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"The Eyes and Ears of The Community"

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Whitaker Middle School Rally Squad Seeks Donations For National Competitions

As a result of their October 27 victory at Tigard High School, the Whitaker Middle School Rally Squad has been invited to compete in the National Championships at Anaheim, Calif., on February 15-18, 1991.

But in order to get there, they need to raise funds for the trip. Those who wish to contribute may contact Dr. Harriet Adair, or Grace McKenzie, at 280-5620.

The competition is judged on appearance and poise, showmanship, precision and executive routine and overall impression. The group scored a total of 311 points of a possible 400.

Row 1. Saquijia Green, Lamieka Lowe, Jenelle Yarbrough, Nicole Williams, Francesca Walker. Row 2. Tracy Lusk, Donnissa MacKintosh, Deonica Johnson, Sarah Boatman. Row 3. Landra Glover, Julia Taylor, Lakeesia Lowery, Saretta Horn, Vonda Criss and Sherrita Meyers. Not pictured: Kristine Rebber, Kristina Pate, Heather Pate.



Beaumont Middle School Dedicated Tuesday

Newly remodeled facilities and a decorative metal fence were the focus of dedication ceremonies Tuesday (Nov. 27) at Beaumont Middle School, 4043 N.E. Fremont St.

Students, parents, staff members, neighbors and participants in the various phases of the construction joined together at the event, which ran from 7-9 p.m.

A new addition which houses a gymnasium, cafeteria and classrooms is joined to the main building by a fence designed by artist John Rogers. Symbols of the tools of education--from a pencil to a computer--embellish the metal fence. The original work of art was funded through the Percent for Art Project to which the Portland School Board has committed funds amounting to one percent of budgets for all new construction and remodeling in the school district.

"Beaumont was extremely overcrowded before this remodeling and addition," said Principal Lynne Smith. "Students and teachers are delighted now to have adequate space."

Portland School District's Baseline Essays Under Attack! Nationwide Assult Mounted Against the Precedent-Shattering Multicultural Curriculum

BY PROFESSOR MCKINLEY BURT

From all quarters the past three weeks, there has come what is obviously a well-orchestrated attempt on the part of "respected" elements of the establishment media and academia to reverse the gains made by African Americans in securing their true and thoroughly-documented place in the history of civilization.

These ill-disguised efforts to thwart the possibility that both black and white Americans might become aware of the deplorable prejudices and manipulations of so many white scholars far exceed the travesties so aptly described by Bill Cosby in his early video, "Black History: Lost, Strayed or Stolen". It could prove as damaging as "I.Q. and Genetic" nonsense put forth in past generations by the comedy team of Jensen and Shockley.

The lead salvo was fired by John Leo, editorial writer for the prestigious weekly magazine, "U.S. News and World Report". In the November 11 issue, beginning on page 25, we find an article, "A Fringe History of the World". The denigration intrinsic in the title tells one right off that this is not going to be a critical examination of the process--nor

even fair or useful. The piece can only be intended to confuse and misinform a readership which the author knows full well will never have an opportunity to read the Baseline essays for themselves.

Comfortable with this gambit, the writer proceeds. To pick and choose from the Portland material those few (very few) pronouncements which may indeed provoke a raised eyebrow, i.e. "The oral-aural tradition of Africa is lively and liberating, whereas the dependence of the West (and presumable of the East) on the written word can be debilitating." Now, it is true that there was one rather shaky consultant who was imported from somewhere or another, and somehow this nonsense passed muster. But, then, the foolhardiness of General Custer is never used as a wholesale indictment of the U.S. Cavalry. One clown does not a circus make.

Further, may I say in respect to the author's selection of that particular tidbit in an effort to make his case, the principal national consultants who developed the Baseline essays made an incontrovertible case--viz a viz--Heredotus, Plato and others whose credentials are impeccable among the establishment--that the ancient Africans were

the inventors of mathematics, letters, astronomy and so forth. After all, it is all still right there among the cosmos-calibrated pyramids, WRITTEN IN STONE.

I would make an additional point in this respect: as one of the "local consultants" who furnished much supplemental but integral material in the form of model curriculum and lesson plans necessary to support the mission. Particularly, my effort developed further my own research in this area of African contribution, work which had culminated in an educational demonstration that won a National Science Foundation award. The basis was an electronic/communication model clearly revealing that such classic and "accepted" establishment historians of mathematicians as Howard Eves and Arthur Gittleman were absolutely correct in stating that the ancient Africans invented "duplication", the binary method of multiplication and division USED BY TODAY'S COMPUTERS!

This is something a medium bright high school student could have deduced from an examination of the famed "Rhind Papyrus". Of course the author of this magazine article never mentions the supporting work of the local consultants,

essential to the entire structure--obviously too devastatingly contradictory to the precarious house of cards he attempts to build. Nor, for that matter, is there allusion to the universally-acclaimed stature of the principal Baseline essayists, men whom I know personally: John Clarke, Ivan Van Sertima and Asa Hilliard.

We should note that Mr. Leo, who wrote this racist polemic, has summoned forth several very active "guardians of the temple" to put down these uppity you-know-whats and to counter the contributions of these eminent black scholars. In particular, he assigns a key role in the "cleansing of the altar" to one Diane Ravitch, professor of history at Teacher's College, Columbia University. If the name sounds familiar, it is because several months ago I spoke as disparagingly as these pages would permit in a critique of an article by black (?) journalist, William Razberry. (In his own piece, Razberry also praises Ms. Ravitch in her crusade to exorcise we impudent devils from the temples of education): Specifically, Leo credits her for "the best analysis of this new and revised ethnic separatism".

As I stated earlier, the "well-orchestrated" assault has come from many

in the ranks of those who are becoming very frightened at the growing, often belligerent evidence that the so-called minorities of the world have become aware that they are no such thing at all. Also seeking to hold the line against a true and factual revelation of their documented role in the development of civilization, we have the following scholars. They, too, take their best shots at the Baseline essays":

Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., a professor of humanities at the City University of New York; Burton Beers, history professor at North Carolina State University in Raleigh; and Arther Ferrill, a professor of ancient history at the University of Washington; an imposing federation, or is it conspiracy?

Are you like me? Do you get a sense that all of this is probably happening in planned concert? More than likely connected to the contemporary and similar assaults upon "minority quotas and set-asides"--that we are dealing with a nationwide convulsion borne of age-old ethnic fears and today's concerns about an increasingly bleak economic picture. More next week in this continuing "Saga of the Baseline Essays"

Chief Potter Sworn In

Captain Tom Potter was officially sworn in as Chief of Police by City Auditor Barbara Clark on Monday, November 19. Mayor Clark made the following remarks at the swearing-in ceremonies:

"Officers and citizens are working together as partners more than ever before. And this has resulted in greater support for the [Police] Bureau and its mission by our community."

"Much of the credit for this improved relationship belongs to the individual who will be sworn in as Chief today. But much of it also belongs to every man and woman in the Police Bureau, because it's through their dedicated service to the people of Portland that Community Policing is a reality. I want to take the opportunity of today's ceremony to acknowledge them and their fine work, as well."

Chief Potter's new badge was pinned on by his mother, Mrs. Frances Peters.

Harold Williams Elected to PCC Board of Directors



Williams began duties Nov. 15 and will serve the remainder of the term, through June 30, 1991. The seat will come up for election March 26, 1991.

PCC Zone 2 includes portions of north and northeast Portland and Columbia County.

Williams is President of CH2A Associates, a Portland consulting and management firm which provides contract policy services to area clients. CH2A clients include Portland

Public Schools, City of Portland and Portland State University.

Previously, Williams was Labor Relations Manager for the State of Oregon. He acted as the spokesman for the

Executive Department and negotiated labor contracts and formulated and developed labor relations policies.

From 1975 to 1979 Williams was the Affirmative Action Director in the Office of the Governor and was responsible for the management of 51 state agency affirmative action programs.

Earlier in his career Williams organized and directed a "storefront" campus for Portland State University.

Long active in northeast Portland community affairs, Williams is the chair of the Coalition of Black Men and is a member of the Urban League of Greater Portland. He is also active in the N.A.A.C.P. and the American Association of Affirmative Action Officers.

Williams holds a B.S. in political science and a master's degree in general studies from Portland State University. He has also received certificates in international relations and race relations from, respectively, the University of Zagreb

and the University of California.

Williams and his wife Cal live in northeast Portland and have three children; Natasha, age 19, Harold, age 13 and Anthony, age 11.

Williams said, "I feel that the Cascade Campus is a vital element of PCC's program and an asset through which to address the need for racial understanding. The campus provides hope for those who have lost a dream for the future and it gives them an opportunity to put that dream into an active program for success."

Williams also said he would continue to strongly support the community outreach efforts of President Daniel Moriarty and Cascade Campus Executive Dean Don McInnis.

"Their examples depict the kind of efforts I want to be part of and their efforts enhance the racial understanding and harmony that emanates through PCC into the entire tri-county area."

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