

Portland, Oregon

# PORTLAND OBSERVER

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VOLUME XIX NUMBER 28

JULY 20, 1989

## SENIORS of the WEEK



by Jimi Johnson

Married 53 years ago on Easter Sunday, Mr. & Mrs. Ulysess and Beatrice Leverett came to Portland in 1942. As did many African-Americans coming to the Northwest during that period, Mr. Leverett found steady employment at the Willamette shipyard.

The Leveretts are active members of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church and have received numerous awards for service to the church and community.

A Civil Rights Activist, Ulysess Leverett at one time served as Vice President of the Portland NAACP, and his wife Beatrice has served on The Urban League Guild for the past 25 years. "We never take part in anything we don't believe in" stated Ulysess Leverett, whose den is adorned with trophies, plaques and certificates awarded him and his wife throughout the years.

A bridge enthusiast, Mr. Leverett was instrumental in getting a chapter of The American Bridge Association established in Portland Oregon, in 1979. Mrs. Leverett also enjoys a good game of bridge.

A life time Jefferson High School "Dad, University of Oregon "Dad", and Howard University "Dad; 77 year old Ulysess Leverett says "You come into this world with nothing, everything belongs to God. How you disburse it is up to you. You will be held accountable." Mrs. Leverett says, "Realize young people that you are somebody, and select your friends carefully".

The Leverett's who have disbursed their time and energy very positively and very caringly have been blessed with 3 lovely children and 5 grandchildren.

The Portland Observer salutes this wonderful couple as Seniors of the week.

## MINORITY STUDENTS LEAD NATIONWIDE GROWTH IN ENGINEERING

The nation's engineering schools experienced the first growth in freshman engineering enrollments since 1982, thanks to an upsurge in the number of minority students entering freshman engineering programs during the 1988-89 academic year. The announcement, made by George Campbell Jr., president of the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME), indicates that African Americans, Hispanics and American Indians accounted for upwards of 55% of the national increase in freshman engineering students.

Dr. Campbell made his remarks at a White House Briefing for Vice President Dan Quayle held at FORUM '89, NACME's ninth annual conference. As chairman of the administration's councils on Space and Competitiveness, the Vice President told more than 450 Forum attendees of his concerns for America's technical work force. "I can't think of a more compelling issue," said Vice President Quayle, "as we look at competitiveness and we look at space, than looking at what NACME is all about and trying to recruit minorities into engineering and science and aerospace engineering careers."

The new data, compiled for NACME by the Engineering Manpower Commission, shows that the number of underrepresented minority students who began their engineering education this past fall rose from 10,325 to 11,754, an increase only 2.7%, from 94,814 a year ago to 97,379.

According to Dr. Campbell, the statistics reflect America's changing demographics paired with a nationwide effort to increase minority participation in technical fields. "What we're seeing," said Dr. Campbell, "is an upswing in minority freshman enrollment that comes on the heels of greatly increased activity in pre-college programs all across the country." Since 1985, NACME has provided seed or expansion funding for more than twenty programs that introduce minority students to careers in engineering and help them develop the academic skills to compete in rigorous math and science-based study.

The gains were distributed among all underrepresented minority groups. African American freshman enrollments increased 15.1% over last year, from 6,145 to 7,075, far surpassing the previous year's more modest gain of 4.6%. While the gain was spread across all schools, historically African American colleges accounted for a larger percentage of the increase than they did in the past. Hispanic enrollment increased 11%, from 3,826 to 4,246, echoing the previous year's solid gain of 13.9%. The most dramatic percentage gain was made by American Indians with enrollments increasing 22.3%, from 354 to 433.

Increases in minority students entering the freshman class are especially significant in the context of total undergraduate engineering enrollment which declined from 352,848 to 342,280.

Thus, while total enrollment was decreasing by 10,568, minority enrollment increased by 1,413.

The Engineering Manpower Commission monitors minority participation in engineering schools under a grant from NACME. Best known as the nation's largest privately funded source of scholarships for minority engineering students, NACME also conducts research, develops programs, provides seed grants and technical assistance, and operates an active publications program.

## DR. ADAIR RECEIVES KELLOGG FELLOWSHIP



Harriet E. Adair, principal at the Martin Luther King Jr. Early Childhood Education Center, Portland, Oregon, is one of 465 Americans selected by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation for Group X of its Kellogg National Fellowship Program (KNFP).

The program began in 1980 to help the nation expand its pool of capable leaders. It is structured to increase individuals' skills and insights into areas outside their chosen disciplines so they can deal more creatively and effectively with society's complex problems. Adair, 41, is a member of the National Alliance of Black School Educators and is a board member of the North/Northeast Housing board and the North/Northeast Mental Health Center. She is a member of the National Education Association and is on the Board of Directors for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee.

Before holding her present position, Adair was a curriculum and community relations administrator and adjunct instructor at Portland State University, Oregon. She has seven years of middle school and elementary teaching experience, and has coauthored federal reports on multicultural staff and curriculum development.

As a volunteer, Adair works with local organizations to direct and motivate disadvantaged students. She is also active with local gang prevention and neighborhood revitalization task forces.

She received her bachelor's degree in elementary education and master's degree in education at Portland State University, Oregon, and her master's degree in behavior and learning disabilities instruction at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. She is a native of San Antonio, Texas.

Each Kellogg National Fellow receives a three-year grant of \$35,000 to fund his or her self-designed plan of study. In addition, for Fellows employed by non-profit institutions, the Foundation supports 12-1/2 percent of their salary up to \$26,000. This enables the employing institution or agency to give the Fellow 25 percent release time to take part in program activities.

The Fellows represent various walks of life and several racial and ethnic backgrounds. During the next three years, they will participate in educational seminars structured to strengthen their leadership skills. The seminars are hosted by the Foundation at several sites across the United States and in Latin America.

In addition, Fellows will carry out personal learning plans outside their areas of expertise -- examining political, social, and economic problems from a multi-faceted perspective.

"The problems facing our world today require complex decision-making skills; in these situations, expertise in a single area is not enough," said Dr. Russell G. Mawby, the Foundation's chairman and chief executive officer. "We need broad-based leaders who can work across different disciplines, professions, and fields of interest."

"Through its programming, the Foundation continues to develop the broad leadership skills and abilities of individuals. The tenth annual National Fellowship Program is representative of our commitment to leadership development. Since its inception, the KNFP's 433 participants have consistently benefited, both personally and professionally, from this exciting program."

The 1989 KNFP members were chosen from a field of 783 people who submitted comprehensive applications in which they detailed past professional and personal accomplishments and stated future goals -- including their self-designed plans to expand their knowledge. Applications came from faculty and administrators at colleges, universities, academic health centers and other educational institutions, as well as from government, business, industry, and the human services sector.

Initial screening of the applications by a review team of 14 outstanding educational, civic, and business leaders and 2 members of the Foundation's professional staff narrowed the applicant pool to 129 for personal interviews. From that group, 46 individuals -- 23 females, 23 males, -- were selected for the program. Sixteen of those are minorities.

Group X activities will center around the theme "Intercultural Leadership for a Diverse World," according to Dr. Lorraine R. Matusak, KNFP director.

The Fellows, whose average age is 37, met for the first time as a group during late June in an orientation/leadership seminar at the Conference Center at Dodgertown, Vero Beach, Florida.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation, established in 1930 to "help people help themselves," has distributed more than \$1 billion in support of programs in agriculture, education, and health. Areas of emphasis within those broad fields include adult continuing education; community-based, problem-focused health services; a wholesome food supply; and broadening leadership capacity of individuals. Projects in opportunities for youth are concentrate mainly in Michigan; support for economic development projects is provided only in Michigan. The Foundation is today among the largest private philanthropic organizations in the world. It supports programs in the United States, Latin America, the Caribbean, and southern African countries. Limited worldwide involvement is achieved through international networks of activities related to the Foundation's programming interests.

## GENERAL BAPTIST TO CONVENE IN PORTLAND

by Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

The General Baptist Convention of the Northwest will hold its annual convention fellowship on the 23rd of July. The worship services and all of

the convention activities will be held at the O.B. WILLIAMS CONVENTION CENTER located at 220 NE Beech Street.

On Sunday, the 23rd of July at 3:00 p.m., in the afternoon, there will be a pre-convention service spon-

sored by the Usher Departments. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Robert C. Joiner, pastor of the North pleasant Hill Baptist Church in New Hebron, Mississippi.

On Monday, July 24th, the Convention Board will meet at 7:00 p.m., Rev. A. Bernard Devers will be the featured speaker.

On Tuesday, July 25th, there will be singing, clapping hands, patting feet and joyous praise as songs are presented at the pre-convention MUSICAL. Featuring choirs from throughout the Portland area.

Registration will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26th. The Rev. E.V. Hill of Mt. Zion Baptist Missionary Baptist Church of Los Angeles, California is scheduled to speak on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m., each night. In the event, if Rev. Hill is unable to make one of the scheduled nights, alternate speakers have also been scheduled, as follows:

Wed.: Rev. L.C. Irving, Pasco, Washington

Thurs.: Rev. T.L. Lewis, Portland, Oregon

Friday: Rev. J.A. Boles, Tacoma, Washington

Preceding the sermon Wednesday through Friday, there will be a Theme Presentation which will be presented by the following ministers:

Wed.: Rev. Robert Earl Houston, Sr., Portland, Oregon

Thurs.: Rev. L.D. Williams, Spokane, Washington

Friday: Rev. C.L. Buhl, Seattle, Washington

On Saturday, July 29th, the State Youth Musical will begin at 7:00 p.m., in the evening.

On Sunday, July 30th, Rev. O.B. Williams will give the General President's Message. This year will mark the 37th year that Rev. O.B. Williams has delivered this message. The program will begin at 3:00 p.m.

The public is cordially invited to attend this festive, HALLELUJAH and informative 1989 session.

## DR. MAE JEMISON: THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN ASTRONAUT



Dr. Mae Jemison, as the nation's first Black woman astronaut, endures rigorous training as she prepares for her first space flight, reports the August EBONY.

Based at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston since 1987, Dr. Jemison is one of only four black astronauts. A child of the '60s, she credits the support of her parents for helping her reach the stars. "My parents have always been supportive of me," she says. "When I was a child, they put up with all kinds of stuff, like science projects, dance classes and art lessons."

A former physician who has long been interested in science, Dr. Jemison says her achievement is a natural progression, and anticipates becoming the first Black woman in orbit by 1991.