## **General Powell Urges Students At His** Former Junior High To Stay In School



(Taken From Parade June 27, 1991 Issue)

General Colin Powell, who served as "captain" of his graduating class at Intermediate School 52 in the South Bronx in 1950, has advised the students there now to "stay in school and get a good education."

"That's what helped me when I was where you are," General Powell added in a letter he sent the students from Saudi Arabia.

"Look around you in your classroom; I bet you're looking at a judge, a lawyer, an Army general, a famous architect, a doctor, a couple of movie stars, and many, many other famous Americans of the future," General Powell wrote. "Each one of you has that potential. And I'm going to be watching you, so work hard and prepare yourselves to win the future."

When six of the students, who had

written to the General at the suggestion of their teacher, Rosemary Kerr, visited him in Washington recently, he produced a framed picture of his graduat-

ing class. "I spent last night searching through my attic to find this," General Powell said. He also entertained the students with stories about the various souvenirs in his office. One of his favorite items seemed to be a Saddam Hussein beanbag with two black eyes. 'Whenever I felt frustrated during the war, I punched the beanbag,"

he joked.

"The most valuable gift General Powell gave the kids was his genuine, down-to-earth personality," observed

"Living in a neighborhood like ours, the kids see mostly problems. General Powell's success speaks very deeply to them. That someone who is greatly admired went through some of the same difficulties they experience... They equate that with, 'Not all people who come from this area are people into drugs and other problems. We can make it through.' '

Ms. Kerr agreed. "By example, he showed them: 'You can be somebody. I've done all this, and I was one of you." And Latisha Hopewell, age 12, one of the students who met General Powell in Washington, summed it up. "For the first time, I feel like a winner," she said.

## **PDX Passengers Post May Mark**

Portland International Airport (PDX) achieved its best May ever for passengers handled, when 526,627 person traveled through the airport in May 1991.

PDX's May passenger total was a 2.5 percent increase over May 1990.

PDX continues to outpace the United States aviation industry, which was down 1.1 percent in May 1991 versus May 1990.

PDX grew in May despite losing service from USAir, which accounted for 3 percent of the market. "Other carriers have come in to pick up the slack on the USAir routes," said Keith Phildius, Port of Portland aviation director.

"PDX continues to post good numbers in the midst of reduced demand nationally," he added.

The Port operates Portland International and three general aviation airports in Hillsboro, Troutdale, and

Air cargo tonnage through PDX in May was 11,096 tons. For the first five months of 1991, PDX has shipped 55,479 tons, a 1.6 percent increase over January-May 1990. General aviation operations (take-

offs and landings) showed modest growth in May 1991. Operations at Hillsboro were up 3 percent to 20,615, while Troutdale was even with 9,227. General aviation operations at PDX were up 4 percent to 5,379

## Planned Parenthood Prepares For Possible Loss Of \$500,000 In Federal Funds

Planned Parenthood leaders will forfeit \$500,000 in federal funds if they are forced to comply with a federal regulation known as the "Gag Rule."

Saying that the "Gag Rule" is "contrary to the ethics of health care," Planned Parenthood of the Columbia/ Willamette's Board of Directors voted unanimously Wednesday night to continue to provide full information to Planned Parenthood patients, even it it means losing a half-million dollars.

Last month, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the federal government may ban federally funded family planning clinics, including Planned Parenthood's Southeast Portland clinic, from providing patients with any information about abortion, even patients who ask for the information.

The Bush Administration says it will take away money from federally funded clinics that do not comply with this "Gag Rule."

"To abide by these regulations is clearly contrary to our mission," Elizabeth Flanagan, president of the Planned Parenthood Board of Directors, said at a press briefing Thursday. "They require Planned Parenthood to betray the trust of our patients and to treat lowincome patients with less than the dignity and truthfulness they are entitled

Flanagan said the agency has not heard yet from federal officials on whether or how Planned Parenthood must comply with the regulations, which appear to be quite strict.

"We are currently exploring every option to determine if there is a way we can work with these regulations without compromising the care we provide, but we are not hopeful," Flanagan said.

Planned Parenthood of the Columbia/Willamette receives about \$500,000 in federal funds, about 20 percent of the agency's \$2.5 million budget. Federal funds are used to subsidize services provided by the agency's Southeast Portland clinic.

The money allows Planned Parenthood to serve low-income women in the Portland area by offering services free of charge or at reduced cost.

"Loss of the federal funds will jeopardize our ability to provide these basic medical services, most of which have nothing to do with abortion," Flanagan said. "These services include annual exams, cancer screenings and birth control information. Our Southeast Portland clinic serves about 10,000 women a year."

The agency's plans to open a clinic in Northeast Portland next year also would be jeopardized by the loss of federal funds, Flanagan said.

Allie Stickney, Planned Parenthood executive director, said the agency might have to raise fees to offset the loss of

"That's something we just don't want to do," she said. "Part of our mission is to offer services to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay. By raising fees, we risk losing some of the very patients we are committed to serve."

Stickney said the agency is planning a "massive fund-raising campaign" to challenge agency supporters to make up the loss with increased contribu-

"We have one other hope, the United States Congress," Stickney said. "Both the House of Representatives and the Senate are considering bills that would overturn the Gag Rule.

"We are asking all of our supporters to speak out forcefully to their legislators. We are asking our supporters to tell Congress that the Gag Rule is a violation of the doctor-patient relationship, a hardship for low-income women and a violation of the freedom of speech. We want to build momentum in Congress to overturn the gag rule and override a veto by President Bush.

"Whatever the outcome, Planned Parenthood will continue to disclose all of the information that will help our patients to make decisions about their health and their lives," Stickney said.

In addition to its Southeast Portland center, Planned Parenthood of the Columbia/Willamette has clinics in Beaverton, Gresham and Vancouver, Wash.

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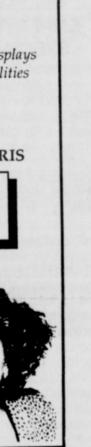
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#### Systolic Hypertension In The Elderly Program (SHEP)

SHEP was designed to test whether drug treatment to lower elevated systolic blood pressure can reduce the number of strokes, heart attacks, and deaths from cardiovascular disease in men and women ages 60 and older. Until now, medical research has focused on the effects of reducing diastolic blood pressure; SHEP is the first clinical trial to evaluate possible health benefits of lowering isolated systolic hypertension in a population prone to developing this major risk factor for cardiovascular disease and sudden death.

Results of the study are expected to have significant public health implications. Some 3 million people over age 60 have an elevated systolic blood pressure, and the number of older people with this condition is expected to increase to 8 million by the year 2025. Isolated systolic hypertension is associated with a two-to-three-times higher risk of stroke as well as increased risk of coronary heart disease, heart failure, heart attack, and sudden death from cardiovascular disease.



### **Commission Meeting**

Date: July 10, 1991 Place: Portland Building 1120 SW Fifth Ave., 11th Fl. Portland, OR Time: 9:30 a.m.

Commission meetings are open to the public. A complete agenda is available at PDC. Call 823-3200.

PDC is the City of Portland's urban renewal, housing and economic development agency.

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