

OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES
BY Kathryn Hall Bogle

"EXCELLENCE: THE Spirit that is Spelman" came to Portland last week to interest high school students in Portland in attending Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Spelman was among six colleges represented at the Fifth Annual Black Colleges Conferences held at the Jantzen Beach Red Lion Inn. The conference, headed by the Black Colleges Committee, drew about 400 interested students and parents to the intense one-day recruitment sessions. Pearl Spears Gray is founder and chair of the committee.

Patricia Johnson, a Spelman graduate of 1973, in Portland as the alumna recruiter for Spelman, reported at a private session arranged for Spelman, that all eight Portland girls recruited last year are doing well and are happy at the noted college for Black women.

"Spelman provides an atmosphere supportive of women," Johnson said. "Women at Spelman interact daily with male and female students from three other colleges and two graduate institutions. These six, all together, form the largest consortium of Black Higher Education in the world — The Atlanta University Center. Two-thirds of Spelman's faculty have Ph.D. degrees. Students in Business Administration can major in Economics; women who want to be engineers may earn a degree through a 'Dual Degree Program'; computer science, chemistry, political science classes are all available, and there are Health Careers programs designed for students who seek medical or other health careers."

Lydia Roy and Rochelle McElroy of the Portland Chapter of the Links, Inc., were at the shoulder of Patricia Johnson at the conference. The two women searched out candidates for enrollment at Spelman or other Black colleges. Among those who attended the special Spelman recruiting session were Cynthia Richmond, a Jefferson student interested in becoming a pediatrician; Camille Greenridge, a 15-year-old junior at Grant High



Portland high school students seek college entrance information from Spelman recruiter, Patricia Johnson. (L-R back row) Cynthia Richmond, Camille Greenridge, Patricia Johnson, Charmayne Stone, Beverly Anderson. (Front row) Joe Alexander, Erick Harper.

(Photo: Kathryn Hall Bogle)

School, attended the session. Greenridge, who recently transferred from a Seattle school, wants to be a bio-engineer; Beverly Anderson of Lincoln High School is interested in public administration; Charmagne Stone, a student at Reynolds High School, is not sure yet what her career is to be. Joe Alexander, a Grant High sophomore, wanted early information on which high school classes will be most helpful toward a medical career. Erick Harper, 16-year-old Lincoln High student, wanted similar guidance to pursue a career in engineering. All received educated and helpful answers from Recruiter Johnson of Spelman.

ACCORDING TO A RECENT article in the Oakland Post, the 1984-85 Oakland Unified School District "Teacher of the Year" is Aloysia Rochon, headteacher at John Swett Elementary School. Recent news from Suzie Patterson, Portland aunt of the award winning Oakland teacher, expands information noting that Alameda County has also selected Rochon as "County Teacher of the Year." Excitement rises as Rochon friends and relatives realize that the Coun-

ty designation honoring Rochon puts her in line with district nominees from across the state for selection from across the state for selection for the California state nomination.

Rochon has a total of 18 years teaching experience, Patterson noted, after receiving degrees from California State San Francisco and a Master's degree in Elementary Education and Curriculum Development from the University of San Francisco. Rochon coordinated "After School" an educational TV program which served to inform the community about local and national happenings in education. She directed films made by her students which were recognized for outstanding composition in local, state and national competitions.

Rochon's sister, Jonilita Rochon White, a principal in an elementary school in Berkeley, has recently taken leave to complete her work toward a doctoral degree in education. These recent honors add to the great number of such honors won by the many outstanding educators in this family of unusual excellence.

IN A LIGHTER MOOD, THE Oregon and Washington Football Club met for the fortieth time in as many years to celebrate the time-honored rivalry of their favorite football teams. The 29 members of Portland supporters went by car and train to visit the 29 members of the Washington team supporters. Fellowship was the name of their game. Freddie Bowmar, prexy of the Washingtonians, arranged a big dinner in the Seattle home of the Percy McVay family on Friday evening. Chinese cuisine was the fare. Saturday, the game took the day, but the evening was spent at the Randolph-Carter Center where the sixty people enjoyed cocktails, pokeena and a grand dinner dance. A Sunday morning champagne brunch at a senior citizen center fortified the Portlanders for their trip home. Clarine Smith, president of the Oregon contingent, invited the Seattleites for the 1985 football festivities.

NEWSPREK ADVISES friends that popular dentist Dr. Booker T. Lewis and Dorothy Spencer tied the matrimonial knot and are honeymooning somewhere on the eatrn seaboard. Dr. Lewis will also complete a business appointment while away.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED by Pam Glaster to attend an evening of poetry reading at Gingerbread Book House on Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m. Honored guest is to be children's books author Beth Wilson, in the city for a brief visit from her home in Berkeley. Poets will be locally published poets Nathaniel Scott, Lois Lewis and Pam Glaster. Gingerbread Book House is at 3117 N.E. Union Avenue. It's free.

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ART BYRD

PCC names new student director

Art Byrd has been named the new director of Student/Campus Services for Portland Community College Cascade Campus, according to Executive Dean James Van Dyke. Byrd replaces William Blake who is retiring from the college.

Byrd comes to Portland from Everett Community College where he has served as a financial aid counselor, high school-college relations coordinator of the Community Involvement Program. Most recently he was director of Multi-Cultural Services and Career Placement.

Byrd indicated he would work to increase and improve the services offered and after two weeks on the job started by extending counseling hours so that evening students could take advantage of that service. The campus previously offered counseling services one evening a week, but Byrd has changed that to four nights a week.

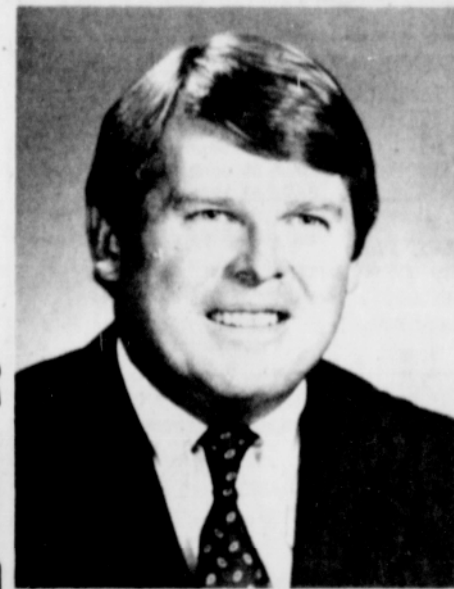
"We'll have a counselor in the foyer of the Student Union until 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday," Byrd said. "I think the visibility and availability are the most important in this effort so I'm moving the counselor out of the counseling area in the basement of the Student Union."

Byrd is anxious to get out into the community. "I believe it is important to live in the community. I found a house about a half mile from the campus," Byrd commented.

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