

# EDUCATION

The Portland Observer

## BLAZERS BASIC: EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Portland Trail Blazers, AVIA Group International and Bank of America are once again joining forces to present a special educational incentive program for public and private schools throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington. The award winning program which is called "BASIC" (short for Blazer/AVIA Scholastic Improvement Concepts) recognizes student achievement in three specific areas: academic/behavioral achievement, reading, and writing.

Information packets containing a "BASIC Ambassador" registration form were mailed to school principals in mid-August. Schools must register an ambassador to serve as the primary information contact if they wish to participate. The official deadline for registration is September 10th. For more information or to obtain an ambassador registration form, teachers should call the BASIC Hotline: 1-231-5275.

BASIC is endorsed by the Oregon Department of Education and Education Service District 112 in the State of Washington. Student participation is acknowledged through special recognition. All nominated students receive special recognition certificates and other materials provided to teachers for distribution. "We believe that it is important for every student who participates to know that we feel their effort is important," said Harry De Boer, President of AVIA Group International.

Clyde Drexler serves as the honorary chairmen of the BASIC program. Since the program's inception in 1984, more than half a million students have been involved in one or more segments.

**Academic/Behavioral Achievement**  
The "Improvement" segment tips-off in early September and is directed at students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. It was developed to provide teachers and counselors

with a way to give students an extra "pat on the back" for academic or behavioral achievement.

This segment consists of four phases. Each teacher/counselor can nominate three students per phase for special recognition certificate that is presented by the classroom teacher. Nominated students who reside within a 1.5 hour driving radius of Portland will have their names entered in a drawing to win tickets to a Blazers home game. Students outside this area have the chance to win Blazers memorabilia or merchandise.

Phase I of the Improvement segment starts September 7th. Teachers/Counselors are asked to have nominations submitted by October 1st. The deadline date for Phase II nominations is November 5th; Phase III deadline is December 3rd; Phase IV deadline is February 18th.

In recognition of BASIC's 10th anniversary, all students nominated during each phase of the Improve-

ment segment will be entered in a drawing to attend the BASIC 10 Year Celebration Jam. Three hundred lucky students will be invited to the Oregon Convention Center on Saturday, April 16th for a special fun filled day planned in their honor.

### Reading

The "Reading Fitness" segment, which is designed to encourage increased interest in leisure reading, will be conducted between October 4 and October 29th. It targets students in grades one through six.

Special teacher packages including a lesson plan and an assortment of classroom aids are distributed to help facilitate involvement in the program. Participating classroom teachers are asked to log and report student hours spent leisurely reading during the time period.

In addition this year, BASIC features the Oregonian's Newspaper in Education workshop which will be held at Memorial Coliseum on

Friday, October 8th. The workshop will highlight a newspaper reading curriculum guide developed to assist teachers using sample copies of the Oregonian that will be distributed to participating classrooms between October 25 and October 29.

The overall winner at each grade level will receive a special classroom trip to see the Blazers meet the Charlotte Hornets with Larry Johnson and Alonzo Mourning at Memorial Coliseum on January 16, 1994. Top regional winners at each grade level will receive a special plaque to display in their classroom and a Clyde Drexler poster for each student in the class.

### Writing

The third BASIC program segment is the "Write-On" essay competition for students in grades one through 12.

The essay program will be con-

ducted between January 10 and February 18. The grand prize winners at each grade level will receive a Blazers weekend which includes four tickets to the Blazer vs. Seattle Supersonics, home game at Memorial Coliseum in Portland on Sunday, April 24. This includes a pre-game reception and a half-time awards presentation. First place regional winners at each grade level will receive a special BASIC athletic bag from AVIA.

The BASIC program has received numerous awards including the "Presidential Citation for Private Sector Initiatives", Family Circle Magazine's "Leaders of Readers" Award, the Portland Council of the International Reading Association's "Celebrate Literacy" Award, the Columbia River Chapter-Public Relations Society of America "Spotlight" Award, and the Governor's (Oregon) "Voluntarism Award".

## Foundation Awards 6 Educators \$25,000 Each

Six Oregon educators received phone calls from State School Supt. Norma Paulus telling them they will receive \$25,000 from the Milken Family Foundation in Los Angeles.

They are Alcena Boozer, principal, Jefferson High School, Portland; Gayl Bowser, special education coordinator, Douglas Education Service District, Roseburg; Steve Boyarsky, science teacher, North Medford High School; Anne McEnery-Ogle, math teacher, Waluga Junior High School, Lake Oswego; Sally Leahy, language arts teacher, Glendale High School; and Jeffrey Nafie, social studies teacher, Crate High School, Central Point.

All six have won previous honors. Boyarsky and McEnery-Ogle won Presidential awards for excellence in teaching math and science. Leahy is the 1993 Oregon teacher of the year. Boozer received the Aubrey Watzek Award from Lewis and Clark College. Bowser was named teacher of the year by the Oregon Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children, and Nafie was selected teacher of the year by the Oregon Council for the Social Studies.

The six will be honored at a noon luncheon Sept. 22 at the Hilton Hotel in Portland. They'll receive their checks in April at a national meeting of the Milken Family Foundation in

Los Angeles.

They were selected by a committee representing teachers, administrators, parents, school board members, business and previous recipients.

This is Oregon's fourth year in the Milken National Educator Awards Program which is designed to give public recognition and financial reward to outstanding elementary and secondary teachers and administrators who make exemplary contributions to excellence in education. The program's goal is to elevate the entire profession by increasing public support and recognition of outstanding educators who make significant contributions toward the education of

children.

The program now rotates annually between secondary and elementary school educators. Awards will go to elementary educators next year.

"Strengthening our educational system is the most secure investment we can make in our children's future," said Lowell Milken, president of the Foundations of the Milken Families. "And the most effective and lasting way to reach that goal is to support our educators—the men and women who teach and guide our children every day. We are honored to recognize through this awards program many of the talented and dedicated educators throughout the country."

## PCC Announces New Registration Process For Fall Term

This fall Portland Community College will begin a new enrollment process for new students who intend to get a degree, certificate or diploma from college, or enroll in a college transfer program. Matriculating students will need to participate in a seminar that includes orientation, placement and advising before they register for classes.

"With this pre-registration process," said Daniel Duarte, director of advising and counseling at PCC's Sylvania Campus in southwest Portland, "the college hopes to streamline

enrollment and registration for new students. Students need to come early to avoid the rush."

Students interested in enrolling at PCC are advised to meet with an admissions officer at the campus of their choice as soon as possible to begin the registration process. Appointments for placement, orientation and registration will be made at that time.

Enrollment seminars have begun and times and days vary at each campus. **Please call the campus of your choice for scheduling infor-**

**mation:**  
Sylvania, 244-6111—ext. 4699, 4724  
Rock Creek, 244-6111—ext. 7270  
Cascade, 244-6111—ext. 5282  
Southeast, 244-6111—ext. 6252

Fall term classes begin September 21. Returning students' registration by appointment is scheduled for Aug. 2 through Aug. 6. New students' registration by appointment begins Aug. 9 and runs through Aug. 13. Open registration—registration for students both returning and new who have not made appointments—begins August 16.

## Young Professionals Present Talk

### By Educator

The Urban League Young Professionals presents a lecture by David Crippens, Senior Vice President of Educational Enterprises, KCET-TV, Los Angeles.

**His presentation, A Sense of Place: Education As Survival, will focus on how to get value back into the educational experience of our children.**

David Crippens is deeply involved in efforts to improve education at both the local and national

levels. On the local level he has adopted several schools. Nationally, under Crippens' leadership, Educational Enterprises has produced innovative television programming such as Quest for Education, a special on American and Japanese education; and Straight Up, a national series on drug prevention.

**What:** Lecture titled "A Sense of Place: Education As Survival"

**Where:** Portland Community College, Cascade Campus

108 N. Killingsworth/Cascade Hall Auditorium  
**When:** Thursday, September 16, 1993

**Time:** 6pm  
**Cost:** \$3.00 members/\$5.00 non members. Tickets are available at the Urban League office located at 10 North Russell, or at the door of the event.

(Entry Price goes to support the Urban League Young Professionals—a non profit organization, affiliate of the Urban League)

## Make Noise At The Library: Help Celebrate Central's 80th Birthday!

Always wanted to shout out loud in the library? Come join a very special birthday celebration on Saturday, Sept. 11 at 11am when historic Central Library marks its first 80 years of service to the Multnomah County community.

"If there was ever a good reason to make noise at the library, this is it!" says Library Director Ginnie Copper. "Bring your family, join us for birthday cake and stay to enjoy the displays or what this beautiful old building looked like as it was being built in 1912 and 1913."

Cooper will be joined by a host of "Celebrity cakecutters" at 11am to blow noisemakers and cut into a giant birthday cake baked in the shape of

Central Library, a Portland landmark located on Tenth St. between Yamhill and Taylor. Weather permitting, festivities will take place on the front steps of Central Library. Volunteers will serve the cake until it is gone.

Those currently known to be taking part in the celebration include Bev Stein, newly elected chair of the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners; Judith Ramaley, Portland State University president; Mary Phillips, head librarian from 1959-1972; members of the Library Board, members of the Friends of the Library Board and members of the Library Association of Portland, the private group that governed the Library until 1990 when it became a department of

Multnomah County.

Special displays in the Friends Gallery on the third floor of Central will feature early construction photos that date back to the building's completion in 1913; the old card catalog system with DYN, its modern computer counterpart; and a variety of current library materials and formats, including books-on-tape, large print books and videos.

The celebration is particularly timely because of Central's upcoming renovation, says Cooper. "Thanks to the overwhelming support of the voters who approved the funds for renovation of this much-loved building, we will have a library that can serve as well for the next 80 years."

Celebrate Diversity

## School Buses Rolling Again

On Tuesday, September, the streets and roads of Multnomah County experienced an influx of large yellow school buses transporting students throughout the metropolitan area.

The Sheriff's Office on behalf of all law enforcement agencies in the metropolitan area reminds motorists that ORS 811.155, entitled Failure to Stop for Bus Safety Lights will be strictly enforced.

To be in compliance within the

laws, motorists must do the following when a school bus is stopped on a roadway and is operating the RED bus safety lights (they will be flashing):

- You must stop before reaching the school bus.
- Remain stopped until the RED safety lights (on the bus) are no longer flashing.

School buses will display yellow flashing lights to indicate that the RED safety flashing lights are

soon to be activated and the bus will be stopping to pickup or discharge passengers. Motorists must come to a complete stop before reaching the school bus. This applies to a driver who meets or overtakes a school bus from either direction on any two or four lane roads.

While the fine for violation of this traffic statute is dependant on several variables, the bail is fixed at \$565.00

## UO Law School Makes History

For the first time in the University of Oregon School of Law's 109 year history, more than half of its first-year students are women.

The state's public law school also recorded its highest ever grade point average for an entering class with a 3.51 on a 4.0 scale. This all class cumulative, compiled from the entering class' undergraduate grade point averages, is a jump from the previous year's 3.18.

"Comparing this GPA with available statistics of other schools from 1992-93, the University of Oregon School of Law ranks within the top 25 law schools in the nation," said Dave Frohmayer, law school dean. Even though state resources remain a concern, the school continues to attract students of the highest caliber. Private donations for scholarships and professorships and a strong reputa-

tion make this a school of choice in the Northwest."

Fifty-four percent of the 149 first year-students are women, compared to the national average for law schools of 42 percent.

Charles O'Kelley, associate dean at the law school, said the increase could be attributed to intensive recruiting.

"We have made extraordinary efforts in recruiting the highest quality students with the greatest potential while keeping social diversity in mind," he said. "We didn't specifically target female recruits but we had a higher yield rate of women than men admits."

"This class is helping us achieve our goal of gender balance which is a goal of most law schools," O'Kelley said.

Of the 407 total students in the

law school, 181 of them are women and 56 students are from minority groups. The number of students from ethnic minorities has held relatively stable, 54 were enrolled in 1992-93.

More women may be coming to the UO Law School because of its many specialties and high number of female professors O'Kelley explained.

"More than a third of the faculty are women which gives female students the chance for mentoring from female professionals," he said. "We have added five women faculty in the last two years and four minority faculty in the past five years."

Carol Forellk, a scholar in women's legal studies at the law school, stated that "the increase of women in the legal profession makes an impact on how issues concerning women are addressed in the bar and in the courtroom."

## School Start Important For Parents

State School Supt. Norma Paulus urged employers to encourage their employees to accompany their children to school on the first day of class.

"In increasing numbers, Oregon businesses are forming partnerships with schools," said Paulus. "One of the best ways employers can show their support is by providing flexibility to parents who are also making a renewed effort to involve themselves more directly in their children's education."

"The first day of school is a spe-

cial day, especially for children who are entering school for the first time," said Paulus. "It's also a special time for parents, a time that shouldn't be missed."

Paulus is encouraging employees at the Oregon Department of Education to take an hour or two of vacation time to accompany their children to school.

In addition, she scheduled a major training session of school reform for all employees for Wednesday, Sept.

8 instead of Tuesday when most schools began classes. "There are little things employers can do that will mean a lot to children and their families."

Celebrate Diversity

SEE OUR MBE SPECIAL COMING IN OCTOBER