

# The Portland Observer 25¢

## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

NATIONAL BLACK NEWS SURVEY  
BY ROBERT N. TAYLOR

### ANC Wins By Landslide In South Africa, Apartheid Is Dead, Mandela To Be First Black President

Johannesburg South Africa (NBNS) - The world's last great formal racist institution was dumped onto the trash heap of history last week as the Nelson Mandela-led African National Congress (ANC) swept victory in the first ever democratic elections in South Africa. While the formal system of white minority rule and the laws which maintained it had been crumbling for years the ANC victory officially ends the system known as apartheid. Early election returns showed the ANC capturing better than 6% of the vote. Its candidates were even winning small majorities in areas of the country where the ANC is not supposed to be strong. The National Party (virtually all white) of out-going President F. W. de Klerk placed second with about one third of the vote. The Inkatha Freedom Party of controversial Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi captured around 6% of the vote. When the new all-race parliament takes power within the next two weeks, its first order of business will be to elect Mandela the country's first black president marking the true end to a system in which 5 million whites ruled 40 million blacks for so long.

### Black Mayors Decide To Back Clinton Health Plan

President Clinton received an enthusiastic reception from the National Conference of Black Mayors meeting in Washington, D.C. last week. And he walked away with the organization's endorsement of his embattled national health care plan. Clinton told the gathering "We are facing our problem and we're seizing our opportunities." Despite the reception several mayors voiced opposition to the Clinton crime bill which is working its way through Congress. Many fear the bill, especially the "three strikes and you're out" will simply result in more and more young blacks going to jail while fundamental social problems are left un-addressed. Over 100 black mayors were at the conference.

### Infant Death Rates Declining But Racial Gap Widening

According to government figures released last week, the infant mortality rate is declining for both black babies but the decline for whites is faster. The result: By the year 2000 black babies will be three times more likely to die before their first birthday than white babies. Overall, the infant mortality rate were 7.3 of every 1,000 white babies dying before their first birthday while 17.6 of every 1,000 black babies die before reaching one year of age. The primary cause appears to be mothers who do not get proper prenatal care and give birth to low birthweight babies. Such babies less likely to survive.

## PCC Is The First Step In Getting A Job



Opticianry student Chris Achour uses a lensometer in PCC Cascade Professional-technical program.

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON

### AT PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE, GOING TO SCHOOL IS THE BEGINNING TO A JOB.

That's especially true for the vocational and technical programs on the college's Cascade campus at 705 N. Killingsworth St.

The campus teaches skills in areas of business and industry where prospects for jobs are good. Careers such as fire protection and 9-1-1 dispatching, business technology and opticianry.

The school also has embarked on a new emphasis this year to make sure it's on track for meeting the needs of prospective employers in the North/Northeast community in particular.

Breakfast meetings and luncheons are held with business leaders, community service organizations and others. The sessions are held two to three times a month with emphasis placed on partnership and sharing information.

"Cascade is involved in promoting itself," said Carl Parker, a vocational counselor and instructor at Cascade.

"We give updates on the kinds of things we're doing, and they provide an opportunity to share with us which direction they would like to see the campus take," said Parker. "We want to provide what is needed."

A poster was made this year to highlight the offerings on campus.



Olita Washington, a Business student at PCC.

And a May 24 open house will be held from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. to provide information and spotlight certain programs.

The open house will feature the fire sciences, the 9-1-1 program, the skills center and opticianry.

It will be the second open house on campus this school year, with the earlier one last November.

The college is growing. Construction is underway on a new library, classrooms and office space.

Construction will soon begin on a new student services building.

"It's growing here and that's an

indication of the interest in this campus," said Don McInnes, dean of the Cascade campus.

The students are excited about their job prospects.

"Everybody in the second year class already has a job," said Dennis States, a student in the medical field of opticianry.

Instructor Melvin Merrell said an aging population in need of classes and

corrective contact lenses is creating a growth industry for jobs.

He said the strong market is also reflected in a strong fashion demand for eyewear.

Carol Bruneau, program coordinator for the 9-1-1 programs, said about 75 percent of her students will get jobs in emergency dispatching.

She said many students are already working in internships.

### PCC Cascade Professional Technical Programs

**Alcohol and Drug Counselor:** Provides diagnosis, assessment, education, referral and treatment services to clients with alcohol and drug addiction.

**Medical Assisting:** Schedules and receives patients, obtains patient data, maintains medical records and manages medical offices, and assists the physician in patient care.

**Medical Laboratory Technology:** Performs clinical laboratory tests for diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of disease.

**Medical Record Technology:** Organize and analyze patient information systems in healthcare facilities.

**Ophthalmic Medical Technology:** Assists physician in treatment of the eye.

**Opticianry:** Fills doctor's prescriptions for glasses and contact lenses; works in various settings including wholesale and retail sales and laboratories.

**Business Administration/Accounting:** Prepares students for bookkeeping, accounting, or other financial office assisting functions.

**Business Administration/Management:** Enters business as a supervisory trainee who coordinates management activities and directs personnel.

**Business Administration/Marketing:** Works in commerce, industry, merchandising, advertising, direct sales and other commercial and industrial areas.

**Business Technology/Office Management:** Coordinates and supervises office activities to meet organizational goals.

**Business Technology/Administrative Assist:** Performs office tasks and assumes secretarial responsibilities of an interpretive and decision making nature.

**Computer Information Systems:** Performs all phases of program design and development

**Microcomputer Information Systems:** Involved in application development and design, technical support.

**Computer Operator:** Operates computer equipment and oversees computer programs.

**Criminal Justice:** Works in crime prevention programs in investigative and uniform patrol duties.

**Legal Assistant:** Assist an attorney in limited professional services under attorney's direction and supervision

**Customer Service Technology/Credit Services:** Serves customers through credit forecasting, collection and authorization services.

**Sales Services:** Retail, industrial and institutional sales services.

**Library-Media Assistant:** Works with all aspects of library/media center operations, including instructional and printed materials.

**Instructional Assistant-Special Education:** Helps teachers assist students with basic skills, self-help skills, physical therapy and behavior programs.

**Emergency Dispatch/Operator 911:** Receives information from the public and from emergency services personnel at a public safety answering center.

**Fire Protection Technology:** Works in fire suppression, investigation, prevention, emergency medical and rescue services, hazardous materials technology, and other educational programs.

**Professional Music Program:** Works as a private teacher of music, instrumental musician, composer, arranger or orchestrator.

**Telecommunications Administration:** Plans communications support for marketing and deliver strategies, designs communication and network facilities, troubleshooting and monitors traffic and transmission quality.

**Professional Technical Teacher Program:** Helps people from business and industry qualify to teach their specialty.

**Environmental Safety Hazardous Substance Materials Management:** Works in areas of environmental management and occupational safety.

Also: General Education Programs, College Transfer Requirement Programs, and Development Education Programs. 705 N. Killingsworth St. 244-6111, extension 5222.

## Drug-Free Workplace Program To Serve As National Model

A drug-free workplace program implemented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 48 and the National Electrical Contractor's Association Oregon-Columbia Chapter will be a feature role model in a half-hour documentary produced by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, an agency of the U.S. Public Health Service.

The video program, entitled Prevention WORKS! is being produced by the agency to showcase exceptional alcohol and other drug prevention programs around the country and to provide practical models that may be copied elsewhere.

In addition to providing successful role models, the video is intended to educate

policymakers and the general public about prevention and to garner support for prevention programs.

It will be distributed free of charge or on a nominal cost-recovery basis to substance abuse prevention organizations and professionals as well as to those interested in starting a prevention program.

The local electrical industry program, dubbed Vision for a Drug-Free future, was instituted by IBEW Local 48 and NECA in 1989 as part of the union's overall Wellness Program.

The program seeks to promote a healthy lifestyle and preventative health measures for all electrical workers; all NECA-member electrical contractors participate in the program.

"The focus of our program has always been on prevention," said Edward Barnes, IBEW Local 48 Business Manager. "The program helps identify people who might be at risk and offers them caring and completely confidential help."

In fact, the confidential aspect of the program may be one of the major keys to its success. If people can reliably receive confidential help, without risking the social and workplace stigma of substance abuse, they are more likely to get the assistance they need.

"We're very pleased that our program can serve as a successful model for other organizations trying to create a drug-free workplace," said Timothy Gauthier, Executive Manager of NECA, Oregon-Columbia

Chapter. "A drug-free workplace is healthier and safer for everyone."

IBEW Local 48 was established in Portland in 1913 and provides skilled electrical workers to employers throughout the area. The Oregon-Columbia Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association was established in 1943 and is dedicated to excellence in its industry.

Labor-management cooperation between the Oregon-Columbia Chapter of NECA and IBEW Local 48 has served as a model for labor-management relations throughout the nation.

The Prevention WORKS! documentary is scheduled to be ready for distribution at the end of June.

**Health**  
**Reduce Your Risk of Stroke**  
  
A Portland study finds Aspirin effective as treatment for preventing strokes.  
  
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**Housing**  
**Owning A Home Gets Easier**  
  
Less money is required on FHA loans due to cuts in premiums.  
  
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**Metro Life**  
**Crime Stoppers Work**  
  
The public helps law enforcement fight back.  
  
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**Sports**  
**Tourney Fights Abuse**  
  
The sixth annual Golf Fling to benefit shelter/domestic violence resource center.  
  
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