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"THE EYES AND EARS OF THE COMMUNITY"

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Muslim Community Honors Portland Role Models And Pioneers

The Muslim Community Center of Portland held its "First Annual Achievement Benefit Buffet" at the Matt Dishman Center, Saturday evening, November 4. Several hundred people were in attendance at the affair whose theme was "Human Development and Economic Growth."

The opening prayer was delivered by Imam Mikal Shabazz, and the welcoming address was by Mr. Omar Shabazz who made the award presentations to selected honorees from the Northeast community: Economics -- San Brooks & Associates-Arthur Cox; Public Service -- Ollie Smith; Social Service -- Bernie Foster/publisher of the Scanner, Joyce Harris of the Black Education Center, Clara Peoples/Community Care Organizations.



McKinley Burt

Other categories were Human Development -- Prof. McKinley Burt, Aritha Furqaan; Role Models -- Waleed Sadrud-Din-Ishaq Shamsud-Din, Travis West,

Aminah Shabazz. Each honoree made brief comments on the theme of the affair and graciously acknowledged their award. Especially poignant and inspiring were the words of Mr. Arthur Cox, age 85, who traced a long history of his contributions to the economic vitality of the community despite adversity and racism--much credit was given to his wife of many years.

Entertainment was an "Islamic Fashion Presentation" by children of the Muslim community, ages 3 to 14. Each appearance was accompanied by a citation of the child's grade level and career aspirations. The range of ambitions was from medicine and engineering to teaching and the practice of law; they gave the definite impression that these goals would be achieved. Another highlight of the evening was the buffet dinner featuring entrees of either beef, chicken or lamb. Dessert was the nationally famous "Muslim Bean Pie."

PSU Sets Symposium On Racism, Harassment

It has been one year since the racially motivated beating death of a 27-year old Ethiopian man, Mulgeta Seraw. But while there was great public outcry condemning the act, and the self-described "skinheads" responsible have been jailed, the number of hate-inspired crimes is increasing, white supremacist groups openly recruit for members, and the visible evidence of ethnic hatred and mistrust mar out public spaces. Why is this happening in Portland? Why do groups such as the Aryan Nation appeal to our young people? What can we do about it?

For two days in November at Portland State University, public officials, the police, community activists, educators, and researchers will join in "The Symposium on Malicious Harassment and Racism" to look at the roots of the problems and their impact on the community and to formulate a plan for action.

The symposium is scheduled for two afternoons, Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 14 and 15, in PSU's Smith Memorial Center (SMC). Both days will begin with general sessions at Noon in 338 SMC followed by a series of small workshops in several locations.

The focus of the first day's activities will be "The Dimensions of the Problem." Keynoting the sessions with a Noon address on Nov. 14 (338 SMC) will be Black activist Prexy Nesbitt, currently consultant for the government of the People's Republic of Mozambique and frequent lecturer on apartheid. His lecture at the PSU symposium is titled, "Bigotry and Racism in a Global Context."

Nesbitt also will participate in several classes at PSU on Tuesday and Wednesday and will attend a public reception at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday in Smith Center.

Following Prexy Nesbitt's keynote on Tuesday, there will be a 1:30 p.m. discussion of the current activities of skinheads and other racist groups by Bill Wassmuth, executive director of the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment.



Black Activist Prexy Nesbitt

A wrap-up session, "Creating a PSU Action Agenda," will begin at 3 p.m. This session will include Interim PSU President Roger Edgington, Student body President William Hoar, Dean of Students Morris Holland, and Acting Affirmative Action Director Armando LaGuardia.

PPS Kick-Off 1989 Project HELP Fundraising Campaign

A blanket brigade between some 50 elementary students from Portland Public Schools kicked off the 1989 Project HELP fundraising campaign for the needy, Frid., Nov. 3, at Portland's Pioneer Courthouse Square.

Sponsored for the eighth consecutive year by Portland General Electric Co. (PGE), Project HELP provides heating assistance to low income customers not eligible for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) administered by the state.

To supplement the blanket brigade, PGE is asking its customers in Multnomah County to join employees and shareholders in contributing to the 1989 Project HELP drive.

"Project HELP has helped thousands of needy families stay warm and will continue to grow with community support," said Jerry Arnold, PGE Regional Community Relations Manager. "During the past seven years, PGE employees, shareholders, and customers have contributed nearly \$2 million to the

campaign. Every dollar makes a difference."

PGE shareholders will donate \$40,000 to The Salvation Army as a startup fund for Project HELP this year.

"Project HELP has helped thousands of needy families stay warm and will continue to grow with community support."

Jerry Arnold, PGE Regional Community Relations Manager

The company is also providing customers an opportunity to support the program through their winter electric billing statements. Customers will receive Project HELP donation envelopes in their November statements. Those who wish to contribute to the campaign should write a separate check for their donation instead of adding it to their regular bill payment.

Portland Welcomes Nation's Largest Organization Of African-American Educators

2,000 African-American Educators will gather in the City of Roses to participate in the 17th annual National Alliance of Black School Educators Conference, Nov. 15-19, at the Portland Hilton, in Portland.

NABSE currently has 5,000 members in 40 states as well as Canada, Great Britain, West German, and the Caribbean. Membership includes superintendents, administrators, curriculum specialists, and teachers who serve in institutions throughout the nation.

Recently, Dr. Patricia Ackerman, President of NABSE, was invited to the White House to attend President Bush's Pre-Education Summit Roundtable. Dr. Ackerman stressed the importance of providing financial assistance to inner city children, increasing college tuition aid to African-Americans seeking careers in education, and expansion of the U.S. Department of Education's efforts to address the problems of disadvantaged students. NABSE deals with issues in urban and all other educational systems; and exists as one of the nation's most prominent associations for African-American Educators.



Dr. Asa E. Hilliard III



Michael Jordan

The conference theme of African-American History and Life will be highlighted through public addresses, seminars, and workshops. Keynote speakers will include Dr. Asa E. Hilliard III, renowned historian, Egyptologist, and national consultant; and Jawanza Kunjufu, respected author and lecturer on the Black male.

Some of the conference topics include: The Resegregation of Public Schools, Opportunities in Space Exploration, Using Rap in the Classroom to Increase Learning, History as a Weapon for the Future, the African-American Baseline Essays, Mediated Learning (live demonstrations), The Social and Affective Development of the Black Male and Margaret Beale Spencer's research on color preference (Black Doll/White Doll studies).

Dr. J. Jerome Harris, Superintendent of Atlanta Public Schools will be inaugurated at the conference. Ted Kimbrough, NABSE President-Elect is the recently selected Superintendent of Chicago Public Schools.



Present for the recent unveiling of a cartoon mural dedicated to the war against drugs were (from left) Steven A. Moskowitz, assistant to Mayor Bud Clark; Executive Dean Don McInnis of the PCC Cascade Campus, where the mural is located; Captain Tom Potter of the Portland Police Bureau; muralist Ameera Saahir, president of M.J. Toys and Games, Inc., and Ameer Muhammad, operations director for the young company.

Incubator Business Owners Produce Anti-Drug Mural at PCC Cascade

Two new North/Northeast Portland entrepreneurs have contributed a larger-than-life cartoon mural to the community's war against drugs.

Ameera Saahir and Ameer Muhammad of M.J. Toys and Games, Inc. installed the mural at Pen Hall on the Portland Community College Cascade Campus in a recent ceremony. The mural was painted by Saahir.

Now the mural and its youth-oriented message greet Jefferson High School students and others walking along the seven hundred block of North Killingsworth Street.

The mural is one facet of a campaign developed by Saahir and Ameer Muhammad of M.J. Toys and Games, Inc. installed the mural at Pen Hall on the Portland Community College Cascade Campus in a recent ceremony. The mural was painted by Saahir.

Now the mural and its youth-oriented message greet Jefferson High School students and others walking along the seven hundred block of North Killingsworth Street.

The mural is one facet of a campaign developed by Saahir and Muhammad and adopted by the African Women's Network. AWN will use a number of cartoon characters developed by M.J. Toys and Games in the group's educational activities.

Another feature of the effort is the formation of "the Higher Ground Club," a peer mentoring program designed to help children and young adults feel good about themselves. The club will stress the building of a strong self-image and will provide positive role models.

Among those present for the mural's unveiling were Captain Tom Potter of the Portland Police Bureau and Steven A. Moskowitz, assistant to Mayor Bud Clark.

Saahir, president, and Muhammad, operations director, operate thetoy and game business in the Cascade Business Corporation incubator on Cascade Campus.

Rose City Welcomes NABSC