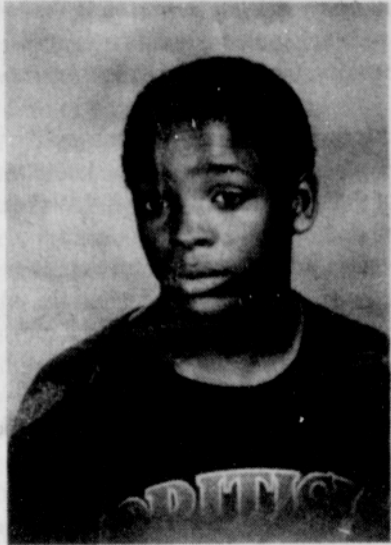


CHAMPION STUDENT ATHLETE

By Jimi Johnson



Bobby Janisse

Bobby Janisse, a junior at Jefferson High School, is a gentleman in every sense of the word. A two-time state wrestling champion, Janisse also is an Academic all-American with a 3.7 cumulative G.P.A.

Janisse credits his parents, Jerome and Brenda Polk, as well as his wrestling coaches, Roy Pittman and Donnie McPherson, for being positive influences in his life. "My mom and dad are very supportive of my activities and have always given me encouragement to succeed in everything that I do. Coach Pittman and Coach McPherson have been good friends, positive role models, and are people I can always talk to," says Janisse.

As a 45-lb. six-year old, Bobby Janisse got his first taste of wrestling at Peninsula Park and has been in love with the sport and a member of the Peninsula Park Wrestling Team ever since. He says, "wrestling has taught me dedication that has carried over into my personal life. It has taught me how to be a gentleman and has given me a lot of self-confidence. In order to succeed in life, I need to apply the same dedication I have in wrestling to my academic endeavors," adds Janisse.

Janisse is currently assisting-coaching young future wrestlers at Peninsula Park under the tutelage of Coach Pittman, along with fellow student wrestlers from Jefferson High School.

In addition, he's a mentor for middle school students at Portsmouth. Janisse says "being a positive role model is very important in the African American community, and your actions speak for themselves. It's more than just talking to young people, it's showing them through your own actions," he adds.

Loaded with school pride, Janisse says Jefferson High is a diverse and unique school I wouldn't want to go to any other school."

Janisse's 1988 and 1989 achievement include:

1988 Awards and Accomplishments

- P.I.L. District Champion at 106 lbs.
- State Champion at 106 lbs.
- Multnomah Athletic Club Scholar athlete.
- Great Kids Award for T.L.C.-T.N.T. involvement.
- Travelled to Austria and placed 8th in jr. World Championships.
- Placed 2nd in High School Wrestling Howard Cherry Award.
- Triple Crown Winner (Collegiate, Freestyle, and Greco Roman Wrestling).
- Sportland Magazine Athlete of the Month.

189 Awards and Accomplishments

- P.I.L. District Champion at 119 lbs.
- State Champion at 119 lbs.
- KATU Athlete of the Month of January.
- KBMS Radio Athlete of the Week.
- Jefferson High School Image Award Recipient.
- Inducted into National Honor Society.
- Scholar Athlete Award Winner.
- Jefferson High School Wrestling Howard Cherry Award.
- Outstanding Wrestler in the Gold Coast Classic Tournament.
- Recipient of the Mayor's Spirit of Portland Award for T.L.C.-T.N.T. involvement.
- Qualified for High School National Championships in Iowa (July)
- Member of the Oregon Cultural Exchange Wrestling Team which will tour and compete in Japan in June.
- 2nd Runner-Up, KARU Athlete of the Year Award.

The Portland Observer Salutes this positive role model as our Champion Student Athlete of the Week.

PAYNE ELECTED CHAIR of COUNTY CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE



Dennis Payne

Dennis G. Payne was elected Chair of the 23 member Multnomah County Citizen Involvement Committee at the committee's annual meeting May 18th. The Citizen Involvement Committee's role is to insure that Multnomah County residents are involved in the decision making processes of county government.

Payne is Community Security Liaison for Tri-Met, coordinating all security related efforts and community outreach programs. He was previously employed as Street Crime Prevention Organizer for the City of Portland and Crime Prevention Specialist for the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods.

He is founder and president of the Black Professional Network; a member of the City of Portland's Youth Gangs Task Force, the Cable Access Board of Directors, American Red Cross Human Resources Advisory Board, and Holladay (Lloyd Center) Business District Association. He was nominated to the Citizen Involvement Committee by the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhood Association.

A resident of Northeast Portland, Payne coaches a Peninsula Little League team and is a Deacon of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church.

COMMISSION ON BLACK AFFAIRS

by Samuel Pierce, Executive Director Oregon Commission on Black Affairs

Last session the Oregon Commission on Black Affairs introduced Senate Bill 798, otherwise known as the Martin Luther King, Jr. School Holiday Bill. The bill would make Dr. King's birthday a legal school holiday for the State.

Senate Bill 798 passed the Senate but had problems in the House due to funding issues. This session the bill was introduced in the House as House Bill 2705. Again, the Commission took leadership in gaining passage of the bill; however, this time we met with the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators, Oregon Education Association, and Oregon School Employees Association and worked out a bill that would be amenable to all parties involved. As a result, House Bill 2705 passed out of the Education Committee last Thursday with a "Do Pass" recommendation to the full House of Representatives. The bill should be voted on by the House some time this week.

Sponsors of the bill are Rep. Sam Dominy, Rep. Margaret Carter, Rep. Judith Bauman, Rep. Beverly Stein, and Sen. Bill McCoy. The Commission encourages individuals to call their representatives and voice support of the bill. We are confident that the bill will pass the House and be referred to the Senate for public hearings and subsequent passage. For more information, please call the Commission on Black Affairs office at office at 378-2969.

Co-Founders of House of Umoja to Return to Portland

David and Sister Falaka Fattah, Co-founders of the House of Umoja, will return to Portland during the first week of June (please see attached schedule). The House of Umoja has received national acclaim for its successful efforts in reducing the youth gang problem in Philadelphia.

During their visit here they will make presentations to youth at various locations, meet with representatives from funding institutions, and work with local youth program staff on a proposal to establish an "Umoja type" program in Portland.

The House of Umoja was founded in 1969, with one house and fifteen gang members as residents. The program now includes 23 houses on Fraser street in Philadelphia and is referred to as the first "Urban Boystown in America".

The Fattah's first visited Portland last January to make presentations at the Hope for Youth Conference, sponsored by the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods and Southeast Uplift. On May 11th, a group of elected officials and community leaders including Mayor Bud Clark, County Chair Gladys McCoy, Commissioners Dick Bogle and Mike Lindberg, and Ron Herndon held a press conference to endorse the establishment of an "Umoja type" program in Portland.

The fact the reform is long overdue here in the state of Oregon. To focus on just one department is self-serving device which can only disrupt the demanding functions of government. While Jon Yunker is evaluating the performance of management in Adult Family Services, it will be the function of this column not only to explore the series of events that led to this dilemma, but also to compare its expenditures and re-organizational schemes with all other departments within the state government.

SENIORS OF THE WEEK



Pictured (above) are Mrs. Mattye I. Iles and her husband Mr. Amos K. Iles.

On Wednesday, May 31, 1989 at Harriett Tubman Middle School, there was a grand celebration held to honor Mrs. Mattye I. Iles' retirement after 40 years of continued service in the public school systems. Many city, state, PPS officials and friends joined in the celebration.

NE YWCA TO BE FREE LUNCH SITE

The Northeast Center of the YWCA will participate in the Summer Food Service Program for Children by providing lunch for area youth during the summer months.

Portland Public Schools sponsors the Program which will begin June 19th and run through August 17th. All youth 18 years of age and younger or handicapped people attending a special school for the handicapped are eligible for a free lunch. Any youth enrolled in a Northeast YWCA program is also eligible. The serving time is from 12 Noon to 1:00 PM. Children must remain at the site while eating.

Parents are encourage to bring their children for lunch and inquire about the youth programming available throughout the year.

New kind of battle rages in the northeast sector here

by Etienne de la Plume

Battle lines have been drawn and a new kind of fight has engaged the Northeast sector of Portland. Under ordinary circumstances most property owners would object to having an industrial incinerator built in their backyard. Add to that problem the emission of the carcinogenic polychlorinated be-phenyls commonly known as PCB's which the manufacturer of the proposed equipment does not approve for that purpose and you have a real fight on your hands.

Without any forewarning the Department of Environmental Quality announced some months ago its intention to license a Korean-American Company to build an industrial type incinerator near the new prison. Its purpose was to reclaim copper from burnt out transformers from utility companies. The problem is that they are all laced with deadly PCB's. Previously they had been buried in landfills but when it was found that these toxic substance contaminated the group water, that practice was banned as was the manufacture of PCB's, itself.

The fact the impacted neighborhood was not involved in the decision making process led some staunch environmentalist to cry foul. They forced the convening of a public hearing last night at the Whitaker School in Northeast Portland so that their concerns could be aired.

The specific concerns of these residents are not trivial. No known

amount of direct contact with PCB's has been established as either acceptable or non-carcinogenic. One needs only to review the data generated by the Love Canal debacle or other hazardous waste sites to appreciate the concerns of this small enclave. Given the fact that the federal government has found the air quality in the Portland-Vancouver area to fall below acceptable standards over long periods of time, it seems reasonable for Portlanders in the larger community to object to the addition of yet another air pollutant and potential health hazard.

Last night more than 200 persons gathered in the cafeteria of the Whitaker Middle School located at Northeast Killingsworth and 39th to express their concerns. And so they did for more than three hours. At times the experts and governmental officials were hard pressed to supply plausible answers or explanations for some of the technically laced obfuscations that had been submitted in support of the application for a permit.

As expected, by the close of the meeting no hard and fast decision had been concluded as to the status of the request for a DEQ permit. One can be assured that if this evening input is not taken into serious consideration when the decision about the permit is made, then the credibility of the DEQ, itself is going to be at stake. Presumably this problem will not be resolved for another several months.

Salem witch hunt moves ahead unabated

Mrs. Freddie Webb-Pettet demonstrates professionalism and resilience

by Stephen E. McPherson, Special correspondent

Mrs. Freddie Webb-Pettet, the embattled state director of Adult Family Services, moved into her new offices and position in a demonstration of professional excellence for which she has been identified during her brief tenure in Salem. In her temporary position she will be interfacing with other educational and social agencies with a view to formulating those new policies which will be consistent with the recent federal reform legislation. During the interim circumstances surrounding her removal continue to foment serious concerns within the African American community. There is the feeling that signals coming out of the state capital suggest that a complete purge of Black executives from state government is in the offing. Those persons familiar with the situation point to the fact not only have a number of managers been reshuffled in recent months but some have actually been removed from office.

Colleagues who have worked with Mrs. Pettet over the years contend that it is not her style to cave in under fire or to avoid a difficult task. They point to the fact that her stepping aside is a gesture of a supreme sacrifice so as to avoid jeopardizing current budget discussions now being considered for her department. As proof of that contention they point out that a good part of her problem

stems from the fact that she has been such a vocal advocate for the clients she serves.

For the past several months the department of Adult Family Services has come under serious criticism from an Eastern block of Republican state legislators. They were concerned about travel expenses and executive perks attributed to the managerial staff. Beverly Clarno, the state representative from Bend recently wrote a letter to Governor Neil Goldschmidt in which she demanded that the management team be replaced. She was joined in this request by representatives Robert Pickard from Bend, Raymond Baum from LaGrande and William Markham from Riddle. They based their contentions on numerous letters from disgruntled current and ex-employees who launch a series of nebulous attacks on certain person in particular and other in general. Presumably the letter attack emanated from a union dispute.

It is interesting to note that some of the most vituperative comments were launched against Thomas Waters director of the Eastern Regional office which covers the territory from Idaho to California. Representative Clarno expressed displeasure with Mr. Thomas' "expensive tastes and peculiar management style." In the mean time she has not focused on any other governmental agency within the state.

It is easy to understand why Mrs. Clarno would take such a hard stand

against Mr. Waters. This is her first year in the legislature where she entered long on zeal and short on experience. At the same time she represents an electorate long known for their conservative ways and independent spirit. In some circles they have been described as a cross between a hard nosed westerner and an unreconstructed classical red neck southerner. It is little wonder that she would fail to embrace any program which catered to indigents on the dole.

In their zeal to extract reasonable reform out of an impossible system, the detractors have made a very unconstitutional blunder and as a result their very legitimate questions end up looking like a specious vendetta. It is quite obvious that the intended target is the governor, himself. One cannot deny the fact that he has earned much of the criticism focused on the executive department. In leveling such attacks which address serious flaws in government, the critics have compromised due process by setting themselves up as judge, jury and executioner.

There really is no need to reinvent the wheel. There are systems already in place which address problems of oversight. They are the criminal justice system the state department and the power of the governor to impanel special commissions.

There are few observers of the political scene who would disagree with