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 SAFE RETURN
 OF OUR
 TROOPS**

PORTLAND OBSERVER 25¢

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"The Eyes and Ears of The Community"

March 6, 1991

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Jessie Jackson Talks About "Common Ground" and Corporate Responsibility



Photo by Veronica Green
 Oregon president, Delane Garner and wife Angela S. Garner hold PUSH Magazine during visit by Rev. Jessie Jackson on February 28, 1991.

A Whirlwind trip to the Pacific Northwest last Wednesday enable Reverend Jackson to reach large audiences with his two current themes, "Common Ground and Corporate Responsibility. The first topic centered around his position that timber workers and environmentalists have a common interest. The second addressed such "runaway" American corporations as Nike, who do their manufacturing overseas.

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Photo by Veronica Green
 Rev. Jackson enjoyed the rapt attention of over 300 young people at Grant High School

'Real World' Solutions For Oregon's Education Crisis

BY PROFESSOR MCKINLEY BURT

Considering that our nation is often identified as an egalitarian and pluralistic culture-perhaps with tongue in cheek-it is somewhat disappointing that so many of the solutions being offered seem directed to families at the high end of the income structure.

My most recent "viewpoint" article was without doubt a 'gloom and doom' piece if ever there was one. But, I am not willing to leave the matter there. Let me expand on that rhetoric where I suggested that solutions to the crisis require that aggressive vehicles be developed in concert-educators, students, parents and government.

Now, those "highend" hedges I referred to are being put forth in all the print and electronic media as well as in the town halls and faculty lounges. It is not that these attempts to resolve the problem are not well-meant or well-structured. It's just that most are not suited to an emergency situation, centering, mostly, around 'long term' economic programs tailored for UPPER MIDDLE CLASS POCKET-BOOKS. There is no relevancy to 60% of Oregon families and students faced with this crisis in higher education.

One magazine extolls the virtues

of its "College Financing Primer". Parents are happily advised to start putting away \$600 a month as a college investment portfolio for their newborn. At an average yield of 8%, this is projected to provide the \$148,360 needed for education at a state university in the year 2010 (An Ivy League School will carry a four-year price tag of \$370,904"). Other complicated programs are put forth, many requiring the expensive services of a FINANCIAL PLANNERS. And a familiarity with such exotic terms as "zero-coupon bonds, family college fund stock pools, and growth-oriented mutual funds." Well, I say "how about some 'real world' solutions for the 'here and now' that will address the immediacy of this Damocles sword hanging over the educational future of our young people?" We could begin with State Lottery Funds! I hardly think that this would be a "diversion," or a departure from the original intent of the legislature of the public. If ever there was a case to be made for and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT vehicle, it could certainly be built around the need for a viable and comprehensive system of Higher Education!

I remind you of last week's observation: "We have a fast-developing network of technology-centered insti-

tutions of higher learning that will prove increasingly attractive to new industries, domestic and foreign. What now, as a severe state-wide attrition (and postponement) of these facilities is contemplated? Where will our young people work?" It is a rather obvious fact, then, that the health of our economy and the health of our education establishment are as one.

Another remedial action I would advance within that context of "aggressive vehicles" is a comprehensive review and restructuring of the COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM. Whatever our efforts to shore up the system in the face of current economic onslaughts, it is still the case that a large number of previously university-bound high school students are not going to get there-at least not immediately! Then, it is 'upon our heads' to nevertheless provide intermediate and comprehensive access to technical training and orientation. Without this, those jobs and industries will not be forthcoming. The community college system lends itself to the fastest and most realistic development of a continuing education structure which can bring Oregon through this time of crisis.

Airman 1st Class Hermin M. Griffith



Airman 1st Class Hermin M. Griffith has graduated from Air Force basic

training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

During the six weeks of training the airman studied Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community college of the Air Force.

He is the son of Phillis J. Pace of Portland Blvd., and Daryl L. Griffith Sr., both of Portland.

His wife, Mary, is the daughter of James and Kathay King of Portland.

The airman is a 1986 graduate of Benson Polytechnic High School, Portland.

Words on the Gulf

by A. Lee Henderson

"We African Americans disproportionately provided the forces that made possible the swift American victory in the Persian Gulf. And now, with the military statistics still clear in the national mind, we want and deserve something back. Peace without equal opportunity is peace in chains. President Bush should initiate a new civil rights bill that unequivocally restores the so called 'inalienable' rights of justice in the job arena, freedom from discrimination and a widening of economic opportunity."

U.S. Bancorp Reinforces Its Commitment To Community Reinvestment Activities

U.S. Bancorp has appointed two senior managers to focus additional emphasis on the bank's commitment to serve low and moderate income, small business and agriculture customers, according to Edmund P. Jensen, president of U.S. Bancorp.

Randy Robinson has been promoted to senior vice president and appointed community reinvestment manager for all U.S. Bancorp operations in Oregon, Washington and California. A Seattle resident, Robinson will have special responsibility for community reinvestment activities in the Washington market.

Karen Tolvstad of Portland has been promoted to vice president and will serve as community reinvestment officer for U.S. Bank in Oregon and California. Both Robinson and Tolvstad have been active for the past year in community contact programs and development of bank programs to meet low and moderate income customer needs.

"These executive assignments underscore U.S. Bank's commitment to community reinvestment activities throughout our system," noted Jensen. "Regular contact with our customers and wide variety of community interest

groups is generating a number of practical suggestions for expanding and improving our community reinvestment programs to better meet the credit and service needs of the communities we serve."

Robinson has an extensive background in community and government affairs. A graduate of Whitman College, he previously served as a registered lobbyist for U.S. Bank, and has been acting community reinvestment manager for the past several months. His new responsibilities include directing all activities related to U.S. Ban-

corp's community reinvestment program.

An Oregon State University graduate, Tolvstad recently helped develop and introduce to the Portland market the bank's new low/moderate income mortgage program, HomepartnerS. This program allows qualified borrowers to buy a home for as little as two percent down payment with fully-financed closing costs. Tolvstad has served as a corporate advertising officer and marketing executive for the bank, most recently was marketing manager for U.S. Bancorp's real Estate Services Group.

According to Robinson, "U.S. Bank

has been committed through the years to serving our communities' range of banking needs. We believe that providing specialized products and services that are responsive to all the communities we serve is good business for the bank."

U.S. Bancorp is the largest financial services company head-quartered in the Pacific Northwest, with current assets of \$17.6 billion. Subsidiaries include United States National Bank of Oregon; U.S. Bank of Washington, National Association; and U.S. Bank of California.

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He Has A Dream Too
(I Have A Dream Foundation)