

Family Living

Saturday Academy Students Learn to Apply Math in the Real World

Forty-two Portland area African-American, Latino and American-Indian students are spending July learning how math is used in the real world. Drawn primarily from North and Northeast Portland, these students are participating in the Saturday Academy Applied Mathematics (SAAM) Summer Institute. Saturday Academy is a pre-college education program of the Oregon Graduate Institute of Science and Technology.

Offered every summer since 1991, SAAM aims to increase students' competence and confidence regarding math before they enter high school. Coming from ethnic groups under-represented in math and science fields, many of these students have less opportunity than others to observe role models use mathematics day to day.

This year's institute is being held this month until July 30 at Jefferson High School in North Portland. Thirty middle school graduates are learning "applied math" in the classroom from four senior teachers of color and from 12 high school mentors who have graduated from the program. All students participate in weekly site visits to learn how mathematical skills are used in various fields.

"This project offers intensive instruction in mathematics and problem-solving strategies and presents the material in such a way that students will understand the relevance of these skills," said Dr. William Long, Director of Trauma Care Services for Emanuel Hospital.

SAAM receives support from many local corporations and foundations, including Intel, Wells Fargo Bank, Portland Parks and Recreation and Standard Insurance. In-kind support is provided by Portland Public Schools, Tri-Met, Kittelson Engineering Associates and OHSU. Core support for Saturday Academy's Outreach Initiative, which operates SAAM as well as other math and science outreach programs, comes from Meyer Memorial Trust, Oregon Community Foundation (OCF), US Bank, Boeing and NW Natural.

For more information, visit www.ogit.edu/Satacad/Outreach or call Renée Anderson at 503/282-2694, rande@admin.ogit.edu

Mothers' Jobs Have Modest Effect on Children

By Linda Jacobson

Whether children are harmed by having mothers who work outside the home is a topic of great debate.

But a new study, published this month in the journal *Developmental Psychology*, concludes that the negative effects on children aren't very great. In fact, the researcher who conducted the study concludes that some children benefit from the income that their mothers bring to the household.

Elizabeth Harvey, a psychology professor at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, analyzed data from the long-running National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, conducted by the U.S. Department of Labor, to determine how parental employment affects children's academic achievement, behavior, and emotional development.

Saturday Academy students at Intel learn how math is applied in the work world. Brittinie Harper and Mahogani Gordon are making a robotic car and using the Lego Cad program. Kumasi Sadiki, Jo Ann Robinson and Sarita Smith (in back) is are shown making a video on the computer and e-mailing it to friends.



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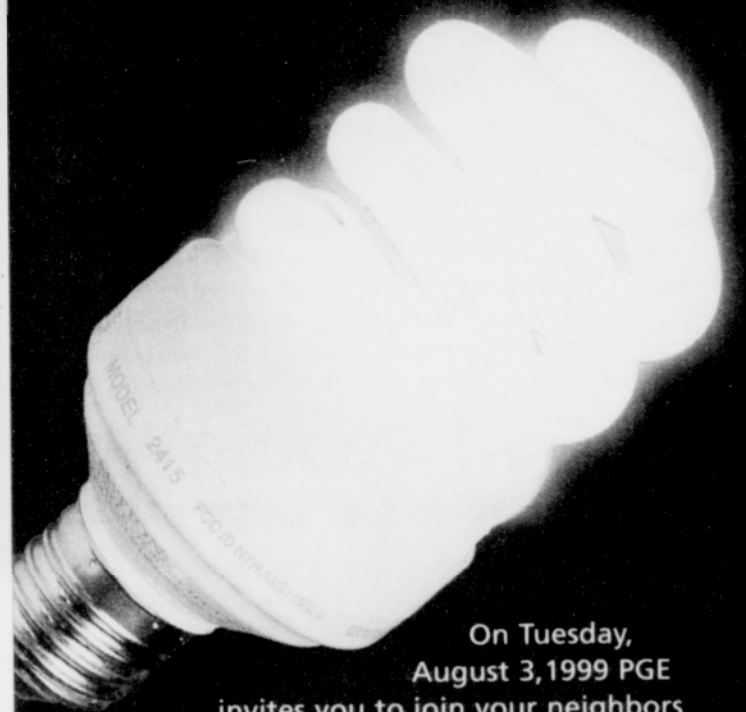
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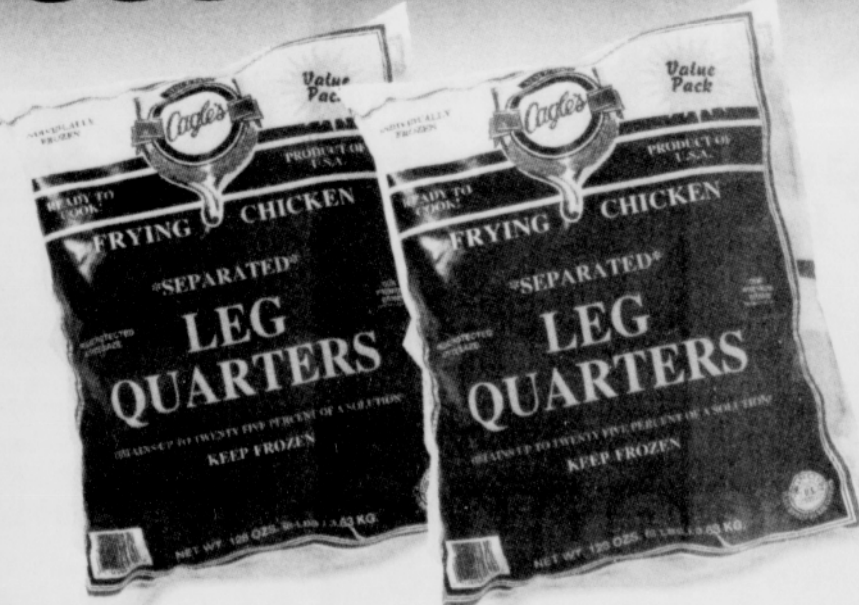
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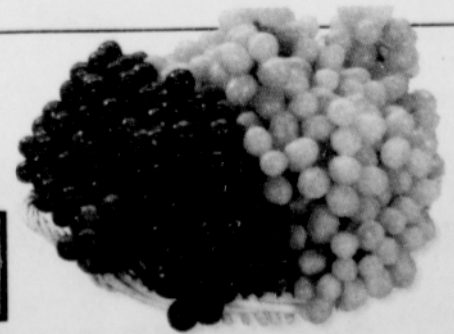
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