



News flash:

Portland City Commissioner Charles Jordan has been offered a \$64,000-a-year job as the commissioner of the Austin, Texas parks system. Jordan will decide within 2 weeks whether to accept the position.

R & B winners play Portland

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Cable crisis

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Politics and the church

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Democratic Vice-presidential Candidate Geraldine Ferraro, waves to supporters in front of the Westin-Benson (above) and greets the crowd following her speech (right). Photos by Richard J. Brown.

Ferraro raps Reagan

by Catherine Siegner

A chanting and placard-waving crowd of about 1,500 people greeted Vice-presidential Candidate Geraldine Ferraro Tuesday evening as she arrived by motorcade at the downtown Portland Westin Benson Hotel.

Along with the majority of supporters, however, were several dozen members of anti-abortion groups who carried signs accusing Ferraro of being in favor of abortion.

The pro-life forces apparently surprised rally organizers by appearing early and bearing signs with ghastly pictures of aborted fetuses and wearing buttons such as "Women for Reagan" and "Mothers for Reagan-Bush." There was some scuffling between them and pro-Ferraro supporters as each group jockeyed for positions on the crowded street.

Two women bystanders objected to the pro-life display of graphic posters. "I'm very pro-choice," said Linda B. Davis, a Ferraro supporter and secretary of the Democratic party of Oregon. "It should always be a personal choice."

Her companion agreed. "I'm a registered Republican and a Republican precinct committee woman, and I'm opposed to their dramatizing their views this way," said Maureen Jackson of Portland. "It's unfair to lump her (Ferraro) in with pro-abortion people just because she's pro-choice."

The crowd was mostly mellow but grew increasingly restive as the wait for Ferraro stretched to more than an hour. Supporters wearing Mondale/Ferraro buttons and waving signs reading "Geraldine, Not Jellybeans," "A Woman is the Ticket," and "Vancouver, Washington Votes Ferraro" took up the chant "Gerry, Gerry" as her motorcade was sighted. Finally, she emerged from a hotel side door and mounted a platform to speak.

"They were right when they said, 'Go West, young woman, go West!'" Ferraro shouted. "We'll come here often and come here to

win!"

Ferraro touched on Ronald Reagan's controversial remark about the Soviet Union made during a radio voice test recently, saying, "No president has thought nuclear war was a joke until this president. Walter Mondale and I don't think it's a joke. It's time to stop the exchange of insults and start the exchange of serious proposals for arms control... We want a government that looks ahead, not back."

After her brief remarks, Ferraro walked along the sidewalk shaking hands with supporters until moving inside the hotel for a meeting with local Democrats who had helped organize the hastily put together rally.

Ferraro was scheduled to leave Wednesday afternoon after a brief public appearance that morning. Local Democrats were miffed somewhat that no additional public rallies could be planned due to the vice presidential candidate's limited stop in Oregon. But a private dinner reception and luncheon with well-heeled supporters was included in her schedule.

Ferraro will visit Seattle later this week before returning home to Queens, New York.



National Urban League targets improvement

NEW YORK, AUGUST 15—The National Urban League climaxed its 74th Annual conference in Cleveland, Ohio by announcing a Ninety Day Countdown Voter Education Project. League President John E. Jacob said, "There is no excuse for not voting in 1984."

The League plan calls for community mobilization to increase the

percentage of Black voters from 50% of 1980 to a projected 60% in 1984. Such an increase would result in 1.2 million more Black voters at the polls. The League's 113 affiliates in 34 states and the District of Columbia will assist in this push for more Black voters.

The League's initial step toward community mobilization was its release of the Voter Education Handbook, *Children of the 60's*. The handbook outlines demonstrated, successful techniques for registering young (18-24 year old) voters.

Sunday, July 29th, Jacob opened the conference with his Keynote Address and set the tone for the days that followed. He emphasized the difference the Black vote could make in 1984 and said, "The most self-defeating, suicidal thing any Black person can do in 1984 is not to vote."

The Annual Conference attracted some 12,000 people to Cleveland. Many of the conference goers attended several forums and heard

speakers who addressed issues based on the conference theme: Equity, Excellence, Empowerment.

The not-for-profit organization was also addressed by Democratic Presidential Candidate Walter Mondale, Vice-presidential Candidate Geraldine Ferraro and Republican Congressman Jack Kemp.

In their addresses to the League, Mondale and Ferraro attacked the Reagan Administration calling it "insensitive" to the needs of the poor and to minorities. Mondale lashed out at the Administration's insensitivity but maintained his "track record" in civil rights is a good one.

Mondale humorously added that a speech given earlier by former League President Vernon Jordan was "the best one" he had heard come out of the conference. Jordan supported the Mondale-Ferraro ticket in his speech and urged others to do likewise. Jordan said Mondale won the nomination without the Black

vote but that he could not win the election without the Black vote.

"Reagan must go in 1984," Jordan said.

In his address, Rev. Jesse Jackson attacked the President's trillion dollar defense budget and said that he would move to fully support the Mondale-Ferraro ticket once, in his words, "their direction is clear." Jackson said the Black voter cannot be overlooked by the Democratic party.

In his closing remarks, League President John Jacob agreed with stokes, saying, Jackson "blazed a trail for Black candidates to follow" in the years to come. He added that a concrete result of Jackson's campaign was to put a woman in the vice-presidential slot.

ACLU challenges #8

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon and the National Lawyers Guild, representing three Oregon voters, petitioned the Oregon Supreme Court Wednesday to order the Secretary of State not to place Ballot Measure No. 8 on the November ballot.

The petition asks the Court to declare that the measure violates a section of the Oregon Constitution which reads: "A proposed law or amendment to the Constitution shall embrace one subject only and matters properly connected therewith."

The measure, captioned "REVISES NUMEROUS CRIMINAL LAWS CONCERNING POLICE POWERS, TRIALS, EVIDENCE, SENTENCING," has twenty-three sections. The Supreme Court, after a successful challenge to the ballot title prepared by the Attorney General, said "The proposed statutory

changes are many and diverse. They encompass the following general areas: victims' compensation and participation in the criminal justice system, charging of crimes, trial procedure, sentencing and parole and repeal of statutes regulating stops, frisks and the suppression of evidence unlawfully obtained." It then rewrote the ballot title so that the voter is warned in the explanation (limited by law to 75 words): "NOTICE: THIS DESCRIPTION DOES NOT IDENTIFY ALL CHANGES PROPOSED TO CRIMINAL STATUTES."

The voters petitioning the court state that they support some portions of the measure and oppose others and face confusion and uncertainty as to how to vote on the measure.

The ACLU and Lawyers Guild argue that this is precisely the evil that the single-subject provision was intended to prevent.

"Also, there is a corresponding reduction in workshop, training, availability of equipment, studio space and time. In essence, fewer people will be trained on how to produce their own T.V., and fewer programs will be produced," she added.

Currently, PCA is aired on channels 3, 5, 7 and 11. Jacky said Rogers may claim two if a reduction in franchise fees is approved by the City.

Another issue is the \$100,000 Rogers has deposited in escrow. In a letter to the Cable Regulatory Commission's PCA attorney, David Maier, said that money was earmarked for PCA. "It is a breach of contract of an explicit franchise provision."

Jacky said Rogers was speculating on a Miami, Florida ruling by the Federal Communication Commission that may not require cable companies to involuntarily pay anything over a 5 percent franchise fee.

Rogers is the victim of an over-enthusiastic profit projection. Officials said they are expecting a \$3.2 million cash short fall.

On Friday, August 3rd, PCA programmers held an electronic information picket line where they chanted, "Escrow. No!" and "Rogers keep your promise."

Without PCA, you and I have no choice," one programmer stated. "We call into question Roger's good faith in negotiating their contract with us," another added.

Jacky said PCA noted a reluctance, 18 months ago, in Rogers to fulfil their contractual obligation and a new contract with Rogers was signed January, 1984, with concessions on the part of PCA.

"We would provide the studios and extend their payment schedule. We would absorb equipment and replacement costs."

"There is a very clear indication that Rogers intends to withdraw whatever support they can from community T.V."



Vernon Jordan
(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Demos counting on gender gap

by Catherine Siegner

The Democratic National Committee and the Democratic party are depending on the women's vote to move their candidates into the White House this fall and intend to target the West Coast states as one way of meeting this goal.

DNC spokeswoman brought that message to Portland Saturday at a press conference prior to a day-long "Gender Gap Regional Conference" at the Westin Benson Hotel.

Ann Lewis, political director of the DNC; Eleanor Smeal, former president of the National Organization for Women; Caroline Wilkins, chair of the "Women's Vote '84" Task Force of the Oregon Democratic party, and Elizabeth Burke Bryant, director of the

DNC's Women's Vote '84, were present to outline the party's strategy and the figures that support the "Gender Gap" theory.

"Two out of three adults in poverty are women," said Wilkins. "What if we were all to go to the polls?" She showed charts that indicated 54% of the total American electorate is comprised of women and six million more women than men are expected to go to the polls November 6th. This Gender Gap is made up of an expected ten points among that 54%, in favor of the Democratic presidential slate.

"Washington and Oregon are very important 'battleground states' that the Democratic party could carry," explained Lewis. "The Gender Gap is not some quirk

or dip in the data. There is a new dynamic in politics. The fact that the vice-presidential candidate is coming (to Oregon) shows the extent of resources that are going to be made available in this state."

Asked how the Democratic party plans to address the issues and constituencies represented by Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition, Lewis said Ernie Green of Jackson's presidential campaign staff has joined the Mondale campaign and if "we didn't include these constituencies, we wouldn't deserve to win."

Lewis said coalition building will be the cornerstone of the Mondale/Ferraro campaign and that additional Blacks and Hispanics will be brought into the effort "over the next few weeks."