

## Conference To Study Assault On Affirmative Action

Strategies for coping with barriers to equal opportunity created by the assault on affirmative action will be the focus of Blacks In Government's (BiG) 17th Annual National Training, conference set for August 20-25, 1995 in St. Louis, MO at the Adams Marks Hotel, 4th and Chestnut Streets.

The theme of the conference is "Leadership, Excellence, Equity: Gateway to Tomorrow's Challenges."

Oscar Eason, Jr., President of the national organization, said the conference will focus on the effect of recent developments on equal opportunity.

"The Supreme court decision against affirmative action, efforts to overturn affirmative action programs at the Congressional and state levels, combine to create a cloud over the future of those who are still seeking equal opportunity in the workplace. It calls for a greater understanding of the law and how to apply it to the kind of obstacles African American government workers encounter."

The session will include topics related to the future of affirmative action, career development in an era of reinventing government, new techniques for conflict resolution, cultural

rapport, the Republican/Democratic vision for Black America, and African American history from a Post-Reconstruction perspective.

Among the invited speakers who will be asked to speak to these issues are Commerce Secretary Ron Brown; Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros; Congressman William L. Clay; Congressman Donald L. Payne, Chairman, Congressional Black Caucus; the Reverend Jesse Jackson; Mayor Emmanuel Cleaver, Mayor of Kansas City, MO.; Senator Carol Mosely Braun (D-IL); and Major General John L. Cowings, Commander, U.S. Army Aviation and

Troop Command; Registration is \$275 for members and \$325 for non-members.

BiG is a Washington-based national organization of African American government employees dedicated to promoting quality public service and equality of opportunity through training, professional development, and advocacy.

The organization includes more than 250 chapters of government workers in federal, State and local agencies around the country, from Alaska to Florida. For more information on the conference, call 202-667-3280.

## The "Standard Dairy" Project

Continued from front

cent of the financing needed to build the project and is seeking the balance of the funding as loans from the City of Portland's "Housing Trust Fund" and the Portland Development Commission. A number of neighbors and public officials who have seen the plans praise the project as a transit-friendly flagship development that

will bring jobs, housing and shopping opportunities back into the neighborhood.

Reed, a private builder and developer with offices on MLK, has been building new housing in the area since 1991 without public subsidies.

Reed employs more than 40 people, about half of whom live in north and northeast Portland.

The reconstruction of the Stan-

dard Dairy is expected to require 10 to 12 months, and will employ 25 to 30 workers.

The project designer is Mike Dowd, who practices across the street from the Standard Dairy in a brightly painted orange house with a neon green "Architecture" sign out front. Dowd has worked on a number of recent commercial renovations on King Blvd.

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