

# BLAZERS ADVANCE TO WESTERN CONFERENCE FINALS!!

Mrs. Frances Schoen-Newspaper Room  
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## King Youth Sing at Blazer Opening



Photo by Veronica Green

Before the Blazers first game of the Western Conference semifinals against the Utah Jazz Rachel Jeffries, Kevinna Jones, Hennisha Dizer, Dolicia Bryan and the rest of the Martin Luther King Elementary School choir sang a rousing rendition of the National anthem. The choir's presentation of the song was superb and greatly appreciated by the crowd.

## Blacks in Government Conference

"Winning the 90's: A New Challenge" is the theme of the ninth annual Blacks in government Region 10 Training Conference to be held May 22-24 at the Red Lion Hotel/Jantzen Beach. Workshops, forums and speakers will address issues of concern to Black employees in government and private industry. Keynote speaker during the Friday, May 24, evening awards banquet will be former U.S. Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm.

More than 1,800 people are expected to attend the conference, an audience comprised largely of government employees from Oregon, Washington, and Alaska. On-site registration begins Wednesday, May 22, at Noon. For registration information and conference details call 1-800-877-4816.

Cost of the two-and-a-half-day conference is \$200 (\$175 for BIG members) which includes admittance to workshops Wednesday through Friday, as well as luncheons and the awards banquet.

Thursday and Friday, more than 20 workshops will be offered each day, spanning a broad range of topics such as: The Changing Face of AIDS; Ethnic Identification and the Workplace; Building Multicultural Alliances; Communication Before Conflict; Using Personal computers; and Moving Up-The Power of Appearance.

Blacks in Government (BIG) is a national non-profit, non-partisan organization of federal, state and local government employees, committed to the development and promotion of programs and training which foster economic and social well-being among Blacks in government. For more information on this organization, contact conference chair and president of the Region 10 Chapter Daniel Lunsford or conference co-chair Carolyn Riley-Payne at 1-800-877-4816.

Partial support for this conference was provided by Portland-area businesses, the Oregon Business Network, and Portland State University.

## Congresswoman, Shirley Chisholm, Inaugurates Portland Chapter



Congresswoman, Shirley Chisholm.

Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman to be elected to Congress of the United States, will be in Portland on May 25th to inaugurate Portland's Chapter of the National Political Congress of Black Women. As founder of this national organization in 1984, Ms. Chisholm continues her lifework to keep the needs of African-Americans ahead of political expediency. The National Political Congress of Black Women is a nonpartisan political organization which seeks to address the needs of African-Americans through government and the political process, act as a catalyst

for the election of African-American women, and establish alliances with grassroots organizations for these purposes.

In keeping with the celebration, Portland's chapter will also be acknowledging its own: Representative, Margaret Carter; Judge Mercedes Diez; and Commissioner Gladys McCoy will be recognized for their political contributions to the citizens of Oregon. Shirley Chisholm will deliver the keynote address.

Please share an evening with Congresswoman, Shirely Chisholm and friends, Saturday, May 25th from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. The dedication will be held at Emanuel Hospital's Leola C. Lorenzen Education and Conference Center located on the corner of N.E. Graham and Gantenbein Streets. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$10.00.

For more information about this event or becoming a member of the National Political Congress of Black Women, please call Veronica Carter on 326-3185, or Judith Pitre on 273-4546.

## "A Touch Of Elegance"



Bernadette Thalia Donald

Les Femmes has chosen 22 high school seniors, to be presented in their 40th Annual Debutante and Cavalier Ball, "A Touch Of Elegance."

Dedicated to improving the lives of African-American youth, while preparing them for life after high school is one goal of Les Femmes. The Portland base organization of women has developed a strict code of ethics and rigorous curriculum for the young people to follow.

To reward the participants for following the ethics code and curriculum, each senior who demonstrates academic success and service to the community will be honored in the formal ball on Sunday, June 23 at 8 pm in the Grand Ballroom of the Oregon Convention Center.

Each week through June, Les Femmes and the Portland Observer will feature three young people who were chosen as 1991 debutantes and cavaliers. This week Bernadette Thalia Donald, Sedric Kion Ford and Kyra-Shaunna Anea Parker.



Sedric Kion Ford

Donald, daughter of Charles and Mary Donald, is a senior at St. Mary's Academy. Building unity among people of all races is important to Donald and to foster this need, she is a facilitator for St. Mary's African-American Club. Donald also participates in the Student Public Relations Group, Marrians (St. Mary's choir) and was elected by her peers to a student body office. Donald, a member of Allen Temple CME Church, works part time in the law offices of Reichard C. Busse. However, Donald is considering studying chemical or civil engineering at Prairie View A & M University.

Ford, the son of Ivery Mays and Linda Ford, will graduate from Jefferson High School next month. Ford is senior class vice president and is active in drama, gospel choir and the Financial Business Academy. Nominated for athlete of the year by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Ford is a scholar-athlete and has lettered in both baseball and football. Ford is an active member



Kyra-Shaunna Anea Parker

of Christ Memorial Church of God in Christ where he was selected youth of the year. Family is important to Ford, who shares "I have a loving, united family who helps me to do all things with the help of God." Ford will major in business administration at Grambling State University.

Parker, the granddaughter of Mitchell and Viola Horsely, is a four year honor student at U.S. Grant High School. Parker is active in the human relations committee and gospel choir, who gave her the honor of singing the national anthem for Jesse Jackson during his visit to Grant. Last summer, Parker had the opportunity to visit Egypt for two weeks and earned an Academic All-Star scholarship from the portfolio she completed. Parker is an usher at Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church and participates in the National Association of Colored Women. With an interest in broadcast journalism, Parker will pursue studies at Fisk University this fall.

## Watch For Our Careers Special

# OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF the African American Festival