

# METROPOLITAN

## Kuhn attacks the Reagan cuts

by Robert Lothian

Those who attended the Gray Panther conference at Cascade Campus Saturday were treated to a refreshing antidote to the gloom and doom predictions of four more years of Reagan.

The antidote came in the spry and energetic form of the Gray Panthers' rabble rousing founder, Maggie Kuhn, still socking it to the Reagans of the world at age 79.

Kuhn spoke to a packed Cascade Hall with plenty of media in attendance on "Issues That Will Shape Our Future." There were a lot of gray-haired supporters of the Senior Rights group in the audience, but the ideas and energy bridged the years.

"I see, and I think you see, a great deal of frustration, some of us feel almost immobilized," said Kuhn, describing the crisis in America which she said was brought about by Reagan.

In a midwest steel town she visited recently, for instance, said Kuhn, all the jobs had dried up and the people had lost hope. It was a tragic situation, she said.

Also, she said, a widening gap between rich and poor, Reagan's social service cuts which victimize seniors and the poor, militarization of the U.S., and a "worldwide swing to the right" add to the depressing scenario, she said.

"It's terrible but there's also hope," she told the audience. "We do live in a time of great change... but I think the turbulence creates in each of us a new kind of activism."

If Reagan is reelected, she said,



(L-R) Maggie Kuhn; Meredith Woods Smith of Portland Nuclear Freeze Coalition and Moderator; Bob Van Hout - United Seniors of Oregon; Diane Hess - Central American Solidarity Committee; Erich Stachon - OSPIRG; Lloyd Marbet - Forelows on Board.

"You and I and our elected representatives have to be ready to form an opposition immediately to the cuts Reagan will make."

Retirees can play a special role in the new activism, said Kuhn. "That group of retirees has nothing to lose—they can be outrageous every day" in confronting policies antagonistic to human needs," she said.

When someone in the audience commented that four out of five retirees voted for Reagan, Kuhn responded, "I can't imagine why they did."

Kuhn's morning talk was followed by a panel discussion with activists

from the groups that sponsored her appearance in Portland.

Bob Van Hout of United Seniors of Oregon spoke of what he sees as the dangers of property tax limitation Ballot Measure No. 2. The measure will benefit the well-off but could cause cuts in state social services and "seniors will be the victims," he said. He predicts the measure will cause a \$500,000 school deficit and wipe out the homeowners and renters relief program (HARRP) if passed.

Erich Stachon from the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group said the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) measure on the ballot, sponsored by OSPIRG, will give utility ratepayers a watchdog group to fight rate increases and other utility company abuses.

"We need qualified people to represent us," he said. But the utilities apparently disagree that CUB is a good idea, he said, and three citizens' groups" led by utility company em-

ployees have formed to fight it. One group has already spent \$500,000, "all utility money," he said, compared to CUB's \$8,000.

Anti-nuclear activist Lloyd Marbet of Forelows on Board spoke in support of Ballot Measure No. 9, aimed at protecting people and the environment from the nuclear waste of companies like Teledyne Wa Chang in Albany. Teledyne's careless disposal of nuclear waste near the Willamette River amounts to "premeditated murder and biological experimentation" and a substitution of corporate profits for human values, he said. "I think the time has come to put an end to this kind of operation in our state," said Marbet.

Diane Hess of the Portland Central America Solidarity Committee said Reagan's military build-up for adventures in Central America and elsewhere has led to a situation where 50% of the national budget is now devoted to the military. That amounts about \$848 for each Oregonian, she said, as social services are cut and those on the lower end of the economic scale sink lower.

In Central America, she said, Reagan is using "brutal military repression as a solution to centuries-old problems of poverty and underdevelopment."

Over \$70 million has been spent supporting the contras in their war against Nicaragua, for instance, she said, financing attacks on schools, clinics, teachers and doctors. She letters to Congress asking for and end to U.S. military involvement in Central America.

Kuhn thanked the panelists for outlining a plan for positive change. "Our issues are global issues, not Gray Panther issues," she said. "We are concerned about ourselves, and the survival of the world. I think it is terribly important that we take the wholistic approach. That is the contribution we can make to a divided society."

## Teachers learn concepts of Afro-American studies

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W.—On October 23 and 30, students in nine schools within the Jefferson High School cluster will be released early because their teachers will attend classes to learn concepts and applications of incorporating African-American curriculum materials into language, math, science, social studies, music and art.

This comprehensive staff training session is unique because information is based on data, experience and resources from local and national consultants from all areas of education. These experts have developed systematic modules that will equip teachers with resources and skills to routinely incorporate Afro-American curriculum into their lesson plans.

The local and national consultants are: Joyce Harris — language arts and curriculum development; Kamau Anderson and McKinley Burt — math and science; Jasper Ormond — testing and evaluation; and district staff person, Dr. Darrell Millner — social studies. The national consultants are: Beatrice Lumpkins—math; Dr. Hunter Adams—science; Clyde Taylor—literature; Ivan Van Sertima—history; and Michael Harris—art.

Targeted schools for Fall 1984 are Jefferson High School, Tubman Middle School, Woodlawn, Humboldt, Vernon, King, Faubian, Peninsula and Boise/Eliot.

Joyce Harris, language arts consultant, predicted an increase in class-

room participation. She explains a revised curriculum will reflect cultural and scientific contributions to civilization, along with higher test scores. "Self-concepts and achievement are interrelated. Children who feel good about themselves will do better in school."

She further stated that baseline essays, a 30-page document, will provide teachers with a minimum amount of information and teaching strategies needed to incorporate data into everyday curriculum.

"The information I will present places Egyptian literature in the same vein as Western culture looks at Greek and Roman literature. It will establish Egypt as an important part of Africa because many of her accomplishments were the results of what happened in other parts of Africa."

McKinley Burt, one of the math and science consultants, said he will establish the African origin of math and science.

Dr. Asa Hilliard, chief desegregation consultant for Portland Public Schools, said "If the content of the whole curriculum is truthful, accurate and reflective of the multicultural character of human experience, then every child who studies such a curriculum will feel respected as they see his or her own group in the mainstream of human activity."

Harris said, "The training will destroy inferior stereotyping and prove that Black people did not happen as the results of being slaves."

## USN Admiral to speak at school

Admiral Eugene Carroll, USN (Ret.), noted authority on how nuclear weapons have made war obsolete, will speak on "Beyond War: A Military Perspective," October 24, 8 p.m. at Catlin Gabel School, 8825 SW Barnes Road. He will discuss the immediate and long range steps in building a world beyond war. Admiral Carroll speaks especially to those who remain unconvinced about the immediate dangers of a nuclear holocaust or question that they can personally do anything about this problem. In his 37 years as a naval officer, Admiral Carroll was a carrier task force commander, a senior NATO staff officer under General Alexander Haig, and a Pentagon strategist planning for both conventional and nuclear warfare. Admiral Carroll is currently working with a prestigious group of retired military officers who conduct research and lecture on security matters throughout the world.

Admiral Carroll's presentation is sponsored by the Beyond War movement. Admission is \$3.00. Call the Beyond War office for tickets, 246-3604.

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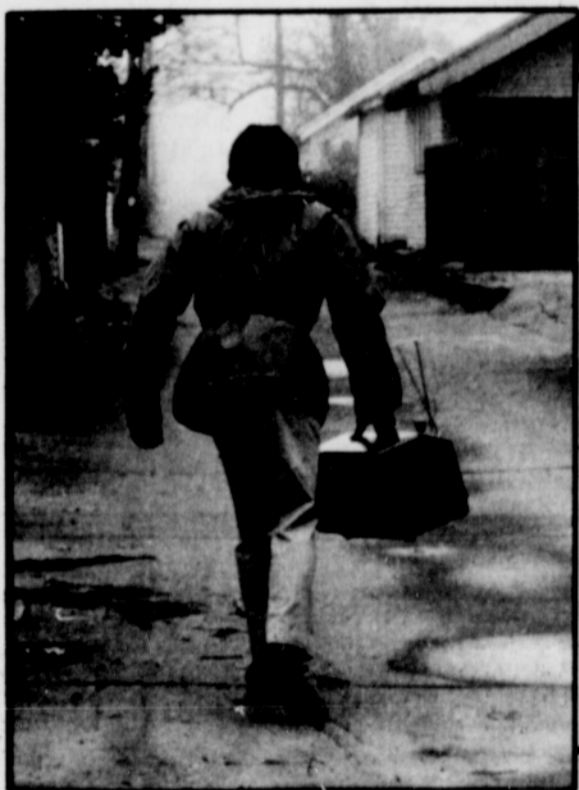
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