

MHRC faces budget axe

Human relations monitoring in the metropolitan area will be cut back if the proposed budgets of both Multnomah County and the City of Portland are approved, said Metropolitan Human Relations Commission director, Linda Roberts. A budget hearing to determine the County's contribution was held as the *Observer* went to press Thursday, and the City Council will review the matter Monday, at 2 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Aside from a small adjustment for cost-of-living raises, the County's contribution to the MHRC will remain at the same reduced level of last year. Roberts points out this is

\$16,000 less than was requested by the agency just to maintain the current level of services.

City Commissioner Margaret Strachan reportedly promised, earlier this year, she would fight to have the City make up any possible shortfalls by the County. The MHRC is supposed to receive equal funding from both the City and County, but the County lessened its contribution so much that even with extra City funding, two positions were cut last year. One position will have to be cut this year if the \$16,000 isn't forthcoming from either the County or the City, said Roberts.

Excellent women honored

Maudine Cooper, director of the Office of Human Rights, Washington, D.C., will be the guest speaker for the Women of Excellence Luncheon sponsored annually by the Portland Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Seven women will be honored for outstanding achievement in the fields of education, religion, professional achievement, community service, senior citizen, youth and humanitarian. Educational scholarships will be awarded to outstanding high school students to assist with higher education at a four year institution.

The luncheon will be held Saturday, May 19th, 12:30 p.m. at the Red Lion Motor Inn, Jantzen Beach.



MAUDINE COOPER

Church donates choir robes

Mt. Olivet Chancel Choir of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, wishes to donate used choir robes to a church which has this need.

The 30 or 35 robes are blue with reversible collars (blue/gold-

blue/white).

For more information, call Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Pastor, John H. Jackson, Between 1 and 4 p.m. 284-1954.

Town hall on spending

A town hall forum and panel discussion on the topic "Campaign Financing in Oregon: Does it Serve the Public Interest?" will be held in Portland, April 19th, 7:30 p.m., at the N.W. Service Center, 1819 N.W. Everett. The forum is sponsored by Oregon Common Cause and the League of Women Voters of Oregon.

Panelists will be: State Sen. Frank

Roberts; State Sen. Nancy Ryles; State Rep. Hardy Myers; Marko Haggard; and, Warren Deras. The panel moderator will be Stafford Hansell.

A brief presentation of "Facts and Figures about Campaign Financing in Oregon" will lead off the forum. The panel discussion and audience questions will follow.

Mother Jackson celebrates a joyous 94th year

Mother Eliza Jackson, the mother of Mrs. O.B. Williams and grandmother of Mrs. Bessie L. Green, celebrated her 94th birthday February 16, 1984. The evening was a lovely affair with a few friends. Mrs. Louise Whitney, Mother Francis Haley, Marlo Smith, Mrs. Bessie L. Green, Ms. Sandra Jackson, Mrs. Harriet Boyd and Mrs. Williams shared this pleasant evening. A lovely cake was made using the theme: "Not Forsaken in Old Age" (Psalms 71:18).

Mother Jackson, along with Rev. and Mrs. O.B. Williams and Mrs. Bessie Green, express gratitude and appreciation to all the kind people for their "Love shown to our



Hattie Jackson, Mother Jackson and Melvin B. Jackson

mother." Mother Jackson hails from Winnsboro, Louisiana and has lived in Portland with her daughter and son-in-law since December, 1978.



DON A. WRIGHT

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Young scholar pursues career in international relations

by Lanita Duke

Grassroot News, N.W.—Over 70,000 Black students attending 7,000 high schools across the country entered the 20th annual National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Students in 1984.

Courtney M. Graham of S.W. Dogwood and Don A. Wright of N. Mississippi were among the 207 winners of corporate sponsored four-year Achievement Scholarships.

The Achievement Program, conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, was established in 1964 to recognize academically promising Black students throughout the nation and encourage support for their higher education.

Winners were determined by the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, along with a short essay.

Ms. Graham was unavailable, but we were able to catch Mr. Wright in between packing. He was enroute to a four-week internship at a California law firm.

In his essay, Wright conveyed this message, "I see my life as an ongoing quest for knowledge. I will continue to learn far beyond my college years because of my natural curiosity. I want to develop the ability to understand and relate to all types of people."

Wright will receive \$3,000 a year tuition for four years at Stanford or Princeton. His major will be International Relations. "I feel they best

combine my talent and interests," he added.

He said the education he received at Catlin Gable was "fantasia. Most students are very motivated and bright." At Catlin Gable, Wright was a member of the Student Alliance for Nuclear Awareness. "One of my interests is promoting increased nuclear awareness. At a three-day nuclear awareness conference, for the first time in my life, I thought I would not live to achieve the goals I set for myself."

His nuclear awareness has not dampened his Afro-American consciousness. "I'm proud to be from the community. People need to understand the importance of education. There are a lot of opportunities with sports, but education is the key in today's world."

His primary education was made possible because his mother has commuted back and forth to Salem. Wanda Wright, Director of General Services for Multnomah County, said she re-directed the family's priorities to afford it.

She said she provided her son the environment to grow and his natural curiosity took over. "I never pressured or pushed. We just provided the environment for him to do his own thing."

Her son concluded our interview by saying, "I'm working for a better life than my parents, just as my parents worked for a better life than their parents. That is what it is all about. There are easy ways out there, but you can't be tempted. You have to set goals and go for them."

Toxic waste conference set

"Toxic Chemicals in the Workplace, Community, and the Environment—Our Right to Know" is the title of a conference to be held at the Templeton College Center on the Lewis and Clark College campus in Portland Friday evening, April 27th and Saturday, April 28th. The purpose of the conference is to educate individuals to the hazards of toxic chemicals that exist in the workplace and community, and to inform them on what can and is being done to solve this critical problem. The conference has come about as a result of a precedent-setting effort on the part of the Oregon AFL-CIO, Oregon Fair

Share, Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group (OSPIRG), Oregon Lung Association, and the Oregon Environmental Council aimed at dealing effectively with the dangers of toxic chemicals present in our places of work, the places we live, and the air that we breathe.

Registration forms must be mailed to the Oregon AFL-CIO, c/o "Our Right to Know", 1900 Hines St. S.E., Salem, Oregon 97303 by April 20, 1984. Forms are available by calling the Oregon AFL-CIO offices. The registration fee is \$15, \$7 for low-income, seniors, students, and unemployed.

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