

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH · FEBRUARY 1990

*The Portland Observer  
Dedicates this issue to those  
African-Americans whose  
Contribution to Black History  
Helped to Shape  
American History.*



PROPHET

HARTZOG



CHAVIS

GERALD

You can't *talk* about the accomplishments of Black Oregonians without *shouting* about their historic professional successes in Portland Public Schools.

Despite the demographic odds, Blacks have earned the *highest* positions of responsibility and respect in the Northwest's *largest* public educational system.

Blacks represent only 15.4 percent of the school district's students (1987-88 enrollment), just 7.0 percent of the city's inhabitants (1980 census) and barely 1.4 percent of the state's residents (1980 census).

Yet . . .

- **Matthew Prophet** since 1982 has been the superachieving *superintendent of schools* sought by New York, Los Angeles and several other large urban school districts.
- **Ernest Hartzog** has been an *assistant superintendent* in Portland since 1972. He now is the *No. 3* educator in the system, in charge of districtwide and alternative programs.

**Just ask Matt, Ernie, Aletha,  
Bill, Edith, Ed, Nate, Mac and  
604 other Black PPS employees . . .**



WILSON

GREEN



JONES

LOCKETT

- **Aletha Chavis** has been *personnel director* since 1980. She's been instrumental in the employment of 6,551 teachers and support employees, of whom 9.3 percent are Black (a 14.1 percent *increase* since 1980-81).
- **Bill Gerald** and **Edith Wilson** are two of eight *cluster directors of instruction* overseeing operations of scores of schools.
- **Ed Green**, *director of transportation services*, supervises the complexities of busing thousands of school children.
- **Nate Jones**, *administrator* of Jefferson High, was honored by his Oregon peers as *1987 Secondary Principal of the Year*.
- **Mac Lockett** is *chief* of the 20-member Portland School Police Dept.

Affirmative action and multiethnic-multicultural education aren't just *talk* in Portland Public Schools. Just ask Matt, Ernie, Aletha, Bill, Edith, Nate, Mac and 604 other Black employees of the school district.

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS