

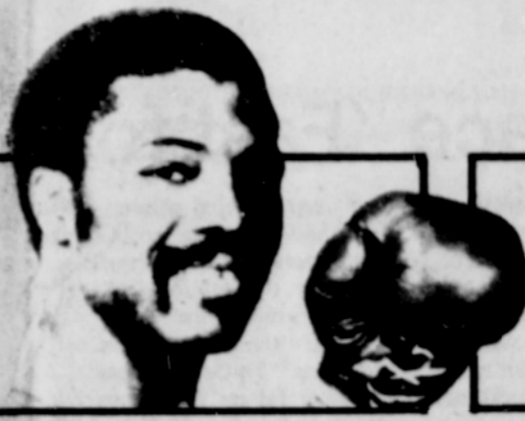


Jobs, Peace, Freedom report

Page 3

'The Hawk' stays tops

Page 8



School tips for parents

Page 7



THE NEW PORTLAND OBSERVER

Volume XIII, Number 46
August 31, 1983
25¢ Per Copy

USPS 959-680-855

© Exie Publishing Co., Inc. 1983



EARNING THAT LUNCH MONEY: Making the most of the last few days before school starts are Serray Brannon, 9; Lorell Robinson, 9; and Kandel Foxx, 11. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Whitaker Middle School now Portland's finest facility

The staff of Whitaker Middle School is looking forward to welcoming its students to their all-new school next Friday, September 8th.

The new school will be open to the community, parents and students on August 7th, 7:00-9:00 p.m. School will begin on August 8th, two days later than other schools in the Portland District. The Whitaker staff invites the public to attend the Open House and to become a part of the school community.

Whitaker, now housed in the Adams High School building on Northeast 42nd, will bring students from the Columbia and the Whitaker sections of the old Columbia-Whitaker Middle School and 6th, 7th and 8th graders from Boise Elementary School under the same roof. The school, with an expected 850 to 950 students, will be Portland's largest middle school.

Principal William Warren explained that the school will be new to everyone. Last year 6th graders attended Columbia and 7th and 8th graders attended Whitaker, both old, crowded buildings where 95 percent of the students arrived by bus. Now they will be in Portland's finest school building with spacious halls, courtyards and plenty of room to move around. The new school is in a neighborhood, so most students can walk to school. Boise students have attended a pre-kindergarten through 8th grade school and will be in a middle school setting for the first time.

Boise community students, who are attending Whitaker while the Boise and Eliot buildings are being renovated, will be an integral part of the student body, Warren said. They will be assigned to classes with the Whitaker students. Buses originating at Boise will pick up students from other attendance areas so they will be integrated when they arrive at the school. "They will not be called Boise buses; they will just be buses," Warren said, and "students will not be Boise Students."

Because it will take from 1 1/2 to two years to prepare the Eliot build-

ing for Tubman Middle School, this year's 7th and 8th graders will graduate from Whitaker. The 6th graders will have the option to transfer to Tubman for the 8th grade year.

Whitaker will have several unique qualities. Sixth graders will be housed separately on the lower level. These students will attend "self-contained classrooms." That is, each student will have his own classroom and teacher. They will be assigned to reading and math groups according to achievement level, so will have different teachers for these subjects. Students will have five class periods for core subjects and will attend physical education on alternate days. During the last period, students will spend one quarter in each of four subjects — shop, music, art and homemaking.

Seventh and eighth grade students will have a "reg room" teacher who will be responsible for the student for the two years. The staff is organized into teams and each student will have a team of five teachers — math, reading, language arts, science and health, and social science — for the two years. These students have P.E. on alternating days and can take elective classes, including foreign language, during their last period.

The purpose of this structure, Warren said, is to give continuity and to allow the transition from the structured elementary school to the individualized high school to come gradually. Many 6th graders are not ready for the usual middle school system of changing rooms and teachers every period. This system will provide 7th and 8th graders with a small group of adults with which to identify.

While putting 900-plus middle school students in a building designed for a free-wheeling open campus high school (there are at least 92 outside doors) causes concern to some parents, Warren is not worried. "The key to discipline is creating a human atmosphere so children will want to be here," he said. Most of the discipline prob-

lems at Whitaker last year occurred in the first few minutes after students arrived and were attributed to the fact that the halls and rooms were overcrowded, he said. Halls will be monitored; use of outside doors will be restricted; staff will be alert to outside problems. Whitaker will have a "closed campus" policy where students are not allowed to leave school unless accompanied by a parent.

Two of Columbia-Whitaker's successful programs will continue after the move. Project GROW was begun in 1966 to offer students an opportunity to learn about horticulture, business and small engines. "Students can relate math and reading to what they are doing in class: they use math, they keep logs, they learn how to fill out orders for supplies or small engine parts," Warren said.

WOLL (Whitaker Outdoor Living Lab) consists of classroom study and field trips in such diverse subjects as Canadian government, oceanography, and wildlife. Field trips include a week-long visit to Canada and shorter visits to the Oregon coast and Malheur Wildlife Refuge. The acreage, lakes and greenhouses used for these programs will remain available to the school.

U.S. Black astronaut finally orbits Earth

Lt. Colonel Guion S. "Guy" Bluford became the first Black launched into space by the United States when Challenger blasted off early Tuesday morning. The flight is the eighth in the shuttle program.

Bluford, one of four Blacks in the astronaut program, is a pilot with combat experience in Vietnam and a doctorate in space engineering.

Bluford grew up in Philadelphia. He earned a degree in aerospace engineering from Penn State in 1964 and joined the Air Force through

R.O.T.C. He served in Vietnam as a F-4C co-pilot. He flew 133 combat missions, 65 over Vietnam. He earned a Master of Science at the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1974 and a Ph.D. in aerospace technology in 1978.

He competed with 9,000 applicants, becoming one of 35 chosen for the astronaut program.

Bluford's mother was a teacher and his father a mechanical engineer. He has two brothers: the oldest is a Ph.D. computer program-

er and the other is earning his Ph.D. in English.

Bluford has primary responsibility for the launch of a communications satellite for India. He will also assist in an experiment on separating live pancreas cells.

Challenger is expected to remain in space for five days.

Bluford will not be the first Black man in space. Arnulfo Tamayo Mendez, a Cuban, flew a Soviet Salute mission in 1980.

PCC receives 'Small Business Incubator' project funding

Portland Community College has received its first major grant for capital construction on the small business incubator which will be built at the college's Cascade Campus in north Portland.

The grant, in the amount of \$150,000, is from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust of Vancouver, Washington.

"This is the first major outside funding we've received for the project," says PCC president Dr. John H. Anthony. "We're especially appreciative of the Murdock Trust for making funds available for such an innovative

project, and for their commitment to the needs of the north-northeast Portland area."

The incubator is designed to create new jobs in the inner north-northeast Portland area by fostering development of small businesses involved in light manufacturing and support industries.

The project is administered by the Cascade Business Center Corporation (CBCCC), a non-profit corporation comprised of members from private and public sectors including PCC, the Portland Development Commission, the Northeast Business Boosters, the Northeast Neigh-

borhood Coalition, and the Humboldt Neighborhood Association.

PCC has donated land to the project and is actively seeking additional funding for capital construction, according to Anthony. Approximate cost of the three-phase 56,000 square foot building will be \$2.3 million. Completion of the first phase is targeted for January, 1984.

The new building at Cascade will house classroom and laboratory facilities for high tech vocational programs, and will be used both by PCC and the fledgling small business which will be housed in the building.

Controversial book

A matter of fact?

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOTS NEWS, N.W. — The promotion in Portland last week of a seemingly innocent book on the history and achievements of Blacks in America has developed into a controversy over the historical accuracy of the book.

The book, "Black History and Achievements in America," is being promoted by its author, Karlton Stuart, as a "compendium overview of the struggle and triumph of Black Americans." However, during his presentation last Sunday at Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, Stuart was asked by members of the audience to explain the numerous incorrect names, incorrect defini-

tions and mistakes in dates and locations which were discovered in the book.

Without judging the book by its cover, *Grassroots News* went from Phoenix, to Philadelphia, and back to Portland, to find out what really occurred with "Black History and Achievements in America."

Stuart, an attorney by trade, said he spent three years traveling around the country researching his book. The promotional strategy used by Stuart was to get the 23 teams in the National Basketball Association to buy the book and give one-third to the regional O.I.C. and two-thirds to the school districts.

The Phoenix Suns were the first

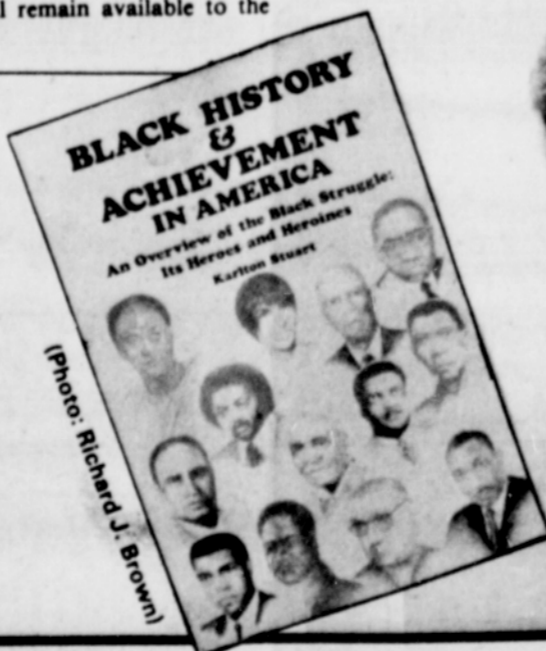
team contacted by Stuart. General Manager Jerry Colangelo stated, "After looking at the book and reading it, we felt the whole concept was good. And it led to an endorsement. I was not aware of any historical errors. We all feel that we know a little bit about history, but when you read a book about a specific history you just take it for granted that the facts are correct. We assumed that they were. This was the kind of community activity the Suns would be involved in."

"When I analyzed the purpose of the book and the reasons why the Suns got involved, I would still stand by our decision."

It is on the basis of this type of reasoning that the Portland Trailblazers endorsed the book. Wally Scales, Director of Promotions, said the book received endorsements from the Board of Governors of the NBA. "We do not feel the errors in the book outweighed the benefits from a book of this sort." Scales also said he believed the errors were typographical.

Rev. John Garlington, President of the Albina Ministerial Alliance, pointed out to Stuart that there were too many mistakes in the book to blame it on typographical errors. "The errors in here are above and beyond the call of duty. With regards to names, you cited Dr. John Hope and his name is Dr. John Hope Franklin."

Joyce Harris, Manager of the Talking Drum Bookstore and a consultant in Black History for the Portland School District, said she found more than the 24 mistakes Stuart conceded to when the mistakes were publicly brought out. She



(Photo: Richard J. Brown)



KARLTON STUART

(Please turn to page 12 col. 3)