

Health & Science



Shriners Hospital For Crippled Children

DeMitron Rhone-Spears is a happy nine year old boy who has benefitted from the free services at Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children.

DeMitron's hobbies include dancing, writing, swimming, traveling, and participating in community activities. DeMitron is a member of the NAACP Junior Youth Council, Maranatha Church, and Humboldt Elementary School Drill Team. He also wrote a special article for the Portland Observer in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday last year that included some of his classmates at Humboldt.

At birth it was discovered that DeMitron's shoulders weren't quite right. After seeing several specialists, it was discovered that DeMitron muscles were under developed.

Because DeMitron's difference is very rare it made things difficult when trying to obtain treatment and services for him. Shriners welcomed him with open arms.

He has been part of the Shriners' family for nine years and is currently receiving weekly physical therapy to strengthen his upper body. As a result, DeMitron is learning how to do the simple things like reaching that we take for granted.

Shriners has provided DeMitron with opportunities that has built his self-esteem. This summer he participated fishing, horseback riding, professional race car championship and Tai Kwan Do.



DeMitron Rhone-Spears and Louise Sasso-Lundin, Rehabilitation Therapist

I wish more families in the community would use the wonderful services that Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children have to offer. Disabilities aren't restricted to

those people that use wheelchairs, braces, or any other apparatus. Shriners has made all the difference in my life, let it make a difference in yours. DeMitron Rhone-Spears.

Nursing Home Standards To Stay

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole has backed off a controversial plan to eliminate federal nursing home standards in a bid to secure the votes needed to pass a massive Republican balanced budget plan.

The proposal to eliminate the 1987 nursing home standards, which bar drugging or restraining patients and set health and training requirements for nursing home staff, had created a firestorm of controversy.

Instead of uniform standards, states would have set their own nursing home rules under loose federal guidelines.

Last week, even as Dole was meeting with moderates, Sen. William Cohen, R-Maine, was hearing testimony from families of elderly patients who told of shocking care and pleaded with lawmakers to keep the national standards.

"Congress, do not turn your

back on this country's elderly and disabled. Please keep the nursing home reform law in place to protect people like my mother. Without it she would have died," Dorothy Garrison of Alabama said.

Garrison said that without the law she would not have been able to prevent her mother's nursing home from forcing her to take behavior-modifying drugs, restraining her and discharging her against her will.

Studies show the standards have cut the use of physical restraints nearly in half and curbed the use of drugs. Nursing homes have complained about aspects of the standards but did not lobby for complete repeal.

The move to repeal the nursing home standards was part of an overall provision of the budget bill giving states control of the Medicaid program for the poor, disabled and elderly while cutting \$182 billion over seven years.

While generally considered a program for the poor, Medicaid is actually an important middle class entitlement, paying two out of three nursing home bills.

In other concessions, Dole agreed to restore \$5.9 billion in proposed student loan cuts, provide \$1.2 billion in additional funds for teaching hospitals under the Medicare program and add another \$1 billion in funding. He agreed to help assure Medicaid would continue to pay the Part B doctors premiums of low-income Medicare recipients.

In the House, Speaker Newt Gingrich agreed to alter the Medicaid proposal to address the special needs of Florida and Oregon, which would suffer financially under the original plan. He said more changes would be expected as problems with Medicaid and Medicare show up and promised hearings to "refine and improve" the program.

Kids With Sugar Have Healthier Diets

Children who eat sugar have healthier diets and are usually slimmer than children who are denied sweets because their parents believe they are harmful, a new study shows.

The study carried out by nutritionists at London's Kings College found that children who ate sugar tended to have a more varied diet and consumed less fat than children who did not.

The report appears to overturn advice given to parents in recent years that children should be discouraged from eating sweet foods because "empty calories" from sugar make children fat and prone to disease.

The nutritionists, who studied the diets of 143 children aged between 11 and 13, concluded that children with big appetites ate more of everything rather than choosing only

sugar-rich foods. A separate report by Britain's independent Social Affairs Unit said it found no evidence to back claims that sugar causes poor health and disease.

"Extensive and expensive research has failed to substantiate any of these claims except where consumption is grossly excessive," said the report.

Education

"A Modern-Day Global Declaration of Independence"

Three Oregon high school age students will be awarded \$1,000 each in the 1996 Independence Scholarship competition. For the second year, the essay competition is organized by Cascade Policy Institute, a Portland-based think tank. While last year's prizes were restricted to high school seniors for higher education tuition, this year the awards are open to all Oregon high school age students and their use is unrestricted.

The focus of this year's essays will be the Declaration of Independence. The entry deadline is March 1, 1996; students interested in receiving Scholarship guidelines should call the Independence Scholarship Hotline promptly: (503) 224-1737.

Students will be asked to read

the Declaration of Independence and adapt it for our times. In essays that roughly parallel the structure of the original document, students will present modern-day justifications "to alter or to abolish" an international, national, state, or local form of government somewhere in the world. They will also be asked to declare, as the founders did, "the causes which impel them to the separation," by citing "Facts" -- examples of violations of liberty at home or abroad that justify a declaration of independence.

In addition, the first one hundred entrants will receive a free copy of The Law, by Frederic Bastiat. The Law, which was the topic of the 1995 Independence Scholarship Competition, is a short essay that explores the

nature of government in a free society.

The Independence Scholarship is made possible through the generosity of Constructive Management Foundation (Portland). Cascade Policy Institute, organizer of the scholarship, is a non-profit, independent public policy research organization. The institute develops and publicizes voluntary, market-oriented alternatives to Oregon's public policy questions.

An independent Essay Review Committee will select the three \$1,000 scholarship winners. Serving on the Committee again this year are David Reinhard, Associate Editor, The Oregonian; Leslie Spencer, a writer for Forbes magazine; and Dr. Zenon Sygmont, Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, Reed College.

Portland Public Schools Quick Facts

Finances	
PPS general fund budget (1995-96)	\$319,099,505
Average cost per pupil	\$5,608
Students	
Enrollment (1995/1996)	\$57,276 Total
• Elementary (PK-5)	\$27,833
• Middle (6-8)	\$12,528
• Secondary (9-12)	\$13,814
• Special enrollment (alternative programs, etc.)	\$2,724
• Total	\$56,899
• Minority students as % of total enrollment	31.2%
• % students receiving free/reduced price lunch	39.0%
• % students in ESL/Bilingual Program	6.5%
• % Students in Special Education Program	9.8%
• % students in TAG Program	6.8%
• Dropout rate	7.0%
Average Student/Staff Ratio	25:1
Schools and Facilities	
• Elementary	63
• Middle	17
• High	10
• Total regular schools	90
• Administrative Support and Holding Facilities	30
• Portland School District covers 152 square miles	
Employees	
• Full-time classroom teachers	2,468
• Part-time classroom teachers	321
Total full-and part-time classroom teachers	2,789
Daily average # of substitute teachers (94-95)	248
Average teacher's salary (Estimated 1994)	\$38,419
Average teacher's # of years with PPS	11 yrs.
• Full-time support personnel	2,451
• part-time support personnel	1,428
Total full-and part-time support personnel	3,879
Total full-time employees	4,919
Total part-time employees	1,749
Total all employees	6,668

Pain may be eliminated for millions

(SPECIAL)—A new drug has been approved that is exciting researchers in the treatment of pain. This material has been formulated into a new product known as "Arthur Itis™" and is being called a "Medical Miracle" by some, in the treatment of debilitating conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, rheumatism, painful muscle aches, joint aches, simple backache, bruises, and more. Although the mechanism of action is unclear, experiments indicate that Arthur Itis™ relieves pain by first selectively attracting, and then destroying the messenger chemical which carries pain sensations to the brain, thus eliminating pain in the affected area. Arthur Itis™ is an odorless, greaseless, non-staining cream and is available immediately without a prescription and is guaranteed to work. Use only as directed.

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Bell Selected To Lead Youth Programs

October 27, 1995 - Multnomah County - The Department of Community and Family Services (DCFS) has named Iris M. D. Bell as program manager for the Department's Children and Youth Program Office. As program manager, Ms. Bell will be assigned to coordinate children and youth policy and program activities with DCFS and other Multnomah County Departments as well as with other government agencies and community-based organizations, and to be liaison to the Multnomah Commission on Children and Families. In addition, Ms. Bell will manage the planning and implementation of the Department's Family Centers; Integrated Services; Level 7 Programs; Youth Conservation Crop; Student Retention Initiative; Great Start; Youth Employment and Empowerment Program (YEEP) and others. "Ms. Bell has an extensive history, both professionally and personally, in providing leadership and services to children and families in Multnomah County," said Lorenzo T. Poe, Jr., Director of Multnomah County's Department of Community and Family Services, "she has been a Family Center Director, Executive Director of a local non-profit and the Chair of several commissions and boards," added Poe.

PDC
PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING
Date: November 15, 1995
Place: PDC - Commission Rm.
1120 SW Fifth Avenue
Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon
Time: 4:00 P.M.
Commission meetings are open to the public. A complete agenda is available at PDC or by calling 823-3200. Citizens with disabilities may call 823-3232 or TDD 823-6868 for assistance at least 48 hours in advance.
PDC is the City of Portland's urban renewal, housing and economic development agency.

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