



Youth Peace and Justice Festival

Ray Rush (from left), Aisha Dansby, Eliza McCoy and Shay Washington of the local group 'Tease' entertain at the "Hour of Our Power" Youth Peace and Justice Festival at Alberta Park on Saturday. The American Friends Service Committee and United Voices helped organize the day of workshops and open mic performances supporting social change and free expression. Donations were accepted for the Oregon Food Bank.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Proudly Representing Home

continued ▲ *from Front*

someone's perceptions had changed," she said. In national competitions, McKenzie says she takes pride in representing her city and state. "I want to be a positive role model, to let people know that there's more than just trees and mountains in Oregon."

Portland's diversity is one of the characteristics McKenzie treasures most about the city.

"Diversity in a racial sense, but also a diversity of thoughts and ideas people have," she said.

McKenzie says she believes in laying down roots, and has taken an active role in the community.

She coaches youth track and field with Inner City Steppers, she is vice-president and secretary of U of O's National Association of Black Journalists,

she founded March of Dimes National Chain Reaction Youth Council, is a mentor with Ethnic Origins Peer Mentoring Program and is the co-director of Black Women of Achievement. She also sings at the U of O Gospel Ensemble Choir and is a member of Missionary Baptist Church in Portland.

"Being at a predominantly white university, I think it's important to have multicultural roots going on," she says of her activities.

McKenzie says she's used to juggling a busy lifestyle, and explains how she flourishes with her varying activities, balanced with pageant competitions and maintaining a 3.0 grade point average.

"I like challenges and when someone thinks I can't do something because of my age or height or race, that's when I do it," she said.

Envisioning a Better Portland

continued ▲ *from Front*

He also envisions a police force accountable to community members.

"Critical in the northeast, without question, is that citizens control the day-to-day operations of the police," he said.

One of Posey's most controversial ideas is freezing taxes and licensing fees for four years to small business owners.

"Small businesses would get a preference to show we're making every effort to actively cultivate small businesses," he said.

Posey says the achievement gap needs to be a bad memory and

Portland needs to gain a reputation as a city providing world-class education to its young residents.

"I would involve youth in every aspect of our government," said Posey. He plans to create a Department of Youth Development to involve college and high school students in city government by holding decision-making positions.

He also plans to hire a professional business manager to work as a "quasi-city manager," overseeing the efficiency of operations in the city.

Many of Portland's institutions are diamonds in the rough, according to Posey, and if elected, he says he'll make the most of what the city has to

offer. He says he plans to develop tourism, international business opportunities and commerce along the Pacific Rim.

"Typically, a person who looks like me never gets a chance to actualize these ideas because people look toward those that have privilege," said Posey.

According to Posey, his chances of winning are only bound by the imagination of voters.

"I want people to broaden their concept of what this city should be: a model environment for the world," he said.

For more information, visit www.poseyformayor.com.



SHINING A LIGHT ON OREGON'S HISTORY

HECETA HEAD LIGHTHOUSE



Oregon's Lighthouses are the sentinels of our rugged coastline. Originally built to welcome sailors and guide them safely into harbor, they continue to be a symbol of Oregon's ingenuity and hospitality. But time and the elements have taken their toll, and Oregon's lighthouses needed support to keep them standing.

Profits from the Oregon Lottery are helping to restore Oregon's historic lighthouses and preserve them for future generations. One of the most spectacular is the lighthouse at Heceta Head, located thirteen miles north of Florence on HWY 101. Not only is Heceta Head Lighthouse one of Oregon's most beautiful lighthouses, it also contains the most powerful marine light on the Oregon coast. At one time it had its own post office and one-room school house, and many people believe it is haunted.

All nine of Oregon's lighthouses have been named to the National Registry of Historic Places, and with the help of Oregon Lottery profits, seven are maintained as state parks that are open to the public.

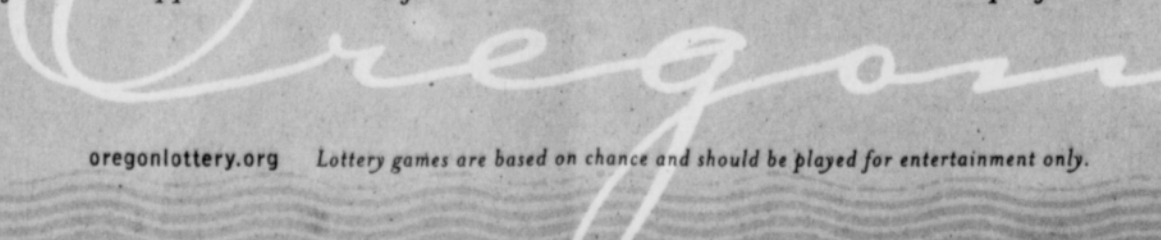


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