



May 30, 1981

# update 81

Polynesian Cultural Center

## No It's Not David Ben-Gurion

Ashraf Ghorbol, Egypt's ambassador to the United States since 1972, was a welcome Center guest this week. Accompanied by his wife and a friend, Mr. Ghorbol displayed a friendliness and ready wit to Center personnel.

His party was impressed with the Center and particularly enjoyed their time with Lopeti Lesa of the Cultural Orientation department. Lopeti's natural friendliness and sense of humor made their visit most enjoyable, as did the student performers in the night show, - the highlight of that event being Tulaga Tevaga's masterful fire dancing.

The ambassador, who played a major role in the Camp David negotiations between Menachem Begin, Prime Minister of Israel and Anwar Sadat, president of Egypt, sees America's involvement in those sessions as history-making.



Photo by Loni Manning

In the present Middle East confrontation between Syria and Israel over Lebanon, it is heartening to meet a man dedicated to the peaceful settlement of such issues of international importance.

His comment on the almost gale-force Tradewinds which blew his hair constantly on end was typical of his humor and good fellowship as he observed that "I used to say Ben-Gurion's hair stood up in the air, and now here I am and I look just like David Ben-Gurion!"

Small in stature, the ambassador radiated genuine charm and sincerity which immediately put all those around him at ease. He is, in every sense of the word, a modern-day ambassador for peace.

## Ali'itia Afalava Retires

Ali'itia Afalava, Center security-guard; retired recently after twelve years service to PCC. Brother Afalava started working here on September 23, 1969, when he signed up as a maintenance worker. He moved from there to the painters' crew, and then, in June 1971 to the Security force.

In 1975 he was made Shift-Sergeant. In 1977 he became a supervisor with the department. Sam Langi expressed his gratitude to Brother Afalava, citing his dependability as most valued in the department. "Even those times when he didn't feel very well, he always came to work. You can always count on him. He is very responsible, and goes out of his

way to help guests."

Employees have seen Brother Afalava most frequently at gate 4, although he has worked in all areas of the Center, including both day and night patrol. His fatherly image and courtesy to employee and visitor alike have been a welcome example to all who pass him daily going to and from work. Sam Langi explains that he has a diplomatic way of dealing with people and building relationships with them.

Those of us who have had his early morning greeting every day as we've arrived at work will agree with Sam, who says, "We'll miss Brother Afalava, a lot of people really respect him."

"Mahalo nui loa, Ali'itia, aloha!"



Photo by Loni Manning

# Employees of the Month

## Harmony Lolotai



Harmony Lolotai was chosen as the employee of the month of March for the Laie Sales and Reservations department. She has been chosen because of her excellent performance, attendance, and for going the extra mile in her job.

Harmony is a convert to the church and served her mission in 1976 at Sacramento, California. She has worked at PCC on and off since 1975 as a greeter, tour guide, office clerk, and reservationist. She is married to Tiloi Lolotai of the Recreation Department.

Harmony says, "I love our Heavenly Father and I enjoy working at the Center where I can spread the gospel, as much as I can, to our guests."

Congratulations Harmony!

## Russell Bettridge



Russell J. Bettridge, (Bells) was chosen as the employee of the month in the Cultural Orientation Department. Among his many qualities, he was chosen for his dependability and ability to follow instructions.

Russell was born in Utah but lived most of his life in Olympia, Washington. He comes from a family of three and served in the Switzerland-Geneva Mission. He is a Biology major but might change to Behavioral Science.

He hopes to graduate and get his Masters degree from Provo. Russell's immediate goal is to be married in the temple and raise a family. Congratulations Russell!

## Kurt Faux



Congratulations go out to Kurt Faux who was chosen as the "Employee of the Month," for the Cultural Orientation Department.

Kurt is from Pleasant Grove, Utah and has been studying English here at BYU-HC. He is a Junior and wishes to further his education by getting his Master's degree.

In May of 1976, he served a mission in Hamburg, Germany. Kurt speaks fluent German and is a great asset to our German visitors.

One of the many blessings that Kurt has received in meeting Christie DeRama. They met in the Fall of 1980 and will be married this June in the Manti Temple. We wish Kurt a hearty congratulations as a great employee and on his upcoming marriage.

# Elder Monson and' Elder Monson

"Hawaii has a better tradition than rubbing noses", says Elder Clark Monson, retruning missionary from the Auckland New Zealand Mission, and son of Apostle Thomas S. Monson.

In a special devotional Tuesday, May 27, Elder Thomas S. Monson, his wife, and son spoke to a very entertained group of BYU students, faculty, and staff.

Elder Monson spoke of his love for Polynesia and related many of his experiences of his assignment as Supervisor of the Pacific Missions from 1965-68. He noted the growth and development of the church and



Photo by Earl Milham

reminisced about a time when he was the only passenger on a plane into Tonga.

Elder Monson paraphrased the scripture, "Great are the gifts of God, to those who dwell in the islands of the sea." He then related experiences he had witnessed in Samoa of the gift of tongues and answers to the prayers of faithful island Saints who longed to go to the temple with their family.

Apostle Monson concluded his comments with the admonition of Christ, "Behold! stand at the door and knock, if any man shall come and open the door, I shall come in."

## Showcase: Singing Missionaries to Molokai



Photo by Earl Milham

BYU-HC performing group, Showcase--Hawaii recently returned from their Spring Tour to Molokai where they entertained nearly every group of the islands population. Included in their tours were Elementary and High Schools, Hotels, Senior Citizen homes, LDS Seminaries, Firesides as well as some impromptu performances.

The high point of their experience was the performance

and visit to the patients of the Kalaupapa leper settlement where they entertained both church members and non-member patients.

Many PCC employees can be recognized in this group photo on the island of Molokai, and I am sure that group members and those who heard their performances are appreciative of PCC for letting them take the time off to be singing missionaries to Molokai.

## THE QUESTION:

What do all of these people have in common?

- Ashraf Ghorbol, Ambassador to the U.S. from Egypt.
- Ainsley Muldrew, Vice Consul of New Zealand.
- Helmut Schmitt, journalist from Germany.
- Ahmed Zahir, Member of Parilment from Maldives.
- Philip Brady, TV show host from Australia.
- Sir Charles Bennett, former High Commissioner to Malaya from New Zealand.
- Paul Tso, Government Rep-

resentative from Taiwan.

- Leo Hannett, Premier of the Northern Solomons.
- Jean-Luis Meerts, TV photographer from Belgium.
- Basil O'Brien, Minister of Tourism in Bahamas.
- Elder Thomas S. Monson.

● PLUS 38 Folkdancers from BYU-Provo, scholars from Cairo University, Egypt and journalists from Spain, Canadam and the mainland?

## THE ANSWER:

They were all Center guests during the months of April and May!

Each individual and group expressed thanks for the warmth and hospitality they enjoyed while with us. It is interesting to observe that these are just a few of the hundreds of other guests it is our pleasure to host every month, and that as they return to their homes and tell of their visit, the Center experience becomes known world-wide.



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Photo by Loni Manning

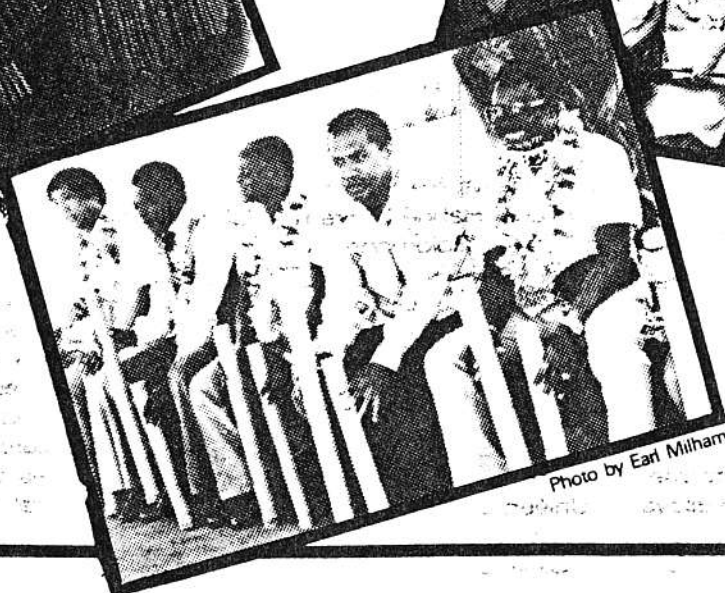


Photo by Earl Milham

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## New Appointment

General Manager Bill Cravens has announced the appointment of Sharon Ishii as Director of Sales and Marketing. Sharon has been working in the Waikiki office in advertising and marketing.

Prior to joining the Center, she was an account executive and office manager for Melici/Valenti Advertising, Inc. She graduated from the University of Hawaii-Manoa campus with a degree in Marketing and Public Relations.

Sharon will be responsible for local and mainland sales, reservations, advertising, and external public relations, working out of the Waikiki office.

## The Island Man

Island entertainer Al Harrington met with PCC employees in a pre-show session in the old theater in which he shared some of his feelings about his BYU-H assignment.

"Coach Chidester came to me to ask me to help organize the BYU-H athletic program in the fund-raising efforts. I'm here because it's the right thing for me to do. I feel the spirit in doing this and I can't refuse."

Al said that the Saturday's show in the BYU-H Activities Center "is the best show I've ever put together.

At the recent inauguration of President Cameron, Al felt that the PCC--BYU-H community has a "destiny to compete with the rest of the world" and that we must take our place.

His sincerity and enthusiasm for his assignment gave everyone present a great evening's entertainment Saturday night.

His show highlighted a variety of music with appeal for everyone. On the list of entertainers were Al Harrington's Waikiki performers, the popular rock band Paramore, PCC night show dancers, BYU-H A Capella Choir, and Carolyn Shumway's Childrens Choir.

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*"We shape our buildings, then our buildings shape us."*

Winston Churchill

Sir Winston Churchill's insightful observation has been in my mind for some weeks now as we have begun to use the new buildings in our community. We now have the new Stake Chapel, Activities Center, and Administration Building, each of which has been shaped by architects and builders to serve specific needs in specific ways.

There is no doubt at all in the minds of those of us who have used them that the new buildings have begun to shape us in specific ways. From day one, the Administration Building has been an experience in elegance and beauty. It is good to work in surroundings that are new, clean, and of pleasing design. Few of us have not had to adjust to the very different "open-door" concept of our work areas, and if we have been sensitive enough, we have perceived an opening up of ourselves to allow others access to us they may not have enjoyed formerly.

PCC personnel will certainly recognize that this openness of buildings is the traditional way of Polynesia. We should also note that "the Polynesian way" has reflected the shaping of those buildings upon us as a people. The generosity of heart and spirit that is integral to the Pacific reflects an openness best suited to *fale* and the sharing necessary to island life. We are, as a people, unused to individuals enclosing themselves in little boxes separate from family, friend, or colleague. A narrow, confined space is difficult to share.

It has been good to renew acquaintances as we now literally work "side by side" with BYU-H employees. We have swapped notes, adjusted chair heights and telephone numbers, lost ourselves in unfamiliar areas, learned how to turn the MUSAK down and raise the blinds up, and admired the sweeping views of the campus, cultural center, and the magnificent Koolaus.

It is good to see the beautiful landscaped pavement areas taking shape that flow around the new buildings and link both campus and center. The new, wide entry from the administration building to the PCC is especially pleasing and inviting. It is also good to be close to campus events as it is obvious that the Activities Center must needs be a community center in order to justify its size and facilities. It takes little imagination to recognize that we have launched into a new era of community cooperation this year.

One can always point out exceptions to every rule, but I believe that open and beautiful surroundings allow the human spirit to display its own beauty and freedom. It will be interesting to see whether Sir Winston's theory works with us to the extent that we can, in fact, cooperate with one another in the fullest sense of sharing ourselves.

In this regard, I for one, hope that Sir Winston is correct.