

4.00 Black Scholar – Ms. 'Natural' Soul

Tova Joanna Johnson, 17 year old Black Senior attending Grant High School in northeast Portland, has maintained a straight 'A' record while compiling a most-impressive list of accomplishments.

Among other things, Tova completed Research Apprenticeships at Oregon Health Sciences University during the Summers of 1992 and 1994. During 1993 she was a Research Assistant in the University of Oregon Institute of Neuroscience Summer research Fellowship Program. Tova was also a participant in the MINFORS II conference held at Oregon State University in October 1993.

Besides being a member of the National Honor Society and consistently maintaining 'superior' grades, Tova is enrolled in Grant's Institute for Science and Math (ISM) and Math, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA). She is an active member of Grant's Human Relations Committee and plays Violin with the Strings Ensemble.

Tova Joanna Johnson has recently been nominated for national recognition by the Oregon National

Science Scholars Program Committee. She has been selected to receive a 1994 Youth Citizenship Award by Soroptimist International and received special recognition for academic accomplishment from the Northwest Black Pioneers at its 28 January 1995 'Gala Celebration' held in Salem.

Tova has two siblings and comes from a single-parented, low-income Black family. While maintaining self-knowledge, Tova has stepped clear of false stereotypes that promote low expectations and achievements. Her sister Tara was the only accumulative 4.00 Black graduate and Black Valedictorian in Portland Public Schools last year and is now a Presidential Scholar attending Oregon State University in Corvallis. Tova's younger sister Kelva attends Grant High and is a 4.00 Freshman.

Tova's future includes a possible career in Pediatrics, Genetics Research or Forensics Medicine and Law. She is the daughter of Lulu R. Stroud-Johnson and grandchild to the late Kelley Dolphus Stroud, first Black Phi Beta Kappa graduate at



Tova Joanna Johnson

Colorado College in Colorado Springs.

Some Honors, Awards, Memberships, ETC:

- (OHSU) Oregon Health Sciences University -- Apprenticeship as a Research Assistant. Research Areas: Muscular Dystrophy, DNA and Pediatrics. Summer of 1994 -- 392 hours. Lab of Dr. De-Ann Pillers.
- MINFORS II Conference Participant, 23 Oct. 93' thru 26 Oct. 93', at Oregon State University in Corvallis

- (UofO) University of Oregon Institute of Neuroscience Summer Research Fellowship Program -- Research Assistant (Lab of Dr. Ry Meeks-Wagner, Institute of Molecular Biology) Summer 1993 -- 273 hours. Area of Research: mapping a gene in 'Arabidopsis'

- (OHSU) Oregon Health Sciences University -- Apprenticeship, 432 hours -- Summer 1992 (Lab of Dr. Robert E. Brummett, Oregon Hearing Research Center)

- (ISM) Institute for Science & Mathematics at Grant High School, since 1991

- (NHS) National Honor Society, Grant High School Chapter, since 1993 "Honors" Classes at Grant, since 1991

- Human Relation Committee member, Grant High School, since 1993

- (SKY) Special Kiwanis Youth Club Member, Grant High School, 1994-95

- (MESA) math, Engineering, Science Achievement, Grant School, 1994-95

- (SBI) School of Business & Industry at Grant High School (1991-93)

- 1995 Northwest Black Pioneers Award

- 1994 Oregon Finalist, National Science Scholars Program Award

- 1994 Certificate of High Achievement, Academic Scholarship, from UofO

- 1994 Oregon Alliance of Black School Educators Student Achievement Award

- 1993 Optimist Club of Lloyd Center Essay "Freedom: Our Responsibility to Preserve" Contest. Awarded Second Place

- 1992-93 Blazers' BASIC Award for Scholastic Improvement Concepts

- 1992 Minority High School Student Research Apprentice program, (NIH) Nat'l Institutes of Health Certificate Received

- 1992, June, Introduction to Research Certificate Award

- 1991 Forest Service Volunteer -- 31 hours, Mt. Hood National Forest, Certificate of Appreciation Received

- 1991 Oregon Alliance of Black School Educators Certificate of merit

- 1991 Selected to submit writings and attend Seventh Annual

oregon Writing

- Festival held at Portland State University 4 May 1991

- 1990-91 Presidential Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

- 1990 Project Business Certificate of Accomplishment Award

- 1993-94 "Superior" Honors, Grant High, 4.0 GPA -- Junior

- 1992-93 "Superior" Honors, Grant High, 4.0 GPA -- Sophomore

- 1991-92 "Superior" Honors, Grant High, 4.0 GPA -- Freshman

- 1994-95 Member National Honor Society

- 1993-94 Member National Honor Society

- Other School Community Volunteer Service

- 1994 Usher at Senior Graduation/Commencement

- 1993 Holiday Card-Making for Senior Citizens

- 1993 Nursing Home Holiday Caroler

- 1992-93-94 Academic Tutoring Volunteer

- 1991 to Present -- Violinist w/ Grant Strings and Acting in School Plays

- Interests Include "Pediatrics, Genetics Research and Forensics"

Residents Lead Improvement Panel



Stewart Minnieweather

The Boise Citizens Improvement Association announced the recent election of Sonja Tucker, chairperson, and Elder Stewart Minnieweather, co-chairperson.

Neighborhood meetings are held the first Monday of each month at



Sonja Tucker

Albina Youth Opportunity School, 3710 N. Mississippi.

The Boise neighborhood encompasses the area of inner north and northeast Portland from I-5 to Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and Skidmore to Fremont Street.

Police Arrest 20 Crack Cocaine Dealers

Twenty street crack cocaine dealers were arrested Friday night after officers posed as buyers.

The arrests were part of separate police efforts dealing with neighborhood crime issues.

After the sale of the drug, the sellers were arrested. Police said the majority were charged with distribution and possession of a controlled substance, schedule II.

The officers focused on locations along northeast Cleveland Avenue, northeast Killingsworth and northeast 16th Avenue.

Public Information Office C.W. Jensen said the areas were targeted based on information from neighbors and police officers about narcotics activity.

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"It Takes An Entire Village To Dream"

Vocational Village High School Celebrates King's Life



Marjorie Arigbon and Kevin Fuller

"I have a dream that one day my children will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character..."

These words--spoken by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the great March on Washington more than 25 years ago--were passionately brought

to life at a school assembly by Antwan Ross a student at Vocational Village High School in northeast Portland.

As schools paused to pay honor to America's King of nonviolence, Vocational Village involved more than 20 students in a program that was filled with music, skits and positive messages.

The students were reminded that "what one person does, make a difference" when Torri Leselle became Rosa Parks and re-enacted December 1, 1955. This is called the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement--the day that one woman decided she was simply too tired to move, and too tired to take unjust laws any longer.

Each student was challenged to make a positive difference in their own lives and then for someone else. Kevin Fuller, The Oregonian in Education manager and Cristie Larry, Portland State University counselor told the students to "wake up and start living the dream."

At the conclusion of the program, students, staff and guests feasted on fried chicken, red beans and rice, cabbage, corn bread and sweet potato pie.

The program was planned by Marjorie Arigbon who works closely with students at Vocational Village High School Ms. McCulloe and Mr. Larry who are staff members at Vocational Village.

Grocery Workers Fail To Qualify For Jobless Benefits

Grocery workers locked out of the workplace by employers during a 1994 strike against Fred Meyer stores do not qualify for jobless benefits, according to a ruling yesterday by the state Employment Department.

The decision affects 1,380 people represented by Local 555 of United Food and Commercial Workers who were employed by the Safeway, Albertson, and Kienow chains, as well as other stores. These workers

applied for unemployment insurance last year after employers declared a lock out and refused them work during a 12-week strike against Fred Meyer that ended November 12, 1994.

Under state law enacted by the Legislature (ORS 657.200), a worker involved in a labor dispute is disqualified for unemployment benefits. According to yesterday's ruling, "this situation [was] clearly a labor dispute. Since these individuals were unemployed due to a labor dispute,

they were not qualified for benefits."

An administrative Law Judge at the Employment Department issued the decision after holding hearings on October 25, and November 1, 1994.

The Employment Department sent copies of the ruling yesterday to the 1,380 applicants. They have the right to appeal, but must file an application with the state Employment Appeals Board by January 30.

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