

Pacific Northwest's Largest Black-Owned Newspaper

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Millie Russell Named Assistant
VP Of Minority Affairs
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The Seattle Medium Will Be Closed
Monday, January 19 In Observance Of
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Special Report: NNPA Tours Japan With
The Rev. Jesse Jackson To Discuss Economic
'Reciprocity' — Page 16

The Seattle Medium

A Message From The People...To The People

25¢

1986 Rhinestone Club Debutantes

A Portrait Of Elegance



The Washington Rhinestone ball was held Dec. 27, 1986 at Club's 33rd annual debutante the Westin Hotel. The theme this

year was "Portrait of Elegance." Pauline Hill, mother, educator (teaches at Emerson Elementary), and author having written a book on the life of Bertha Pitts Campbell, founder of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was the narrator for the evening. Margaret Stephens was choreographer.

Delores Springfield, president, Washington Rhinestone Club, said " 'Portrait of Elegance' is an appropriate theme for all our debutantes, who are lovely as a picture and are truly elegant as they approach the threshold of womanhood. The young ladies presented have proven themselves to be conscientious students, diligent church and community workers, and are concerned about the future."

The goal of the organization is to encourage young women to pursue post high school education by "presenting them to society."

In keeping with the initial goal and ambitions of the community's youth, the first ball was held in December of 1953. Debutantes presented at the first ball, as well as at all of the subsequent Rhinestone Club balls, were chosen because of their intent to continue their education, which is a stipulation of their selection. Over 800 debutantes have been presented since 1953.

A scholarship award is presented each year to the debutante with the highest cumulative grade point average. She is crowned queen of the ball. This year's queen is Victoria Lynn Carpenter. She is a graduate of Rainier Beach High School and is currently attending Highline Community College, majoring in fashion merchandising. Her parents are Elizabeth and A.C. Carpenter. Her escort was Ronald Digg. Princesses were Ain and Dayo Jones, daughters of Mrs. and Mrs. Matthew Jones. The queen was crowned by last year's queen, Sha Barbara McDaniel.

Barbara Mitchell, ball chairperson, presented Victoria a \$1,000 scholarship.

Monica Marie Fudge, first runner up, is a graduate of Garfield High School and is attending the University of Washington. She is the daughter of Marilyn Fudge and her escort for the evening was Aaron Thomas. Mary Hardiman presented Monica with a \$700 scholarship on behalf of the Hostess Club, an affiliate of the Rhinestone Club since 1960.

Toi Carvan, second runner-up, graduated from Holy Names Academy. She is the daughter of Charelyn Stennis and is presently attending UW. Her escort for the evening was Tony Shellman. Toi received the E. Timms Scholarship award of \$300.

Other debutantes were Karin Elizabeth Crew, a graduate of Sammamish High School and currently attending UW. She is the daughter of Richard and Norma Crews, and her escort was Todd Crews.

Vera La Von Cox, a graduate of Renton High School, attending Seattle Central Community College. Her escort was James Patton.

Monica David graduated from Ingraham High School and is currently attending Bellevue Community College. She is the daughter of Mrs. H. Jean Davis and her escort was Kevin Curvey.

Andrea Holmes, a graduate of Renton High School is currently attending Washington State University. She is the daughter of Michele Holmes Zetzsche and William Zetzsche, and Tony Jackson was her escort.

Virginia S. Pryor graduated from Sammamish High School and is currently attending UW. She is the daughter of Rosemond L. Hill and James Pryor, and Early Taylor was Virginia's escort.

Kimberly Yvette Taylor is a graduate of Franklin High School and is currently attending Washington State University; the daughter of Donald and Lillie Taylor. Bernard Bently was her escort.

Meghan Rachelle Jones is a

graduate of Interlake High School and is attending San Diego Mesa University. Meghan is the daughter of Barbara Barrett and Griffin Jones; and Maurice

Hunter was her escort.

Nicquelle Patrice Bailey is a graduate of Franklin High School and is currently attending North

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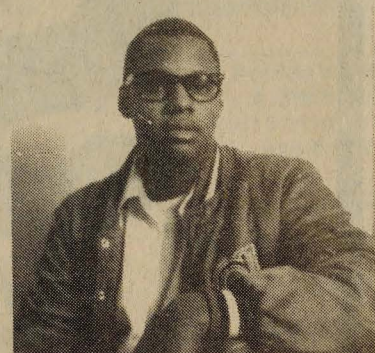
Special To The Medium

Outstanding Negro Student Scholarship Recipient Chooses Morehouse College

Salah F. Mason has received early notification of admission to Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. Sterling Hudson III, director of admissions at Morehouse stated in his letter of congratulations to Salah, "Typically, students who fulfill the requirements for admission this early in our admissions cycle are later found to be among our most conscientious students." He will enter Fall of 1987 as a freshman.

To his scholastic credit is recognition from the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Student as a result of his high college aptitude test scores, and a subsequent commendation from the University of Washington's Vice President for Student Affairs, Ernest R. Morris.

Though constantly busy with his academic studies as a senior at Bush, Salah still finds time to pursue two student internships in areas of interest to him. He is a student intern at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and also interns with Earl Debmman at the African American Heritage Museum. When not



Salah Mason

studying he is drawing cartoons, designing sports cars, painting or creating graphics on his computer. He has studied art with local professional artists Sheri Stephens at the Al Dogget Studio and Dennis Evans at Bush.

When asked why he chose to attend Morehouse, Salah stated, "Though I could choose to attend any number of White universities, I feel that too many brilliant young brothers and sisters go to them and never return to our communities. I do believe that Morehouse will not only develop my mind but my character as well." Morehouse College's most famous graduate is the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Salah says his future professional plans are still being decided, but he aspires to combine his scholastic aptitudes and artistic talents to form a rewarding and satisfying career, maybe an automotive design engineer, toy design engineer or graphic illustrator.

Salah is a native Seattleite but has lived in Chicago and Los Angeles, and has spent time in Nigeria. He has two brothers and three sisters; and thanks his parents, Joseph and Dawn Mason, and all the people who have given him positive reinforcement and support.

To all young Afro-Americans, especially the brothers, he encourages them to not give into societal pitfalls, negative images and destructive stereotypes portrayed by those who do not believe in our ability to achieve at the very highest levels.

South, East Seattle Residents May Regain I-90 Access

OLYMPIA — Residents of South and East Seattle would regain adequate access to I-90 under provisions of a bill introduced in the House this week by House Speaker Pro-Tempore John L. O'Brien.

Rep. Jesse Wineberry, and Rep. Gary Locke, are co-sponsors.

Closure of the I-90 on/off access ramps at 35th Ave. South and Martin Luther King, Jr. Way has caused inconvenience and financial hardship for many residents of surrounding communities, including Judkins, Leschi, Lakewood, Mount Baker, Beacon Hill, Madrona, Rainier Valley and Seward Park, according to O'Brien, a Seattle Democrat who represents the 37th District.

"This bill would require the Washington State Department of Transportation to figure out a way to retain the existing ramps at 35th Ave. and modify the traffic signals as well, if that's what's needed to make driving in that area safe," said O'Brien. "Also, the bill would clearly demand that new ramps be designed and constructed at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, so that the economic development efforts underway in that area won't be hindered by restricted access to and from I-90."

"The 40,000 residents in Central Seattle communities alongside I-90 simply can't afford to be cut off from this major transportation corridor," said Wineberry. "Since the ramps have been closed, businesses in these areas have sustained a 20 to 40 percent drop in trade. If the ramps remain closed, the revenue flowing into the community will be permanently

reduced."

Under provisions of the bill, the Washington State Transportation Commission would be required to revise its current six-year highway improvements plan to accommodate re-establishing I-90 access to Seattle's Central Area, according to O'Brien.

The Commission would also be called on to reallocate money to pay for the needed modifications using both federal and state funds.

Since the areas most greatly affected by the current ramp closures have been recognized by the state as economically depressed, O'Brien included a clause in the bill that would put its provisions into effect immediately upon its passage, following the usual approval by the Governor.

"We can't afford to underestimate the urgency of the problems the Department of Transportation caused when they shut these communities off from the I-90 corridor," said Rep. Locke. "The sooner we can get the needed ramps open, the better."

"The opinions of area residents were never fully considered by the Department of Transportation, so 8,000 of them signed a petition this summer asking the Department of Transportation to keep ramps open on 23rd Avenue South and 35th Avenue South," said O'Brien, who presented the signed petition to the transportation commission in July. "Strong legislation is the most natural response to the residents of that area who are asking the state for relief. This bill would provide that relief."

13th Annual King Commemorative Service

Seattle's 13th annual Martin Luther King commemorative service will be from noon to 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 15 at Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1634-19th Avenue. The event is sponsored by the Seattle Community Colleges.

Seattle Community College Chancellor Dr. Donald G. Phelps will deliver the keynote address. The service will also include a dramatic presentation by Seattle

actress Tawnya Pettiford-Wates and gospel music by the acclaimed Total Experience Choir.

The Rev. Dr. Samuel B. McKinney, pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, will officiate.

In past years there has been standing room only for the Martin Luther King service. Organizers of the event are advising early arrivals to insure seating; church doors will open at 11 a.m.