



# UHURU SA SA



## Salem Group Establishes Youth Speaking Panels



Kenyatta Alexander

Uhuru Sa Sa, a non profit Organization within the walls of the Oregon State Penitentiary, has established Youth Speaking Panels to address the issues concerning our youth who are at risk as well as the need for education amongst all youth of all ethnic background. We do not see the problems in terms of color, we see it as an issue that needs to be dealt with overall.

The areas which we address towards our "at risk" youth are "peer pressure" unwarranted drug addiction, unsafe sex, low self esteem, bad decision making, and senseless gang involvement, all of which lead to a



Daryl Lee

criminal life style and most likely imprisonment. There will be speakers to demonstrate the effects of peer pressure and then we break into groups and discuss the reality and pit falls of all of the above mentioned areas.

On April 29, 1992 we held our first panel here at the prison. Those in attendance were Alonzo Wilson, Security Personnel from Wilson High School. This brother brought several students from that High School with him. Also Iris Lunsford from McMinnville High School brought students with her. Others in attendance were Johnny A. Gage, Johnny W. Gage and Alonzo Graves, from the Portland House of Umoja, John Canda from Youth Gang Outreach Gangs Program, Donald Foster from Private Industries Counsel, Dapo Sobomehim from the Oregon Commissioners on Black Affairs Office in Salem, Charolette Lewis from Pioneer Square's Art Program, Carolyn Leonard from the King Neighborhood Facility in Portland, Elaine Clark, parole and probation officer in

Wash. County, Leah Sauer from Mothers Program in Portland, Carolyn Clark from Portland, Mattie Wilson, Retired Correctional Captain, Vera Woods from Salem, Also from the NAACP in Corvallis Oregon were Margaret Bain and Joan Collison, and the following students from the Oregon State University were: Michelle Jones, Christy Martin, Tina Brummel, Tammy Bloomer, Kevin Price, Lacle Brooks, and Julie Harshberger. The Prison staff were Ron Martin, Minority Affairs, Carolyn Schnoor, Assistant Superintendent, and Mr. Williams OSP Chaplain.

On June 9, 1992 we held our second panel and those in attendance were Alonzo Wilson, who again brought several students from Wilson High School with him, Iris Lunsford from McMinnville High School, again with students from there, David Jackson Jr., Coordinator, and Lorianne Thye, Public Relations-Communications Director, both from Campfire Gang Peace in Portland, also in Attendance were Margaret Bain from the NAACP, and Connie Hennes from the Oregon State University, Dapo Sobomehim from the

Oregon Commissioners on Black Affairs, and Carolyn Clark from Portland.

Each program began with Clayton Howard, Uhuru Business Manager reading the UHURU pledge, (Before this body er pledge, Unity, Honor, Understanding, Respect and to the Uniqueness of Uhuru) to all those in attendance. This is done to show Unity amongst each and every one present. Next Charles Wilson, Ways & Means Chairman, read the Red, Black and Green Pledge to our

sent the purpose for these youth speaking panels, "our youth concerns". Brother Kevin Lewis began the program with a "rap" dealing with life in the ghetto, senseless gang involvement and drive by shootings

which are uncalled for. Next brother Kenyatta Alexander spoke on his gang involvement and why he decided to get out of the gangs. Brother Deliane Jones then spoke on peer pressure and how he was tricked into participating in drug selling.

Next brother

on the House of Umoja program which he works for and he was followed by Alonzo Graves, an ex-gang member, who speaks all around the United States to our youth about senseless gang involvement.

Next Charles Wilson, James Crittenden, Kenyatta Alexander, Delaine Jones, Irvin Poindexter and John Smith Jr. demonstrated a play that showed peer pressure and it's effects on our youth. This play was written by John Smith Sr., President of Uhuru.

Next Salomon Osiris spoke on problems of drug use and Don White spoke on unsafe sex. The program ended with brother Kevin Lewis giving a rap dealing with "it's time for all of us to come together.

To conclude the program the president, John Smith Sr. gave an overall view of the program and stated that peer pressure structured is a universal excepted rule of behavior and conduct that leads to love, not war, respect, not disrespect, this enhances support and discourage's violence. And to the parents he stated that if we are to restore the formal level of admirable social interaction in our community amongst our youth we "must" intervene in a structured manner to help our youth develop their qualities and let them know that they are important and have some worth, and we need to create some avenues so that the troubled youth can get our their frustrations constructively rather than destructively. He also addressed the issue that our black community leaders need to support the youth struggle and we need moral leaders, leaders who care, leaders who are believable, that have moral authorities. We are aware that in the past Uhuru's name has been misrepresented by some of our executive leaders but that was then and this is now. We have new leaders whose primarily focus is to educated our members and prepare them through realistic reentry back into the



Delaine Jones

community and to reach out to our community about addressing the issues of our at risk youth through are prison program ARK. (At Risk Kids) "We need to believe without seeing and trust, when trusting is the hardest thing to do" and "A Journey Of A Thousand Miles Begins With The First Step". These speaking panels are video taped (audio & Visual) and any Organizations or individuals can obtain a copy of them by writing the Uhuru Business Manager at the below address.

Mr. Clayton Lamont Howard  
Box #5838277  
2605 State Street



John L. Smith

Mr. Clayton Lamont Howard  
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Salem, Oregon 97310



Johnny A. Gage

James Crittenden (l),  
Charles Wilson (r)

### "Ideas Won't Work Unless We Do"



Salomon Osiris



Kevin Lewis



Alonzo Graves

Red, Black and Green Flag of Africa. John L. Smith Sr., President then introduced the guests in attendance and pre-

Darryl Lee presented a rap dealing with education and the need for it to succeed in our society. Then Johnny Gage spoke

## Hammond Sets Sail For Home Port

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

When the Naval fleet arrived in Portland for the Rose Festival, on board the magnificent USS Cleveland, which was docked at terminal four in St. Johns' because of its size, was HM1 Dwayne Eric Hammond.

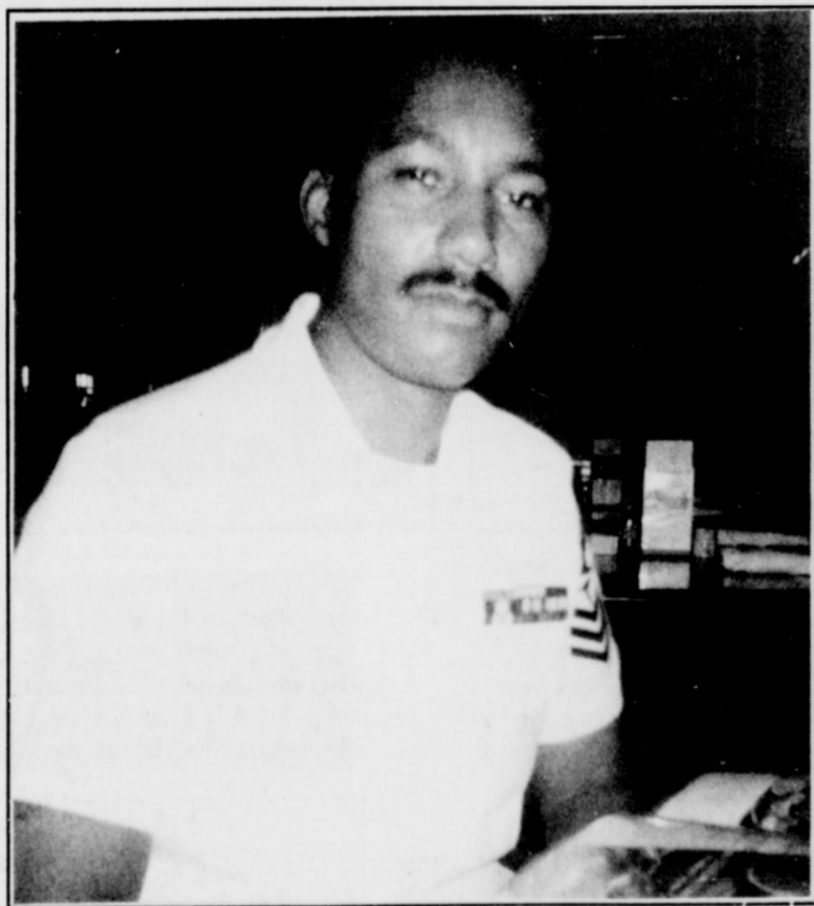
Ofcr. Hammond spent time with family and friends during his brief visit.

In March, of this year, Ofcr. Hammond received a special award, in a group of twenty-eight crew members, from Capt. Thomas E. Hopson, commanding Officer of the USS Cleveland LPD7. This award was one of many which Ofcr. Hammond has received since his time of enlistment in the Navy.

Ofcr. Hammond entered the Navy immediately following graduation from Benson High School, which was thirteen years ago. He is married to a New Orleans beauty named Crystal and they have a son named Dwayne, Jr..

Born and raised in Portland, Oregon, Ofcr. Hammond had a lot to show his crew members when he arrived but he said that he couldn't squeeze everything into such a short time. Maybe next time.

Congratulations and keep up the good work!



HM1 Dwayne Eric Hammond

## Brown Is Spaced-Out On Portland's Youth

Continued From Front Page

a bike, you must first have a desire to learn or you will never learn anything."

Recently, Brown's achievements were heralded in the TVRO (Television Receive Only) Magazine, May 1992 edition. This is an international publication; so, Future TeleVision, of which Bennie Brown, Jr. is President, has now received international recognition.

Brown is well known in the Portland Metropolitan area by his winning smile, through his "gift-of-gab" and by

making his customers happy while installing their multi-channel satellite dishes.

Bennie and Jeanette Russell Brown are the proud parents of two children: Shalaunda, 19, and Andre', 23. Shalaunda was recognized, last year, and crowned as Rose Princess from Jefferson High

School. She is now completing her first year at the University of Portland as a Business Administration major.

When asked what his main goal in life is, his response was, "My main goal is to open a specialty school which will include courses in: fiber optics, lasers, satellite repair and installation, transmitting data

".....What a person needs is a strong desire to learn and he can learn anything he sets his mind on....."

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