officers. I feel good about it and I know we do a good honest job."

The lowering of the remand age is a hot topic now. What is the position of the department? "If it was lowered it would take care of those problem youngsters who were involved in one major crime after another. I don't believe in using the remand system the first time around. If Hillcrest is closed there will have to be some place for girls who are repeat offenders."

The reasons for Trina Hunter's death are circular but if some punk was trying to force my daughter on the street could I look to the police for assistance? "Absolutely. We work on cases like that a lot. The problem in a free society is we can't make people cooperate. Without the cooperation from the girl and her family we are in a corner. But if a mother came to us and said someone was trying to put her daughter out we would work on that case. We would rather arrest the pimp than the prostitute."

Portland Deltas host convention

Delta Sigma Theta, a public service sorority, was established at Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1913. Since that time it has grown into a tremendous organization of more than 100,000 members in over 690 chapters in the United States, including Alaska and in West Germany, the Bahamas, Liberia, St. Croix and Port Au Prince.

Participants from the Northwest will join the local chapter on Feb. 26 at the Red Lion at Jantzen beginning at 9:15. Chapters attending will come from Washington, Idaho, Alaska and Oregon.

The format for the day will be a workshop addressing issues of concern to all women—"Economic Development, a woman's key to survival." Featured speakers are John Thomas on "Introduction to the concept of investments," Tenora Grisby on "Tax shelters deferred and tax shelter programs," and Barbara Williams on "Lonership and




Bertha Pitts Campbell, one of the founders of Delta Sigma Theta, at the airport on one of her traveling jaunts.

Ownership (money management)." Attending the conference will be Bertha Pitts Campbell, a strong participating member of the Northwest Region. She has attended most of the national and regional conferences and also most of the Founders Day celebrations in the Northwest. She is a vivacious bit of energy who dispels all knowledge of her more than ninety years by continuing to live a full life, and participate in Delta, to which she is most dedicated.

YOUR DOG NEEDS VITAMINS, TOO.



Sergeant's



\$5.00
per cup

Call 284-3721
Ask for Bishop H.B. Daniels
If not there leave name and number.

- Lose weight without dieting
- Safe and effective
- Drink one cup after a meal
- For quick results use two teabags per cup
- Natural tea leaf
- No chemical additives

\$5.00
per cup

The polka dotted skimp—a playful new shaping that's taking over the junior scene. By Tickets in pink fleece with big dots, S to L, 32.00, other versions from 26.00 to 34.00, in The Works, all stores.

SPOTTED AROUND TOWN



meier frank
OREGON'S OWN STORE

UNION AVENUE
GLASS

SINCE 1949

Insurance Claims Invited

• AUTO GLASS	• STORM DOORS & WINDOWS
• STORE FRONTS	• SCREEN REPAIRS
• WINDOW GLASS	• MIRRORS
• PLATE GLASS	• PLEXIGLASS

OPEN SATURDAY 9-12

289-8887

6105 N.E. UNION AV.