

Leading the struggle

Continued from Front

MHRC's Non-Profit Diversity Award will be presented to the Oregon Advocacy Center for incorporating cross-cultural actions into its daily activities and maintaining a diverse workforce.

The Oregon Advocacy Center works with and for persons with disabilities to prevent abuse and neglect, and to promote dignity, self-empowerment, choice and full participation in the community by securing legal and human rights through advocacy, legal representation and public education.

MHRC's Mayor's Award goes to former State Sen. Shirley Gold of Portland; and its Multnomah County Chair Award will be presented to Multnomah County Commissioner Sharron Kelley.

Several awards will be presented to individuals and organizations for responding to injustices and promoting harmony as a routine part of their daily lives.

These recipients are Floy Pepper, the Urban League of Portland, Judith Kahn, Sam Watson, Bob Boyer, Norma Trimble and Joe Briden, Sunshine Dixon, Clydie Mae Towner, Vice Wannassay, Karen Ettigner, Ty Ho, Sister Jane Hibbard and Sister "Rose" Frawley, and the Community Monitoring Advisory Committee.

Floy Pepper has been deeply involved in education for many years. She taught at Chemawa Indian School in Salem. Pepper became the first minority teacher hired by the Portland School District in 1945.

The Urban League of Portland has a history of building harmony within our community that stretches back more than 50 years.

As area director of the American Jewish committee, Judith Kahn has extended the scope of human rights work of the Committee well beyond strictly religious issues.

Sam Watson is a performing artist who has written a song called "Stop the Hate" which he will be performing at the awards dinner.

Bob Boyer was one of the first African Americans to become a switchman for the Southern Pacific

Railroad.

Norma Trimble and Joseph Briden have recruited Native American foster parents to allow Native American children to be placed in homes with similar cultures.

Over the last 51 years, Clydie Mae Towner has been foster parent to over 100 children, and has adopted three.

It's not the United Nations, but it might as well be. Each month Sunshine Dixon hosts a dinner party for people of diverse cultures she has met, bringing together people who may not speak the same language, but recognize their common humanity.

Vince Wannassay is a Native American man that everyone describes as "real grass roots." Within his community he has earned a place of respect by having overcome many personal challenges, and by his accomplishments in building organizations that meet the needs of the Native American community.

Sister Jane Hibbard and Sister "Rose" Frawley of Holy Redeemer Catholic School were the coordinators of the "Good in the Hood" festival in North Portland.

The Multi-Cultural Resource Center, recently relocated to Portland State University, has a wealth of culturally significant information and items from a variety of countries and cultures that can give you hands-on experience.

Ty Ho is a Vietnamese woman who came to the U.S. as a refugee in 1975. She is a champion for the poor and voiceless.

African-American, Hispanics, and other minority groups joined together to form the Community Monitoring Advisory Committee to demand an action plan and accountability for progress in the education of minority children.

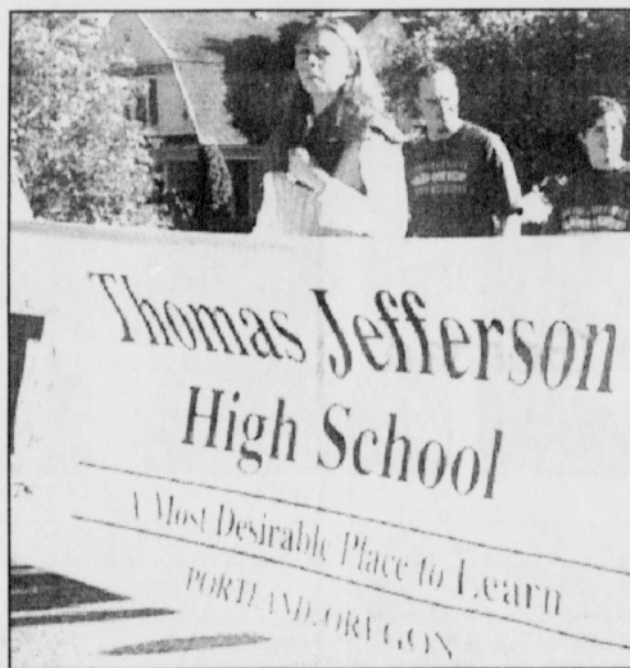
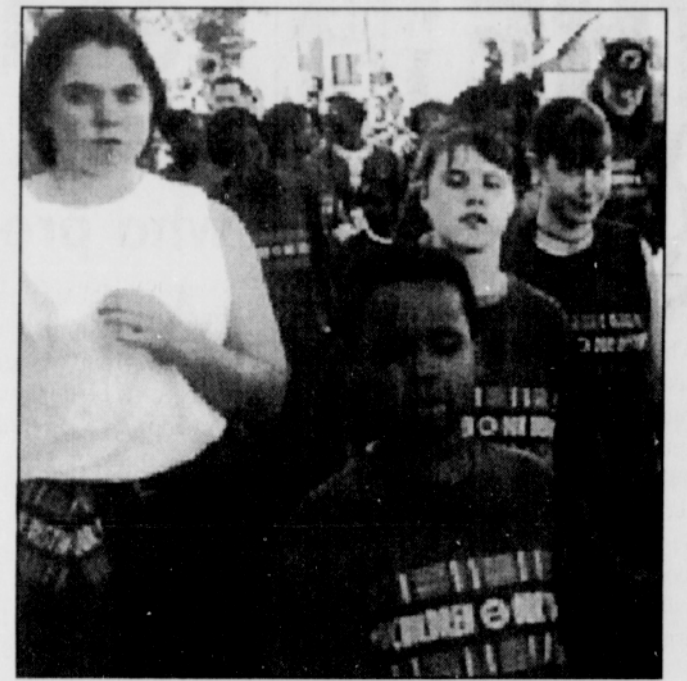
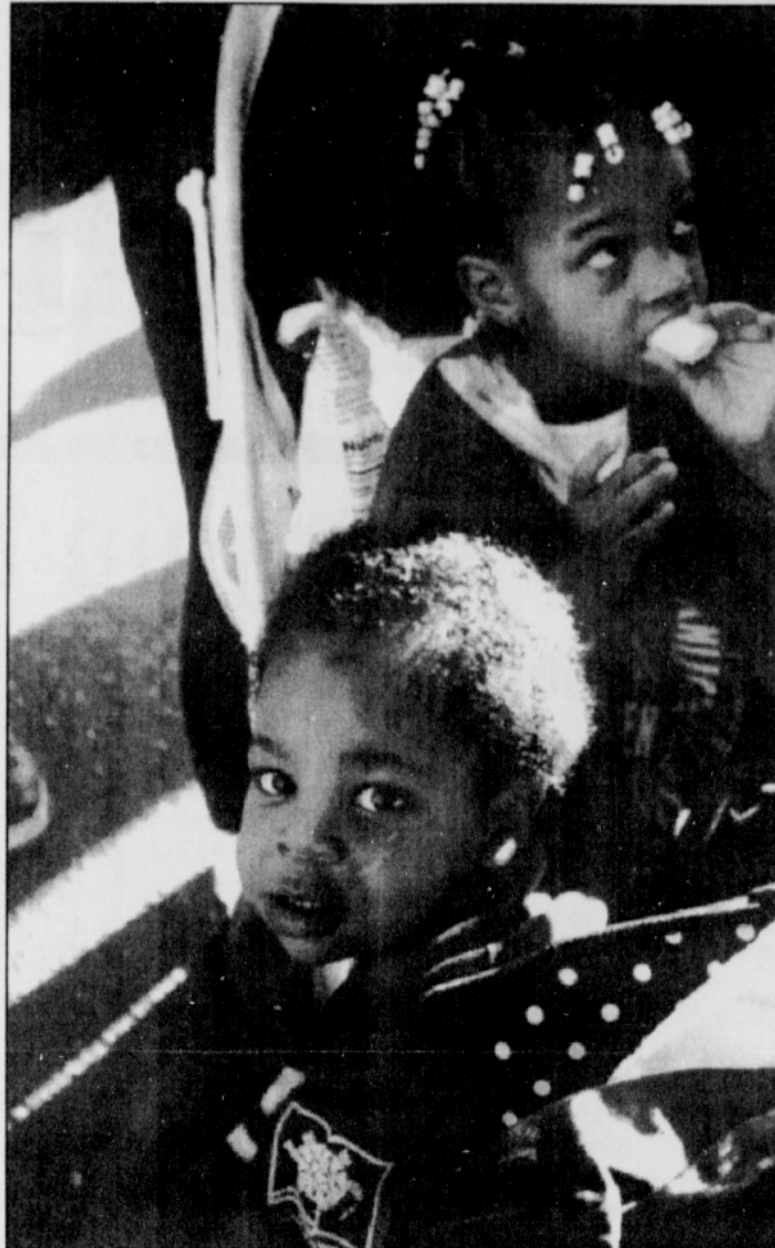
Portland Mayor Vera Katz will present the Mayor's Human Rights Award and Multnomah County Chair Beverly Stein will present the Multnomah County Chair Human Rights Award.

Tickets for the dinner are \$12. Reservations can be made by calling 823-5136.

SUPPORTING ACHIEVEMENT!

More than a thousand supporters gather to celebrate area children 'doing the right thing.'

Urban League of Portland celebration honoring achievement by young people start a Saturday march at Urban League Office on Russell Street, proceed to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and then northwest to Jefferson High School for jamboree.



School days, but no golden rule

Continued from Front Metro

ident of the Oregon Education Association). Teachers' unions serve who? Well, we are led to understand that Mr. Bierwirth can both read well and hear well, so there cannot be the slightest doubt that he was well aware of the game-playing that went on for decades in respect to

schools with a predominately minority enrollment. The educational disabilities that resulted may have had much to do with today's social instabilities among minority youth - not to mention their diminished earning power.

Next week: The push for 'reforms', better Teacher training, failures of the 'industry sector, the 'unions.'

Amtrak hop

Continued from Front

Portland to work in Vancouver, summed up most passengers' comments when she called the commuter train "an absolutely wonderful, comfortable, convenient, efficient train. It left on time and I wasn't stressed out when I got home."

She also likened the "friendly attitude of the people" to the "friendliness among strangers you find during a disaster or a snow storm."

As the 8 a.m. train started to roll out of Portland's Union Station Friday, Vancouver special education teacher Roma Barman had a friend photograph her in her train seat, reading a travel magazine. The photo was for a bulletin board project about adult readers at Hough Elementary School.

Many people looked like seasoned riders, quickly settling into their seats, pulling out a book or newspaper to read, with quick or no glances at the scenery. Many pencils filled in blank squares of crossword puzzles.

Some people took advantage of the free trains to give their children a chance to be on a real train adventure.

Silently, the train glided through rail yards, freight and container cargo cars resting on one side, warehouses on the other, fog hugging the northwest Portland hills. The patterns of criss-crossed tracks soon narrowed to four sets, along U.S. 30 where there was very light traffic, then down to two.

The train clickety-clacked over a slough bridge, then skipped onto the railroad bridge over the Columbia.

The river was still asleep, with some gentle pinks slipping through the fog to mix with the calm steel blue waters below. Log jams in the water were going nowhere, unlike traffic on the I-5 bridge, which kept an orderly flow throughout the construction project.

Although the nine passenger cars had a capacity of 800 people, only 79 were on this trip. "This is really light. On previous days we had 120 on the same (8 a.m.) trip," said C-Tran finance director Fred Bateman.



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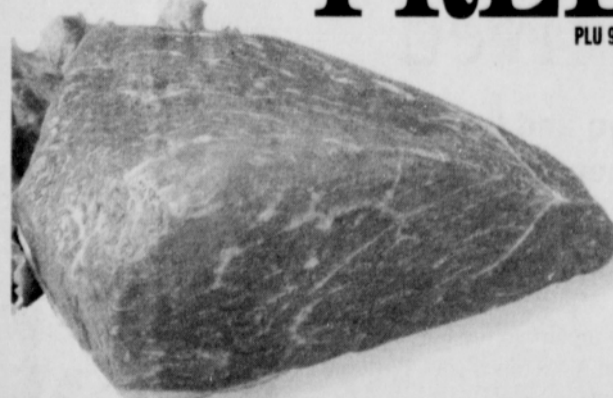
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