



Speak Out

Are Portland Schools educating our Black youth?

Arnold Pitre, 41, native Oregonian and local businessman, seeks to present important, pertinent, community issue questions, to randomly picked citizens, and report the responses.

by Arnold Pitre



Otis Burchfield
U.S. Postal Worker

No... and without someone who has the experience to teach the African cultural background, it won't happen. There are a few, but not enough. The teachers in the system do not know how to relate with Black students. They are from different cultures and backgrounds, and are not willing to put forth the effort necessary to create a good relation. There is a cultural barrier that needs to be highlighted. The people in the community need to express their concerns to the Portland Public Schools system, and insist that the missing link between the teachers and the Black students be put in place, so that our kids can be educated properly.



Charles Tatum
Artist

No... the Portland Public Schools, and the public schools across the United States, are not geared to address Black education. The Portland Public School system is just beginning to ascertain a need for reform in its system; but even with the number of Black educators and administrators within the Portland Public School system, they have not yet begun to address the real problem of Afro-American students. Black students not only need to be taught how to get jobs, as has been historically taught, but the process of learning should be emphasized: to learn how to learn. There are emotional as well as philosophical reasons that changes should occur with regard to Black education. The educational system today is not geared to address any ethnic group other than Anglo or European ancestry. The Black educational problems should be identified, researched, and dealt with completely.

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No... The system is providing just enough to get the Blacks out of the way. However, I do feel that there is some intimidation from the students. There should be more involvement on the part of the parents to insure that they are receiving a quality education. We can get a lot of quantity, but we need quality. Teachers need to be more aware of what the students are feeling. There is a lot of peer pressure. Blacks cannot compete with their white counterparts. The whites are more affluent and can provide more for their children. Therefore, the teachers need to concentrate more with what's relevant to Black students. If more instruction was instilled that is geared toward Black Americans in history that contributed to making a contribution to all Americans, our system would be improved for all students.



Cora Williams
Professor

No... Most of the white teachers are not properly equipped to deal with Afro students. They need better training. A child can be doing fine as far as one teacher is concerned, but because of a prejudiced attitude, will do poorly in the eyes of another teacher. The white teachers need to be educated in dealing with Black students, because there are differences in Black and white students. Some of our kids come from poor or broken homes. That does not make them bad kids or untrainable. The problem of prejudiced attitudes by the teacher is a big problem for Afro students in the Portland Public School system. The average white person in Portland has very little dealings with Black people.

Native Author to Speak on South Africa

Author and South Africa native Mark Mathabane will speak on the effects of apartheid policy on his life Thursday, December 3, 1987, at 7 p.m. at Willamette University. The event to be held in the Hatfield Room of the university's Mark O. Hatfield Library, is open to the public. Admission is free.

Mathabane, currently of High Point, N.C., was born in South Africa in 1960. As a teenager, he excelled in tennis and in 1979 came to the United States after being awarded a tennis scholarship to Limestone College, Gaffney, S.C. His family remains in South Africa. Mathabane has attended the Columbia University School of Journalism. His first book, "Kaffir Boy" (MacMillan, 1985), compared by the Washington Post to Claude Brown's "Manchild in the Promised Land", tells of his experiences growing up under the South African governments system of apartheid.

Mathabane's appearance is sponsored by the university's Intercultural Affairs Office, Intercultural Student Association, and the Committee on Ethical Investment. A reception will follow the address, in the Alumni Lounge of the Putnam University Center. Mathabane will also autograph copies of "Kaffir Boy" the same day at 3 p.m. in the University Bookstore, also located in the Putnam Center.

Cal R. Williams Distinguished Service Award Winner

The Distinguished Service Award for Oregon was recently awarded to Cal R. Williams by the National Association of Extension Home Economists in Louisville, Kentucky.

This prestigious award recognizes Extension Home Economists for leadership and implementation of well-planned programs with results and accomplishments. Cal's involvement of volunteers, quality programs, and strong interest in education have enabled her to develop a successful Home Economics Extension program in the Metropolitan area (Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties).

Cal continues to maintain a large study-group program in a time of declining interest. She has successfully reversed the study program from being agent-centered to client centered. As a result of these efforts, new lines of communication have opened up with positive results — integration of the Family Community Leadership program into the study-group president's meetings.

Cal's progressiveness has exhibited itself in her generic study-groups which are less formal and reach young women with valuable lessons taught by master volunteers.

Cal is known locally and has received national acclaim for her teaching abilities and use of the Feedback Lecture Method of instruction. Cal is a tenured Assistant Professor at Oregon State University.

Business Workshops Scheduled

The Internal Revenue Service and Portland Community College are offering two special business workshops.

These workshops will feature speakers from the government and private sector to aid the businessman in understanding his tax, recordkeeping and accounting obligations.

The Sole Proprietor Workshop will be held December 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the PCC Southeast Center, 2850 S.E. 82nd. This class will lead the participants through federal tax forms, business plans and resources, legal considerations and setting up the books.

The Corporation Workshop will be held December 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It is designed for those thinking about incorporating, new small corporations or those needing general corporate information. The areas covered will be an overview of federal and state forms; other important tax areas, legal aspects of incorporating and procedures for incorporating. This class will also be held at the PCC Southeast Center.

There is a \$2.50 charge; pre-registration is desired. For further information, call PCC at 244-6111, Ext. 5205 or IRS at 221-3960 in the Portland area (elsewhere 1-800-424-1040).

Register Now for YMCA Youth Basketball

The Washington/Clackamas County YMCA is now taking applications for the YMCA Youth Basketball program. The program, which begins January 4, 1988, is offered in the Beaverton, Hillsboro, and Lake Oswego areas. The Y Youth Basketball program stresses teamwork, fair play, skill development and total participation.

In the Beaverton area, teams practice one evening per week in neighborhood schools and games are held Friday evenings and Saturdays at the Merle Davies Gymnasium.

In the Hillsboro area, teams practice Tuesday evenings in neighborhood schools and games are held Thursday evenings at Evergreen Jr. High.

In the Lake Oswego area, teams practice two evenings per week and games are held on Saturdays.

The Washington County YMCA is also looking for volunteer coaches and referees to officiate Y-Youth Basketball games on Friday evenings and Saturdays between January 4th and March 12th. For more information, please call the "Y" office at 294-3345.

For more information regarding registration or financial assistance, please call the Washington County YMCA at 294-3345. The deadline for registration is December 1st.

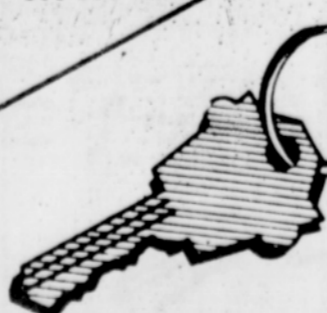
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Graber State Campaign Committee Announced

Clifford N. Carlsen, Jr. announced the formation of the 35-member State Campaign Committee to Elect Susan Graber to the Oregon Supreme Court. Carlsen, who serves as committee chairman, said: "We are very pleased with the diversity and balance represented on the committee." The Committee includes former Governors Atiyeh and Straub, former Justices of the Supreme Court, and numerous leaders of the Bar, as well as leaders from business, education, labor and government.

Graber, a well-known and experienced trial and appellate attorney from Portland, seeks election to Oregon Supreme Court Position Four. The incumbent, J.R. Campbell, has announced his intention to



Susan Graber

retire at the end of this term.

Graber's professional activities have included service as a pro tem District Court Judge, an arbitrator, and a mediator, and she chairs the Executive Committee of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. She is a 1972 graduate of the Yale Law School.

Applications Available for Teacher Corps Program

Applications are now available for the Oregon Teacher Corps Program for the current school year. Students attending a four-year college can get the application from their School of Education. Students attending a community college should see their Education advisor for one.

The Oregon Teacher Corps Program is a loan-forgiveness program established by the 1987 Oregon Legislature. Its aim is to attract the top 20% of students in high school and college into the teaching profession. Recipients must be seeking a basic certificate at one of Oregon's teacher education institutions. Loans are forgiven for teachers who complete at least three years of full-time teaching within five years of obtaining their basic certificate.

The Oregon State Scholarship Commission is responsible for administering the program and selecting those who will be awarded. Their selections will be based on nominations by the colleges. Special consideration will be given to students who are members of a racial minority, are prospective teachers in advanced mathematics, physical sciences and handicapped endorsements, or plan to teach in remote or difficult to serve school districts in Oregon. The Commission anticipates awarding 70-90 students, with each receiving \$2,000 this academic year.

Applicants must be Oregon residents enrolled at least half-time in an approved teacher education program. Community college students who will be entering an approved teacher education program Winter Term are also eligible to apply.

Conference Give Students Half-Days Off

Portland School District elementary and middle school students receive four half-days off the first week of December for parent/teacher conferences.

The four days of Dec. 1-4 will find all but Portland's high-school students being dismissed from school three hours earlier than usual. Schools have different dismissal times.

Afternoon school-bus schedules are similarly adjusted. The student half-day holidays allow parents to meet with their children's teachers to assess the first 12 weeks of school work.

Individual parent/teacher conferences are scheduled by classroom teachers with evening sessions offered at most schools.

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from

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BY

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Wholesale Pricing On Groceries Gone Public

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PHONE 283-3171

They'll Tell You All About It