

Portland pitstop for biker brothers

GRASSROOTS NEWS, N.W. — Portland became the pitstop for the High Plains Drifters, a motor bike club from L.A. which was befriended by Portlander Anthony "Sugar Bear" Spraglin.

The Drifters are comprised of four brothers, James Madison, Bob

Thomas, Joseph Jones and Tommy "Puff" Stamper. Their occupations for 11 months during the year range from realtor and plant worker to garage owner. However, in August they band together and travel up and down the Pacific coastline from California, Oregon, Washington and Canada. They ride in

what is known as a "reconstructed vehicle." According to Madison, the High Plain Drifters just added the "soulful touch."

Jones said their names came from, "Looking at the names of other clubs which were "The Chosen Few" and "The Wild

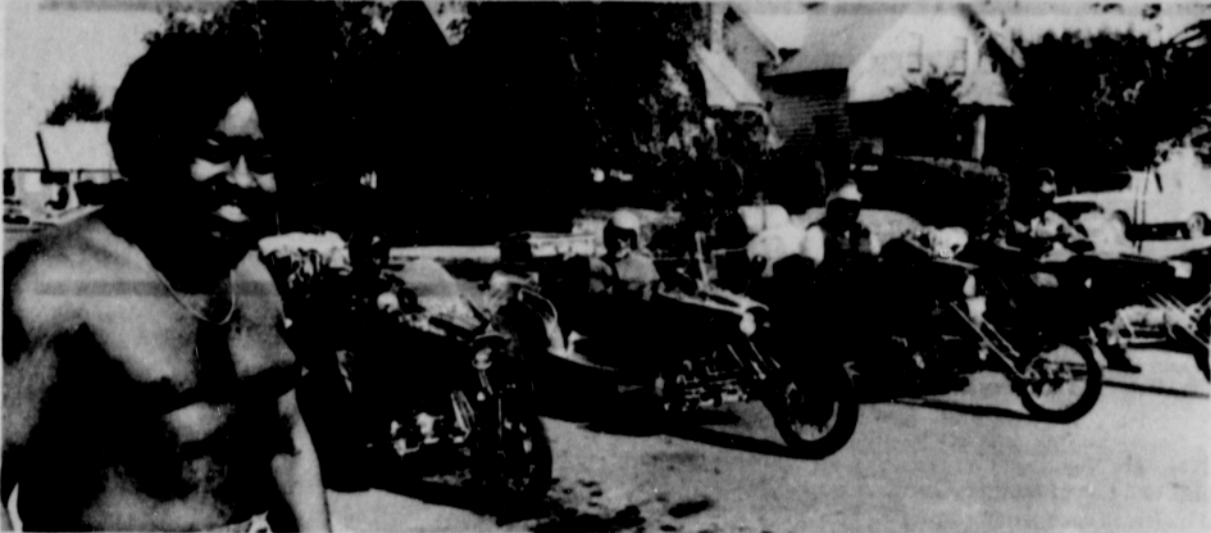
Ones." We wanted something different and one that would reflect the part of the country that we lived in."

From the cities that they toured, the High Plain Drifters rated Portland "Number One." Jones said the reason is the hospitality. "It is almost a little better than the Southern hospitality." They all couldn't find the right words to describe how it felt traveling all those thousands of miles across country. "All I know is that it feels good," Madison added.

"It relieves the tensions that build up from working all year. Instead of thinking about what you should have done — you just do it."

Sugar Bear found the High Plain Drifters at a motel and offered his home to them. "Well, I may be on the road one day and I may need a place to stay. I was always taught to do unto others as you do to yourself. So, now I have made four friends and the next time I go to L.A. I'm going to look the brothers up."

The final words the High Plain Drifters left as they road off into the sunset were, "Portland, hang in there."



Portlander Anthony "Sugar Bear" Spraglin poses with the High Plains Drifters. L-R: Tommy "Puff" Stamper, Joseph Jones, James Madison, Bob Thomas. On a Pacific Coast tour, the bikers rated Portland "Number One." (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Dick Gregory joins Fast for Life

Comedian and civil rights activist Dick Gregory is supporting the Fast for Life with a support fast on water only which will continue for the duration of the Fast for Life.

Dorothy Granada, 52, halted her fast after 39 days of taking only water, although her original goals have not been achieved. Weak and with failing vision, Granada explained her decision, "I did not feel called to give my life at this time. I did not believe it would strengthen the movement at present and I saw no advantage in risking permanent health damage." Her husband, Charles Gray, 58, is continuing his fast.

The eleven men and women from

six nations who had committed themselves to the open-ended Fast for Life until a significant step is taken to break the momentum of the arms race are now entering their second month without food. The three fasting centers in Paris, Bonn, and Oakland report that the fasters are physically weak and have all begun to experience blood volume loss and dehydration. Spokespersons for the Fast emphasize that the fasters remain in high spirits and are encouraged by the international support they have received from persons opposed to the escalating arms race.

Support fasts have been undertaken in more than 200 cities world-

wide, including cities in both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., and plans for civil disobedience were announced this week in at least eight locations, including Pershing missile sites in Germany and the U.S. Federal Building and Soviet Consulate in San Francisco.

An international letter-writing campaign has been launched this week to coincide with the end of the first month of the Fast for Life. The goal is to generate five million letters world-wide to heads of state and other leaders demanding immediate action to halt the arms race. Fast for Life supporters have also announced a day of No Business As Usual on September 14, the 40th day of the fast, calling for both total

and partial work stoppages and world-wide actions against the continuing build-up of first-strike nuclear weapons.

Bible brings death

(Continued from page 1 col. 6)

spirit of peasants made landless by the war, Hurley spoke of corn and beans being raised in the crater of a recently active and still steaming volcano. "The country is unbelievably fertile," he said.

There are "poor on both sides" in the fighting, said Hurley. When young men reach the age of 18, they are required to fulfill a mandatory two year military commitment. "All the young men are either dead, in the army, in exile or with the guerrillas," he said.

Fundamentalist protestant sects are gaining somewhat of a following, he said, because to be a member of one means that you are anti-communist, stridently obedient to the existing authority, and therefore "safe." The sects are financed with large amounts of U.S. capital, according to Hurley.

"One of the really amazing things about El Salvador is how close it is," said Hurley. But in the two hour flight from Houston to San Salvador, the visitor experiences a "terrible readjustment," he said. Hurley said he and his travel partners went through customs holding hands, and they whispered constantly during their seven days stay in a hotel only 200 yards from the U.S. Embassy. "The whole time was tense," he said.

NOTICE:

The Sojourner Truth Theatre will hold its premier showing for a one night performance on Sept. 29 at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. Nywusi Askari is director of the players. Curtain is at 8:00 p.m.

Johnson attends art workshop

Marvin L. Johnson, co-director of Herero Designs, visual and performing arts company, co-director of the Herero Danzers, local dance company, and co-founder of the Northwest African/American Arts Council, will participate in the workshop "Collecting Contemporary African American Culture" in Washington, D.C. Johnson is active in promoting African/American arts in the Northwest.

The workshop, the second in a program of two, will bring together staff of African/American museums, scholars, and museum specialists for intensive stimulating discussions and exploration on collection needs for participants and institutions.

NAACP meets

The regular monthly meetings of the Portland Branch NAACP will resume on the third Sundays at 4:00 p.m., beginning September 18 at the Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, 3138 N. Vancouver Avenue.

Reports from the recent NAACP Convention in New Orleans will be given by the delegates, according to the NAACP Branch President Hazel G. Hays. "This will be a landmark convention in NAACP annals and it is not insignificant that NAACP will enter upon its 75th year next February. NAACP is the 'long-distance runner' " Hays noted. "We owe it to the community to report on this significant convention and the public is invited and welcome to all our meetings" the president said.

King Facility holds opening

King Neighborhood Facility will hold a Grand Opening on Friday, September 16th, 2:30-5:30.

Speakers will be City Commissioner Charles Jordan and Margaret Strachan and Dr. Ernest Hartzog from the Portland School District.

The program will include tours, a magic show and entertainment by the Jazzmin Band.

A conference room will be christened the "Marie Smith Room." The public is urged to participate.

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Business Notes

Interest rates on new energy project loans have been reduced from 11.9 percent to 10.25 percent, according to a spokesman for the Oregon Department of Energy Small Scale Energy Loan Program (SELP). The lower interest rate is possible because of the low rate the program paid on its most recent bond issue. \$3.5 million is available to loan at the new rate.

Loans may be used for energy conservation or for renewable energy projects such as wind or solar energy, hydropower, and others. Preference is given to applications from individuals and small businesses.

Well, they're still at it...leading Democrats and Republicans alike are trying to push through a sales tax. Fortunately for the people of Oregon, Senate President Ed Fadeley is adamant in his opposition to the new regressive tax. So, too, is Rep. Wally Priestley of North Portland. Among the so-called liberals from Portland supporting the sales tax are Reps. Hardy Myers, Vera Katz, Barbara Roberts and Tom Mason.

For every \$1 billion of direct foreign investment by U.S. multinational corporations, 28,500 jobs are lost in the U.S. (Cited in Blue-stone and Harrison, *The De-Industrialization of America*, 1982). With the increased domination of banking over industrial capital, the process of capital flight out of this country, as well as out of the basic industries, promises to accelerate.

Contrary to the ballyhoo around 'economic recovery' the number of American auto workers reported to be on indefinite layoff rose to 208,650 the week of May 28, up 600, says *Words Automotive Reports*.

According to the *Washington Post*, President Reagan received \$91,619 in tax savings from his "Economic Recovery Tax Act" which was signed into law in 1981. This savings cut Reagan's taxes by above a third. The 1981 tax-cutting measure was billed as a tax cut for all taxpayers, but this information demonstrates who he had in mind. (Source: *Tax Talk*, 4/83).

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