

RELIGION

Church wins lawsuit

The Church of Scientology International announced victory and "the end of an era of religious terrorism" after winning a libel suit by a leader of the former cult Awareness Network.

The network's former executive director, Cynthia Kissler, had sued the Church for libelling her a "long time advocate of forcible restraint and assault conducted under the guise of 'deprogramming'" in the Church's Freedom magazine several years ago.

The jury decision came after a trial that lasted 11 days in Chicago Federal Court.

The Church presented extensive testimony and evidence of Kissler's affiliation with notorious "deprogrammers"... those who engage in the often unlawful and mostly unsuccessful practice of forcibly extricating and individual from a religion.

The decision follows a series of other legal blows to the group, including a Washington state court judgment awarding \$1 million in punitive damages against the network for the failed, unlawful deprogramming attempt of a young Christian man.

The group filed for bankruptcy hoping to continue its operations while avoiding its obligations, but its hopes were short-lived and the group was ordered into liquidation when evidence revealed that it was improperly seeking to avoid responsibility for its actions and debts.

The group was purchased by a private lawyer and has since been re-formed with a multi-faith board of directors, and a policy of religious tolerance and educations.

Its new directors promote that the group now prevents deprogrammings on a regular basis, provides factual information and helps reconcile family difference, all activities they say the old network claimed to be doing.



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Obituary

Gladys Violet Shephard

Gladys Violet Shepard was born on Nov. 17, 1917 in Bismarck, N.D. to William A. and Sarah E. Marshall.

She lived for 33 years in Yakima, Wash. before moving to Portland in 1960.

She was married on Sept. 9, 1940 to Clarence A. Shephard. Her occupation was a homemaker.

She was a member of St. Paul C.O.G.I.C. church when she first came to Portland and she became a charter member

of Emmanuel Temple Full Gospel Pentecostal Church on April 23, 1965.

She was a Church Mother too.

Services were held August 16, 1997 at 10:00 A.M. at Emmanuel Temple Full Gospel Pentecostal Church.

Burial followed at Lincoln Memorial Park in Portland.

She leaves to mourn her husband Clarence A. of Portland; eight sons, Clarence R. of Issaquah, Wash.; William A.,

Larry A., Jack L., Raymond W., Roger L., all of Portland; Donald E. of Seattle and Kenneth L. of Barstow, Calif.; a daughter, Sharon S. of Portland; and three sisters, Viola Terry and Dorothy Gratton-Hart of Seattle and Mary E. Williams of Yakima, Wash.

Survivors also include 31 grandchildren and 27 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a grandson, three brothers, a sister, a nephew and a niece.

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African choir performs in Oregon

Among the countless victims caught up in conflicts in such places as southern Sudan, Rwanda, Albania, Romania, and Bosnia are thousands of children.

Many of these children, the most innocent of victims, have been left orphaned, or homeless, or malnourished and without hope. Fortunately, a large number of these children are now being helped by another group - amazing young survivors of the worst kinds of world tragedies.

The twenty-six young members of the African Children's Choir are currently touring the United States and Canada raising their voices to help other children in crisis. Friends in the West, and international humanitarian organization, which formed the first African Children's Choir more than a decade ago, will soon be offering a concert of uplifting, joy-filled music in your area.

The choir members, who travel the United States and Canada by bus, offer their combination of native African, American gospel, and mainstream popular tunes to audiences at local churches and public auditoriums. Their concerts are free and open to the public; donations will be accepted.

The children stay in homes with local families and learn about North American culture as they share insight about their own. The choir's concert schedule follows:

Gresham, Saturday at 6 & 7:30 p.m., Easthill Four-square.

Gresham, Sunday at 9 & 10:30 a.m., Easthill Four-square.

Portland, Sunday at 7 p.m., New Hope Community Church.

Gresham, Friday, Aug. 29 at 7 p.m., Mountain View Christian Church.

Portland, Sunday, Aug. 31 at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Sunset Presbyterian Church.

Vancouver, Sunday, Aug. 31 at 6 p.m., Glad Tidings



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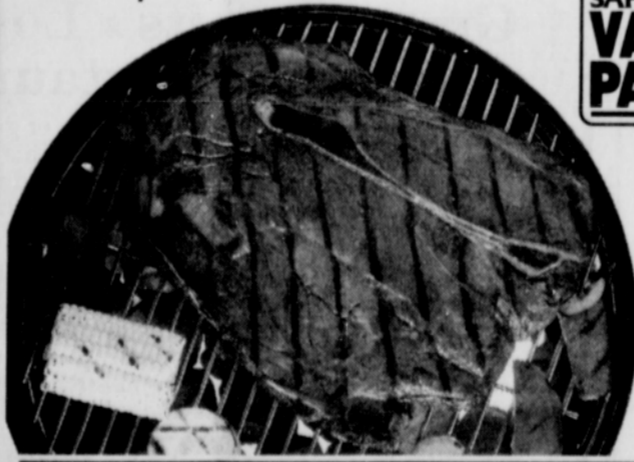
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