

North/Inner Northeast/Portland Public Schools Sponser

Youth Summer Camp by Jerry Garner

The North/Inner Northeast YMCA and the Portland Public Schools will sponsor a new Summer Schools Out program for the North Portland and Inner Northeast Portland neighborhoods.

The plan was announced Monday during a press conference at Humboldt School. Under the agreement, the Portland Public Schools will let the Humboldt and Chief Joseph Schools be used as a summer camp by the North/Inner Northeast YMCA. The camps will begin June 16 through August 22, from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Superintendent Prophet said that the Portland Public Schools were proud to be a part of the summer camp program with the YMCA. "There is a serious need for young people in the community to have a place to go during the summer months, as well as during the school year."

"The Summer Schools Out is not simply a day care program; it is a total wellness program for children involving recreation stimulation through experts in multi-fields of endeavors, field trips, and inter-personal relationships. This program will provide a direction,



Humboldt students (l-r) Tony Melson, Fred Pearce, Julia Williams and Thiesha Black tell of the experiences at the YMCA Day Camp during a press conference at Humboldt School Monday.

Photo by Richard J. Brown

in a safe environment," said Fred Miller, Executive Director of the North/

Inner Northeast YMCA. Miller said the joint venture with

Humboldt and Chief Joseph schools and the YMCA will provide needed quality child care for families.

The program was created after the YMCA conducted a survey 3 years ago and determined that during the summer months, many grade school children were left alone while their parents worked. The program is designed to correct this problem, and creates programs that deal with the total aspect of the youth in the community, enhance the youth, and have a positive impact on their families development for years to come.

Mary MacDougall, principal of Chief Joseph, said that she is thrilled that her school is participating in the summer camp program. "We at Chief Joseph are thrilled to be a part of the summer camp program." "Knowing that kids will be receiving a quality summer experience."

The program was also endorsed by the Rev. John Jackson of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church. Jackson said he hopes that the program will spread and that the entire community gets involved. "Using the schools to benefit the entire community is a great idea."

Peace Activist Says Rose Fleet Poses Threat

by Bob Lothian

The Rose Festival Fleet that visited Portland last week could have been carrying nuclear weapons, posing the threat of an accident in downtown Portland, according to the head of a local peace group.

Chuck Bell, director of the Oregon Fellowship of Reconciliation, said eight of the U.S. Navy ships that were part of the fleet are "nuclear capable." They were probably carrying nuclear rockets and depth bombs, he said.

The Navy will neither confirm nor deny the presence of nuclear weapons on its ships. But retired Rear Admiral Gene LaRocque of the Center for Defense Information in Washington, D.C., has said, "Any ship capable of carrying nuclear weapons carries nuclear weapons."

Bell cited Defense Dept. statistics which confirm 32 accidents involving the loss or destruction of nuclear weapons. Even if the weapon does not go off, destruction of its casing could trigger the release of a radioactive plume, he said.

Such an accident during Rose Festival could have catastrophic consequences for the thousands of people visiting downtown, Bell said.

In addition, state and local agencies reported that they are unprepared for a nuclear accident on one of the ships, according to Bell. The federal government would probably take over disaster relief if an accident occurred, but neither the Navy nor the government has communicated with local agencies regarding disaster planning, he said.

"If there are weapons on these ships, we should plan for this contingency," Bell said. First, the weapons should be off-loaded before the ships come to Portland for the festival, he said. In addition, he said, the Navy should be required to come up with an environmental impact assessment of the consequences of an accident, and it should coordinate emergency planning with local agencies.

"We see an immediate and present danger to public safety," Bell said. "The recent Chernobyl disaster has highlighted the absolute importance of prior action to prevent nuclear accidents."

NAACP Meeting

The Portland Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will have its regular monthly meeting Sunday, June 15, at 4:00 at the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, 5935 N. Minnesota Avenue. The Reverend Howard Felton is host pastor. This will be the last general meeting until September. In July NAACP officers will attend the national convention in Baltimore, and in August only the Executive Committee meets. The general meetings will resume on September 21.

Professor Unveils Middle East Peace Plan

by Bob Lothian

A Portland State University professor announced a "Portland Pledge" Middle East peace plan at the university June 5.

David Horowitz, Associate Professor of History at PSU, addressed a capacity audience gathered in Smith Ballroom for a debate on "The Middle East Conflict."

His Portland Pledge, Horowitz said, calls for the creation of an independently-governed Palestinian homeland, it calls upon Israel's Arab neighbors to recognize Israel as a state, it calls for a negotiated settlement of the status of Jerusalem, and it calls for a major peace conference in a "neutral" state such as Jordan.

The key to the plan's success, Horowitz said, would be for Palestinians and other Arabs to recognize the reality of Israel.

"That's the bottom line," he said. Horowitz said he will send his plan to the entire Oregon Congressional delegation, to international peace groups, and to Tom Hayden, husband of actress Jane Fonda, who has mediated Middle East disputes in the past.

"The point is for negotiations to happen," Horowitz said.

Much of the debate that followed centered on the nature of Zionism, a form of Jewish nationalism.

According to Horowitz, Zionism is an expression of Jewish people's longing for a homeland growing out of their centuries of persecution.

All Israel wants is recognition of its

statehood from Arab neighbors, and security for its borders, he said.

But two speakers from the General Union of Palestinian students disagreed with Horowitz' sympathetic interpretation of Zionism.

Hilton Obenzinger, the Jewish editor of "Palestine Focus" in San Francisco, compared Israel's treatment of Palestinians to the treatment of Blacks in South Africa.

"Racism in the form of Zionism does not have the right to exist," Obenzinger said. Adnan Hameedeh, a Palestinian said Israel is a state "that doesn't recognize me as a human being."

In Palestinian communities occupied by Israel, Hameedeh said, "Soldiers go through the streets, stopping anybody they want, killing people, demolishing homes, arresting whoever they want ... and torturing them in prison."

Jewish Student Union president Levi Taylor countered by criticizing the Palestine Liberation Organization "and other extremists ... who destroy chances for peace," he said.

"It is the PLO who stands between these aspirations and keeps them from becoming reality," Taylor said.

But according to Hameedeh, the PLO has never advocated the destruction of Israel. The PLO stands instead for an Israel that is a secular state where both Jews and Palestinians have the right to practice their religion and co-exist in peace.

"You Americans can relate to that," he said.

Portland Aids Health Effort in El Salvador

by Bob Lothian

Over \$1000 is being sent from Portland to help build a hospital in El Salvador, it was announced last week.

Of that amount, \$312 was raised at the Rainbow Coalition multi-cultural dinner June 1.

Portland's donation will be added to funds raised in a national campaign, said Christina Courtwright, president of Medical Aid for El Salvador, the Los Angeles-based group coordinating the campaign.

About \$65,000 is needed to build the minor surgery hospital in La Union Province, a rural area where civilians have had limited access to medical care, Courtwright said.

Though the amount is only a small fraction of what a U.S. hospital would cost, it will go a long way, she said.

Salvadoran surgeons use doors for operating tables in rural areas, and a "clinic" is often a traveling medic with a backpack full of supplies, according to Courtwright.

"It's absolutely amazing how much people can do with so little," she said.

Courtwright has visited El Salvador five times since 1979, and spent a total of six months in the war-torn country.

Her latest trip lasted three months, from Oct. - Dec., 1985. Using a system of secret contacts, she "melted" through government security forces to enter the war zones. Then she walked over the mountains for weeks, she said, observing the clinics and small hospitals set up with the \$1 million in aid raised by her group over the last four years.

Courtwright said that everywhere she went, she observed damage caused by U.S. bombs. She had to hide in a

bomb shelter when planes attacked near where she was staying, she said.

"I was scared, but I trusted the people I was with," she said.

In October, Courtwright attended the inauguration of a clinic named after Martin Luther King. The clinic was made possible by U.S. aid sent by civilians through her group, she said.

A copy of one of King's speeches and a biography had been sent to the village in advance.

"They did education around Martin Luther King as a person they could identify with," she said. "It was real exciting."

During the attack in another area, shrapnel flew over the bomb shelter where she and Salvadoran companions took refuge.

"The attack went on for six hours," she said. "Apparently, the bombing was so intense it rattled the windows downtown, 15 miles away."

"The four of us winced in unison, imagining a maelstrom of bullets cutting up houses and people across the ridge," she said.

She learned later that the Salvadoran Air Force had been practicing during the attack, with U.S.-supplied planes, bombs, helicopters and machine guns.

"They were practicing taking a piece of Guazapa and turning it into hamburger," Courtwright said. One person was killed, she said.

Many civilian victims of aerial attacks are being seen in the clinics made possible by her group, according to Courtwright.

Donations can be sent to Medical Aid for El Salvador, 6030 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 2000, Los Angeles, Calif. 90036.

According to a survey by the United Nations, proportionately fewer dogs bite mailmen in England than in any other country on earth.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

9 — Humboldt Neighborhood Association. 7:30 p.m., Portland Community College, Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth.

10 — Concordia Community Association. 7 p.m., Vernon Presbyterian Church, 5425 NE 27th.

10 — Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association. General Meeting. 7:30 p.m., Grace Memorial Episcopal Church, 1535 NE 17th.

17 — Northeast Coalition of

Neighborhoods. Agenda Includes: (1) Update on the Oregon Community Foundation Grant, (2) Committee Reports, and (3) Housing and Community Development Update. 7 p.m., King Facility, 4815 NE Seventh.

18 — Woodlawn Neighborhood Association. Guest Speakers: Gretchen C. Lashley and Anjalo Ebelebe, City Club Task Force on Community Control of Adult Prostitution. 7 p.m., Odd Fellows Hall (downstairs), 700 NE Dekum.

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