

OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES
BY Kathryn Hall Bogle



THE BIRTHDAY of Dr. Martin Luther King will not be a legal holiday until 1986, but observances of that day are rising in prolific numbers around the nation and locally as well.

Pearl Gray, affirmative action officer at Oregon State University, announces that President Robert Mac Vicar of OSU will be host to a Peace Breakfast in honor of Dr. King on Sunday, January 15th, in the Memorial Union, Room 109 on the Corvallis campus. Featured speaker is to be Commissioner A. Reginald Eaves of the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County in Atlanta. About 100 guests have been invited from around the state to attend the 8:30 a.m. affair. Peggy Jackson, of the Commission on Black Affairs of Oregon, acting as co-chair, will make a short talk as well.

At 2:00 p.m. on the same day, U.S. Congressman Ronald V. Dellums will deliver a major address in Austin auditorium on the campus. Representative Dellums, a former vice-chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, is well-known as an eloquent speaker. According to Gray, Dellums will reflect on the progress made under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. King and he will also address the unresolved issues in the continuing struggle for racial equality in this country.

The following evening, Monday, January 16th, a documentary film, *Fundi: The Story of Ella Baker*, will be shown at Austin auditorium. Baker will be remembered as the founder of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). The showing of the film will be followed by a discussion of *Fundi* and the Civil Rights movement with Commissioner Eaves as principal discussant.

IN PORTLAND, Dr. King's birthday celebration begins with a luncheon planned in his honor by members of "Blacks in Government" joined with members of the Federal Executive Board. Hundreds are expected at the Monday, January 16 event, scheduled at the Red Lion at Lloyd Center. James DePreist, famous conductor of the Oregon Symphony Orchestra, is to make the principal address. Herb



REP. RONALD DELLUMS
(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Cawthorne, peerless actor-orator and Portland School Board member, will draw "Memories of Dr. King" for the audience as a part of the after-lunch program. The Joyful Sounds gospel choir, under the direction of talented Margaret Carter, will add its music to the occasion.

AT PORTLAND State University, Ronee Walker, Chair of the Black Cultural Affairs Board, announces the Board's theme for their schedules of the month. They have chosen to shape their events around a *Celebration of Life, Culture and Achievements*. Their Third Annual Gospel Festival, set for January 28, will feature Vanessa Bell Armstrong, backed by Jo Ann Collins and two local choirs to be announced later.

The BCAB plans to cover other landmarks in Black history, to be highlighted in reviews continuing into February.

CLOSER AT hand, on Friday, January 13th, the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission will be honoring a living personality, Dr. Lee Brown, who returns to Portland from Houston, Texas to be the principal speaker for the

Human Relations Commission's annual awards event held at noon this year at Tuck Lung restaurant. The Commission, whose director is Linda Roberts, has also invited Robert Lamb, director of Region X of Seattle, a member group of Community Relations Service Commissions in the country functioning as a department of the U.S. Justice System. The division in the U.S. Department of Justice was mandated in 1962 to mediate and conciliate in community affairs involving race issues and conflicts between police and community.

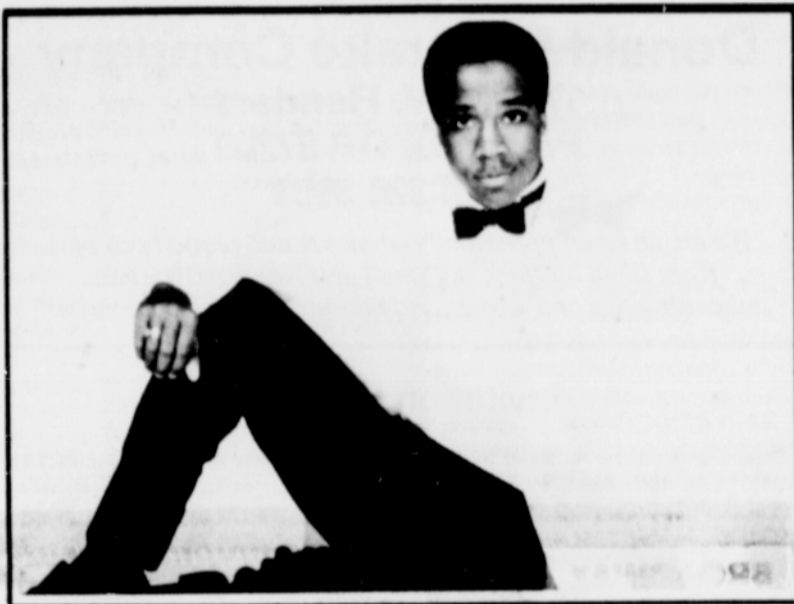
Multnomah County Commissioner Gladys McCoy and Dr. E.C. Ogbuobiri are serving as coordinators for the event, according to Roberts. They are inviting persons of District 18 to an evening affair, a reception beginning at 7:00 p.m. that evening at the Cascade campus of Portland Community College to meet Dr. Brown and Robert Lamb.

THE NORTHWEST Film Study Center presents *Gospel*, a film called "a rousing musical" and a "theatrical tribute to the leading exponents of good gospel singing" according to a summer issue of Variety. The show will be run at the Berg-Swann auditorium of the Portland Art Museum on Satur-

day, January 14th. The film runs 92 minutes, beginning at 7:00 p.m. and again at 9:00 p.m. Admission is \$3.00 with adjustments downwards for seniors and children. Starring singers are James Cleveland, Walter Hawkins and the Hawkins Family, the Mighty Clouds of Joy, and Shirley Caesar and the Clark Sisters. They are said to reveal the gospel roots of early Rock and Roll.

On Sunday, January 15, a film on Duke Ellington's tour of England in 1962 will be shown. Playing with this short film will be a feature-length documentary called *The Last of the Blue Devils*, a history of jazz in Kansas City, featuring Count Basie, Charlie Parker, and Joe Turner. The showing at Berg Swann auditorium at the Art Museum is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Admission prices are as above for *Gospel*.

TOWARDS the end of the month, nine Black artists of Members Gallery will be exhibiting paintings, drawings and metal sculpture at the North Killingsworth studios of Metal Sculpturist Al Goldsby. Carol Probasco, president of the group, has announced a reception to be held on Sunday afternoon of January 29, opening day of the exhibit.



CALVIN MASON

Portlander on *Diff'rent Strokes*

by Lanita Duke

Grassroot News, N.W.—While most Portlanders were hiding from the chill of Christmas, Calvin Mason had to leave his family early to run down to L.A. for a screen test.

Since 1979 Mason has been gathering an impressive list of credits in modeling, voice-overs and T.V. acting. Mason has come a long way from his roots at Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church. His big-time T.V. role is March 3rd on NBC's *Diff'rent Strokes*. His co-star will be Janet Jackson (Michael's sister).

Mason started dancing at a local club; his act later developed into a part in a local T.V. show called "We're On." He was a participant on *Dance Fever* and in 1981 Mason became Seattle's Model of the Year.

"I was the best and I wanted to win. I had a dynamic way of working the runway and it paid off."

Tom Higgins, director of Graham and Hignains Fashion Agency, said Mason was the first Black male to have won. "At one point in the competition Calvin got a standing ovation."

Mason said his winning was all a

matter of attitude.

He used his modeling experience as a springboard into local commercials. "I have that look they are looking for. It is an all-American look. I'm comfortable and non-threatening."

Mason attributes his success to his stable upbringing and the strength he receives from his religion. "My biggest foundation is the fact that I'm a Christian. Also, it's the state of mind Portland left me with. It is a very down-to-earth city. When I go to New York or L.A. I carry that with me and people notice that I'm different."

Mason has placed his dreams up to the sky and hopes for a co-starring role in a network television series. He has lots of experience and his credits show there is no limit to his talents. In 1983 he was the character Spence in the Gary Coleman cartoon series.

Portland will be looking forward to seeing one of their own on national T.V., and more likely than not, it will be Calvin Mason. His advice to those with the same aspirations as his: "If there is anything out there you want to do—do it!"



THE 1983 DEBUTANTES & CAVALIERS (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Les Femmes success

Blustery weather did not prevent the many friends of Les Femmes from attending the 32nd annual Debutante/Cavalier Ball held December 23, 1983 at the Red Lion Inn, Jantzen Beach.

Those in attendance applauded the seven debutantes who were stunning in white bouffant gowns and tiaras and the five cavaliers who were smashing in white tuxedos with white top hats and canes. The color scheme of blue and white was carried out by the escorts of the debutantes who wore blue cummerbunds, bow ties and carnations, and the young ladies who accompanied the cavaliers, all of whom were dressed in blue ball-gowns. All were presented under a beautiful gazebo which was flanked by red poinsettias and decorated firs.

Debutantes presented were: Terri Lynn Blume, daughter of Mrs. Nora Blume and the late Mr. Cole Blume; Sherrice Evette Golden, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Alvern Houston; Sharon Harmonia Hamilton, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Martin; Phyllis Renee Houston, daughter of Mrs. Naomi Houston and Mr. Phene Houston; Kimberly Anne Love, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Cleo Love; Michele Shawneen Love-On'gele, daughter of Annora On'gele; and

April Marie West, daughter of Mrs. Mamie West and the late Mr. Charlie West.

Cavaliers introduced were: Richard Chester Campbell, Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. Richard C. Campbell, Sr.; Andrew La Mart Childs, son of Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Childs; Curtis Ferdell Scott, son of Ms. Rachel M. Corbin and Mr. Samuel Scott; Timothy Lorin Watson, son of Mr. & Mrs. Lavern A. Watson and Marcus Christopher White, son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles R. White, Sr.

In keeping with the Les Femmes' tradition of utilizing former debutantes and cavaliers wherever possible, the 1983 debutantes and cavaliers were presented by Miss Maria Teresa Council, 1982 debutante, and Mr. Tom Wesley Black, 1982 cavalier. One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the Tressie Dixon Memorial Scholarship by Lynn Talton, 1979 debutante, to Terri Lynn Blume, who is a student at the University of Oregon and Marcus White, who attends Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. These scholarships presented by Les Femmes, are in addition to the educational scholarships given to each debutante and cavalier.

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The only male speaker at the first Women's Rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848, was Black abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

In the high noon of the Old West—the last half of the 1800s—one-third of all cowboys were Black or Hispanic.

Satchel Paige, who pitched for touring Negro teams and teams in Negro minor leagues for almost 30 years, once struck out Roger Hornsby, one of baseball's greatest hitters, five times in an exhibition game.

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