

EDITORIAL/OPINION

Time to tighten U.S. belt

The United States is one of 140 countries sending a delegation to the second International Conference on Population now convening in Mexico City. Sponsored by the United Nations, the conference is a worthy attempt to tackle the threatening problem of over-population in Third World countries.

Instead of recognizing what too many mouths to feed means to desperately poor countries crowded with hungry people, the Reagan Administration has chosen to use the conference as a soapbox for its anti-abortion and free-enterprise views. There may be places where this would be appropriate, but certainly the conference in Mexico City is not one of them.

Vehement anti-abortion crusader James L. Buckley is leading the U.S. group. He and Reagan oppose abortion and oppose granting U.S. financial assistance to international organizations that use it as one family planning tool. In fact, Buckley is expected to announce this week that the U.S. will no longer contribute funds for any program that either advocates or

performs abortions.

The other part of Reagan's message to overpopulated Third World countries concerns removing controls on government and encouraging free enterprise among their people. This supposedly will release capital into struggling economies so that family planning will take care of itself. This is cynical and naive.

It is the U.S. that consumes the largest piece of the world's pie. We are the people who use more resources, consume more food and manufactured goods and non-renewable energy supplies than any nation on earth. We also have a relatively small population to do all that consuming—fewer than 10 people per square mile in some states versus hundreds per square mile in many Third World nations.

Instead of lecturing poor, overpopulated nations about abortion and free enterprise, we would contribute much more to the situation by being sensitive to other cultures and economic systems and by trimming our own slice of the world's ever-diminishing pie.

Rogers should honor promises

The summer of '84 will long be remembered as a summer of communication crisis. Portland Cable Access is steaming over the lack of follow through by Rogers Cablesystems who is waiting for a Federal Communication Commission loophole to slip out of paying PCA.

Again the community that needs access the most is the victim of circumstantial evidence as the time comes to build a studio on Union Ave. The cable company is crying "broke".

The community must pay for profit projections made before the recession hit Portland hard and these projections did not include

the residual effects of a depressed economy.

Rogers latest proposal to the City wants to change the rules in the middle of the game because their millions are slow in coming.

Rogers may be negotiating itself into the grave by ignoring the attributes of community T.V. Instead of trying to dilute their capital investment, Rogers should increase and keep their investment in community communications. It may mean the difference between operating in the black or making excuses for operating in the red.

Letters to the Editor

Keep KBOO soul

To the Editor:

Threatened with suspensions for voicing our concerns about future program proposals we feel would alter and remove existing Black programming, representatives of the Afro-American programming Advisory Board have met with KBOO's station manager, members of KBOO's Board of Directors and KBOO's program director to resolve issues concerning the future of Black programming at KBOO.

We are deeply disappointed and disturbed by the insensitivity of station representatives and were unable to reach agreement on major questions with regard to Black program cut-backs. We feel these questions are of the utmost importance to the Black community and, indeed, Portland as a whole.

Therefore, the Black programmers continue to urge your support and your presence at the August 13th Board of Directors meeting to voice opposition to Black program reductions and removal of programs of interest to the Black community. Specifically, a one-hour cut-back of George Page, J.W. Friday and the removal of Imam W.D. Muhammad Speaks.

The Black programmers have always maintained that the strength of community radio is the community itself, so it's going to be ultimately up to you—the subscribers, listeners and supporters of Black programmers—to help us keep what we have worked hard to achieve; dignity for ourselves and our community.

Attend the KBOO Board of Directors meeting, Monday, August 13th, at 6:30, 20 S.E. 8th, off Burnside. Telephone calls won't help! If you can't attend, please send a strong letter of support to KBOO, 20 S.E. 8th, Portland OR 97214.

Shaheed Haamid
Afro-American Programming
Advisory Board of KBOO

Williams OK

To the Editor:

For a profit, once again, our known enemies have lied, cheated and distorted the truth. Pornography is not ugly or dirty. Only the word itself is dirty, because society has given it such a connotation. I've been in the company of Sister Vanessa Williams several times; I consider her thoroughly respectable. In my opinion, both

pornography and prostitution should be legalized.

Erotic materials do not contribute to the development of character defects, nor operate as a significant factor in anti-social behavior or in crime and delinquency causation.

We should be more concerned about legalized murder. In our schools, homes and houses of worship, the young are taught that the taking of human life is wrong. Yet a glance at any newspaper tells us that killing is not frowned upon in our sick society, because killings are carried out by the state itself. I myself could never pull the switch. And since I could not, I consider it immoral for me to sit idly by and allow my representative—my employee—to do so for me. If the job of executioner were to rotate—like that of juror—from citizen to citizen, the death penalty would soon cease to be an issue.

We have got to teach our kids how to cope with this crisis. We are going to have to plan, think and work with the churches, together as a family, to correct this problem. Remember, he who prescribes the diameter of your knowledge, determines the circumference of your activity.

Dr. Jamil Cherovee

IF YOU POOR NATIONS WANT MORE LOANS, HERE'S WHAT WE WANT TO SEE—

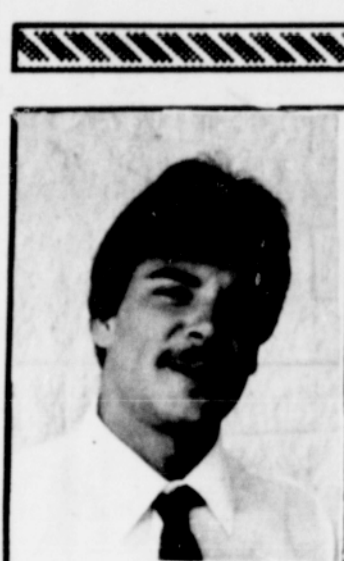
GREATER BALANCE OF TRADE EQUILIBRIUM, APPROPRIATE CURRENCY ADJUSTMENTS...



Street Beat

by Lanita Duke and Richard Brown

As America counts their gold medals from the Olympics, the Street Beat team asked, "Do you think America would be winning as many medals in the Olympics if the Eastern-Bloc countries and Cuba had decided to participated."



Tim Rob Clerk

"No, alot of the competition was excluded. We would have done well, but maybe not as well as we did."



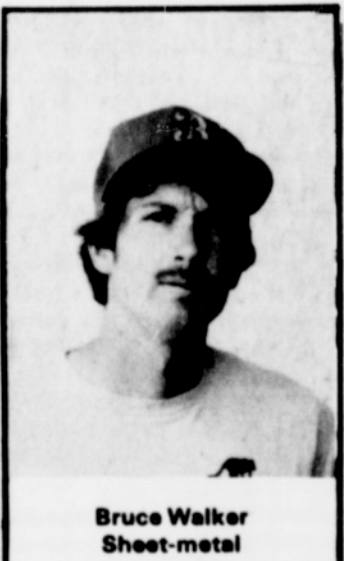
Sammy Bouldin Welder

"No, because other countries stayed out, it deprived the true meaning of the games. The other countries had premier athletes, too."



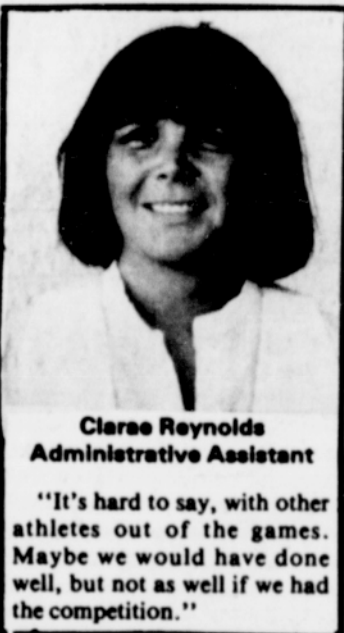
Henry Clay Retired

"No, they would have won, but not as many."



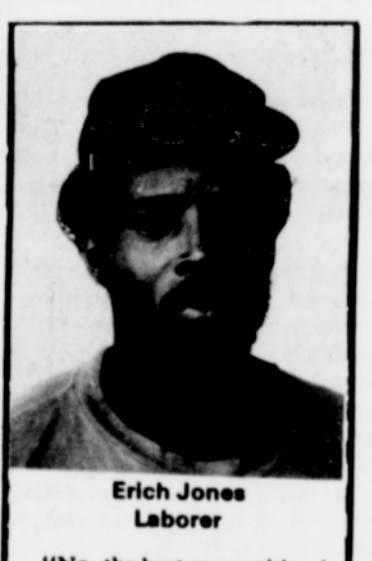
Bruce Walker Sheet-metal

"Yes, the Americans were ready. They trained hard."



Cleece Reynolds Administrative Assistant

"It's hard to say, with other athletes out of the games. Maybe we would have done well, but not as well if we had the competition."



Erich Jones Laborer

"No, the best competition is out. They would not have won in track and field or maybe even basketball."

Wow! The Observer survey:

MAIL TO Portland Observer P.O. Box 3137, Portland OR 97208

We at the Observer want to know how you feel about the paper. Please help us by filling out this survey. The information about you, our readers, will help us tailor our news and advertisements accordingly. Thank you.

ABOUT THE OBSERVER:

What do you particularly like reading in the Observer?

What would you like to see more of in the Observer?

ABOUT YOURSELF:

How did you obtain this copy of the Observer?

I subscribe picked it up at a distribution outlet.

How often do you read the Observer?

weekly every other week occasionally.

Do other members of your household read the Observer?
 Yes No If 'Yes', how many? _____

Are you married? Yes No

What is your sex? Female Male

What is your ethnic origin? Black White
 Hispanic Asian Native American Other

Are there children under 18 living with you?

No Yes If 'Yes', how many? _____

Do you own or rent your home? Own Rent

Are you registered to vote? Yes No

Are you a Democrat Republican Independent

What is your highest level of education?

grade school high school some college

college graduate school

What is your occupation?

What is your age group? 16-24 25-34 35-49
 50-64 65 & over

What is your approximate family income?

under \$10,000 \$10,000 to \$20,000

\$20,000 to \$30,000 \$30,000 to \$50,000

\$50,000 or more

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TO START THE PORTLAND OBSERVER COMING EVERY WEEK