

METRO/NORTHWEST

The Oregonian, Wednesday, May 22, 1985

Section **C**

Editorial, Forum, Comics

Oregonian columnist suspended

Jonathan Nicholas, a columnist for The Oregonian, has been suspended without pay for representing material from The New Yorker magazine as his own, according to William A. Hilliard, executive editor.

The material was taken from "The Talk of the Town" feature in the May 6 issue of the magazine and included in a column Nicholas wrote for publication in The Oregonian's May 15 editions.

Both the May 6 and 15 pieces dealt with two widely different views of the situation in Nicaragua, carried out by employing a theme of point and counterpoint.

"Theme and content were essentially the same in both cases," said Hilliard. "Nicholas' column contains some of the exact wording and phraseology of The New Yorker piece."

Nicholas stated in his column that he had written it after going "into the innermost recesses of The Oregonian's library." He added, "The picture that emerged from an afternoon spent ploughing through the clips was not a comforting one."

Confronted with the similarity between the two published articles Nicholas said that he was "shocked." He added, "Clearly my reading of The New Yorker commentary left an impression, far too deep an impression, upon my mind." He had no other explanation.

"The use of unacknowledged previously published material violates the



ON THEIR WAY — Scientologists loaded up several school buses in downtown Portland Tuesday morning to head for Salem, where they

said they planned to march around the state Capitol to protest last week's decision against the Church of Scientology.

The Oregonian/KRAIG SCATTARELLA

Scientologists carry protest to Capitol

2,000 march through Salem, Oregon

Air travel returning to normal

By STAN FEDERMAN
of The Oregonian staff

Travel and crowds at Portland International Airport were returning to near normal Tuesday despite a five-day United Airlines pilot strike which has reduced United's daily departing flights from 23 to five.

"All five are now getting out on time and our loads are holding up very well," said Robert Housley, United's district sales manager.

Other airlines also were reporting that the "passenger squeeze" had eased after a hectic weekend when the walk-out caught many travelers off guard. All types of airline flights are heavily booked this week.

Eastbound passengers will receive more help beginning Saturday, when American Airlines, United's chief competitor nationally, plans to introduce non-stop service between Portland and Chicago with two flights a day.

It will add a third non-stop flight to Chicago on July 2.

"All flights will provide connections at Chicago's O'Hare Airport for a wide range of other destinations in the East, Midwest and Southeast areas," said Susan Danahy, American manager of passenger sales in Portland.

She said American Flight 852 will leave daily at 1:32 p.m., arriving in Chicago at 7:19 p.m. Flight 854 will leave Portland at 12:29 a.m., arriving in Chicago at 6 a.m. All flights will be

Scientologists carry protest to Capitol

2,000 march through Salem in attempt to see governor

A 38-bus caravan of Church of Scientology members arrived in Salem from Portland early Tuesday afternoon for a demonstration to show their displeasure with the \$39-million verdict issued last week against their church by a Multnomah County jury.

About 2,000 Scientologists got off the buses at the State Fairgrounds and began a march to the Capitol. John Carmichael, president of the Portland Scientology mission, said the protesters wanted "to see Gov. Vic Atiyeh and some legislators."

The purpose, Carmichael said, was "to tell them what's going on and ask them to do all in their power to restore religious freedom."

While en route from Portland, each of the Scientologists wrote letters to

Atiyeh and President Reagan urging that they do what they could to enforce the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing religious freedom.

Atiyeh said he had no plans to meet with the demonstrators.

"The trial turned into a heresy trial," Carmichael said. "The Scientology religion was put on trial and that is outrageous. We intend to take that message to all that we can. If a group is willing to fight for its rights, it will gain support even from people who may not agree with that particular religion."

An estimated 6,000-7,000 Scientologists have flocked to Portland from around the world to participate in the protests. A few hundred were served

breakfast at Tom McCall Waterfront Park Tuesday before boarding the buses for Salem.

The protests are in response to a verdict handed down Friday in which a Multnomah County Circuit Court jury awarded \$39 million in punitive damages to former church member Julie Christofferson Titchbourne, 27. The jury decided after a 10-week trial that the church made fraudulent misrepresentations to her.

Two jurors who were interviewed Monday said the jury's decision was based on long discussions and detailed review of many of the more than 500 exhibits entered into evidence at the trial.

The jurors, both of whom agreed to

talk about the deliberations only if their names were not used, said the biggest single factor in the case was L. Ron Hubbard, the church's founder, and the documents he wrote that were admitted as evidence.

"The most compelling thing was L. Ron Hubbard himself and how the whole organization is geared to exactly what he wants to do and how he wants them to do it," one juror said.

About 2,000 Scientologists and music lovers gathered Monday night at Portland's Tom McCall Waterfront Park for a free concert that was billed as part of a crusade for religious freedom.

Piano virtuoso Chick Corea and rock musician Frank Stallone performed.