

OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES

by Kathryn Hall Bogle

THE *Wall Street Journal's* Atlanta Bureau is soon to make gains at the expense of Oregon—in the view of the many fans of Linda Williams, the intrepid Black female reporter for *The Oregonian*, the largest newspaper in our state. Ms. Williams will be leaving her desk to begin her new assignment within the next two weeks in Mayor Andrew Young's city.



LINDA WILLIAMS

Living in the southern part of the United States will not be new for Linda Williams, as she was born and educated there with her degrees in Journalism won at the University of North Carolina in 1974.

At age 30, Ms. Williams, composed and elegant in style and carriage, has had steady and solid preparation for her new position, progressing, as she has, from her first job as a general reporter for the *News and Observer* or Raleigh, N. Carolina. She next covered education for the *Delta Democrat Times* where the famous Hodding Carter was her editor. Later, Williams received an Education Writer's grant, channeled through George Washington University, for her treatise on the topic, "How Schools are Financed in the South." This paper drew attention to her skill as a resourceful writer, and subsequently, she was urged to "go West" for a broader experience. She applied for an opening at *The Oregonian* in 1978 and received, as her first assignment, a spot reporting the news of state legislative activities in Salem.

At present, Williams covers the news at Portland's City Hall with her own particular dash and flavor. William Hilliard, *The Oregonian's* editor, had this to say of Williams' departure: "It never is easy to give

up a good staff writer even when she is joining the staff of a newspaper with the reputation of the *Wall Street Journal*. She has distinguished herself as a gifted writer with a sense of fairness and responsibility that should be an inspiration to all journalists. *The Oregonian* is a better newspaper because Linda was such a good member of our family," Hilliard concluded.

The *Wall Street Journal* has a national and international circulation reaching a million readers daily with news of politics, social trends and business interests. From the Atlanta Bureau Williams will travel through the South bringing news to the *Wall Street Journal* on business as it is currently found in the South.

"I will be expected to report the latest overview and close-ups of the development of business aspects of agriculture, textiles, tobacco, labor situations, and anything pertaining to business of the region," Ms. Williams said. "The trend to the South has opened more and more opportunities and numerous large corporations are continuing to choose that area for their national headquarters. They are following the lead of Coca-Cola, Delta Airlines, Georgia Pacific and others," she said.

Before terminating the interview, Williams summed up her feelings about her plans for departure saying, "I've enjoyed Oregon. I've enjoyed working at City Hall—it has been very interesting watching 'the process' at work. I've enjoyed Portland and the people here. Now it is time to move on and become a part of an exciting national news experience."

FLYING IS his business and yet he is no regular pilot. He is a Wing Deputy for Strategic Systems Test. Translated into civilian terms, it means that Isaac Sanders Payne IV, at 43, is a test pilot for the United States Air Force. His rank



ISAAC PAYNE

lists him as Lieutenant Colonel, USAF. Stationed at the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base in California's Mojave desert, Payne came back home to Portland recently for a visit with his family and the neighbors in Northeast Portland.

We learned that Lieutenant Colonel Payne is a Key Staff individual and in this capacity he is the commander's representative for overseeing all strategic systems tests assigned to the test wing. He "interprets and monitors the organization, the resource planning, common support and coordination among all strategic test efforts. This includes," Payne said, "the B-1, B-52 improvements, Air Launched Cruise Missiles, the Medium Range Air-to-Surface Missile, the HH-60D Combat Helicopter and the Common Strategic Rotary Launcher. I interface with other Air Force government and contractor agencies when wing-level emphasis is appropriate."

Growing up in Portland, young Isaac Payne, the son of Isaac Payne, the son of Isaac Payne III and the late Martha Payne, was Eagle Scout of Boy Scout of Boy Scout troop No. 92, and was graduated from Jefferson High School in 1957. "I've always felt," he said, "that my neighborhood was my extended family and they all encouraged me to maximize my opportunities. They expected me to do well, and I tried. I used to sell 300 Black newspapers a week—the *Chicago Defender* and the *Pittsburgh Courier* were very popular. Those sales helped with my college tuition.

"After two years at Portland State University, I was nominated by Edith Green for an appointment to the USAF academy in Colorado Springs and was graduated in 1963 in Engineering Science, which included mathematics, aeronautics and astronautics." A master's degree came in 1975 for Systems Management, Statistics and Operations (weaponry) Research from the Air Force Institute of Technology, he added.

THE ARTISTRY and musicianship of Mme. Selma Epstein brought an electrifying musical experience to nearly 300 Portlanders when the pianist was presented in concert Sunday afternoon at the Episcopal Church of St. Philip the Deacon. The concert, planned as a memorial tribute to the late Richard C. Moffett, pianist, composer, choirmaster at St. Philip Church, drew its audience from all sections of the city. Proceeds were scheduled for benefit of William Temple House, a diocesan outreach program center within the city.

Mme. Epstein, varying greatly from her printed program, educated

her audience by presenting a premiere performance of some unpublished works written by the prolific Moffett and by her presentations of the compositions of other lesser known Black composers. Among the latter was Phillipa Schuyler whose *White Nile Suite* was heard in Portland concert for the first time. Ondine Smith's *Before I'd Be A Slave*, a violent piece melting into tenderness, was also given a Portland premiere.



SELMA EPSTEIN

AN AMBITIOUS and generous trio of friends calling themselves "The Rose City Connection" put on a high-spirited benefit fashion show last Saturday evening at the Travelodge-Coliseum. Upwards of 225 people arrived early for cocktails and visiting before the main event and many stayed after the affair to try out the floor for dancing.

Rose City Connection, new in town, was formed to "facilitate fundraising activities for charitable organizations." Theresa Stoudamire, one of the organizers of RCC,

said the group wants to "tap into the resources of the North-Northeast Portland community to utilize those resources to promote community involvement in meeting common needs." Annette Petett and Barbara Taylor are the other two persons in the partnership venture.

Intrigued and charmed, the audience, which included many local musicians and classicists, was on its feet with applause for both composers and the stellar performing pianist more than once during the afternoon.

The proceeds of the affair are ticketed to benefit scholarship programs of Black colleges. June Key, representative for the Black College Committee, spoke in behalf of support of the country's Black colleges. Among graduates of Black colleges

present were Dorothy Alexander, Tia Dorsey and Pearl Grey.

THE NORTH Star Quilters will have a display of an Afro-American strip quilt and other handmade quilts in a free showing at Clackamas Town Center Shopping Mall on October 8th. The Saturday event, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., marks the group's fourth annual exhibit, according to June Brown, charter member of NSQ.

BETHEL A.M.E. Church will benefit from an autumn tea planned by the active Zodiac Gemini Group to be held on Sunday, October 9th, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Martha Abel is to be hostess at her home on N.E. 55th Street.




The Rose City Connection plus one: Annette Petett; Theresa Stoudamire; Anise Hall; Barbara Taylor.

Fashion Show & Dance

A Fashion Show and Dance will be held October 8th, featuring Le Troupe Extraordinaire models commentated by LaVerne Davis. There will be a "Special Guest" soloist and the Hamiltons will provide music.

The event will be held at the Royal Esquire Club, 17th and N.E. Alberta, at 8:00 p.m.



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