

## Health Reformers Carry Message



More than a thousand area residents gathered Friday at Pioneer Courthouse Square to hear First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton call for passage of health care legislation. (Photo by Duane Lewis)

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Portland to D.C.

They are riding across America collecting handwritten personal messages from tens of thousands of their neighbors, carrying their demand for action to the Nation's Capital, where they'll deliver the messages to Congress.

The Health Security Express is sponsored by a wide spectrum of organizations, including the three chief sponsors, Families USA, HealthRight and the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees.

Speaking at Portland, HealthRight director Val Halamandaris said: "form one coast to the other, we see

decent hard-working families living in fear of what will happen if they lose their health insurance, just as two million Americans do each month. The Health Security Express reflects the pains and anxieties of Americans, and our deep belief that the only way to restore peace of mind to middle class families is a firm guarantee of universal coverage, so no American ever again loses their health insurance."

The Reform riders will reach Washington as congress reaches a critical stage in the health reform debate. The Health Security Express is pressing congress to take strong action. Families USA executive director Ron Pollack asked the crowd "why should Congress enjoy employer-paid guar-

anteed health insurance for itself, but deny that guarantee to the rest of us?"

"That's a disgrace," Pollack said. "And we're telling congress we won't put up with it."

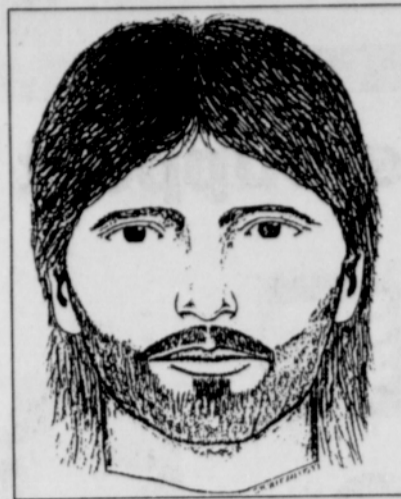
President Gerald McEntee of the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees told the crowd that there was a clear choice in the debate: "One approach builds on our American system of health benefits you earn at work, making sure employers live up to their responsibilities. The other approach, the Dole approach, encourages employers to drop our health coverage." McEntee said it was an easy choice for middle class Americans, and he hopes it will also be an easy decision for their elected representatives.

## Crime Stoppers Kidnap/Robbery/Stolen Vehicle

Portland Police Bureau Robbery detectives, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, are asking for your help in identifying and apprehending a subject who kidnaped a woman and her baby, robbed the woman, and stole her car.

On Tuesday, May 17, 1994, at approximately 4:30 in the afternoon, at SE 122nd and Powell, a 33-year-old woman, who had just finished shopping at the grocery store, returned to her car, which was parked on the store lot. As the woman opened the car door, a man put a knife to her back and ordered her to get into her car. The man then also got into the car and demanded, and obtained, the keys to the woman's car and the small amount of money she was carrying.

With the woman and her baby still in the car, the man drove the woman's car from the parking lot to SE 134th and Foster, where he en-



Kidnaping Suspect

tered a road construction zone and disobeyed a construction flagger's directions to "stop".

While in the construction area, the woman opened the car door and attempted to hand her baby to one of the construction workers. during this

attempt the woman and her baby fell from the vehicle. The woman's vehicle, a black 1994, 4-door Nissan Maxima, was abandoned by the suspect in the 7000 block of SE Deardorf Road.

The suspect is described as a white male in his early thirties, with a thin build, dark shoulder length hair, and a neatly trimmed beard. The suspect's hair, which possibly contains some gray, is reportedly long in the back, short in the front and on the sides, and may have a wave or curl to it. At the time the suspect was wearing black jeans and a black Levi style jacket.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, that leads to an arrest in this case, or any unsolved felony crime, and you can remain anonymous. Call Crime Stoppers at (503) 83-HELP.

## City Kids Learn At Summer School

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earning field trips on Fridays.

To celebrate the completion of the school, a picnic "End of Summer Bash" is scheduled Friday at the school. Contributors, students, families, community members, teachers and volunteers were invited.

Students will be honored with achievement awards.

Because of budget cuts, Portland Public Schools did not run summer school programs at area schools this year.

The Portland area businesses making the King summer school possible included First Interstate Bank; Foster, Pepper and Sheffelman; Friends of the Children; Old Country Kitchen; Pacific Power and Light; the Trail Blazers and Intel. Donations for the picnic were made by Albertsons, Fred Meyer, G.I. Joes, McDonalds, Office Depot, Pepsi-Cola Co., Safeway, Sentry, Thriftway and Wonder Bread.

The companies support summer school as a preventative measure in the fight against gangs, drugs, low self-esteem and low basic skills, Hopson said.

## Concordia College Receives Grant From Tektronix

Concordia College has recently received a \$14,000 grant from the Tektronix Foundation for use in developing a library for the colleges new Environmental Remediation and Hazardous Materials Management program, announced Concordia College President Charles E. Schlimpert.

"Concordia College is grateful to the directors of the Tektronix Foundation for their support of the nation's first environmental research degree program offered at the baccalaureate level," Schlimpert said.

The library will serve as a regional center for information for local businesses and industries who need access to data in the rapidly developing environmental field.

The Trojan Nuclear Power Plant will serve as one off-campus classroom and research center. Portland General Electric, owner of the plan, is providing classroom space and laboratory equipment. Another off-campus environmental research center is The Cedars Retreat Center located on Concordia property on the lower Clackamas River near Barton.

Graduates of the program will find a variety of career opportunities in the industrial cleanup, and compliance and environmental management fields. Students application for the program are now being accepted for the 1994 fall semester. For additional information contact Kunert or Cynthia Dillman at Concordia College, 503-280-8680.

## Is O.J. An Assault On The Black Image?

The O.J. Simpson case provides another example of an assault on the image of black males according to a noted Los Angeles author.

"When there is one individual in that group that does anything, guess what happens? The whole group is made to pay. They're put on the spot for the crimes, whether real or imagined, of the individual," said Dr. Earl Ofari Hutchinson, author of *The Assassination of the Black Male Image*.

But a Kent State, Ohio University (KSU), communications spokesman says race has nothing to do with this case.

Frank Bentayou, manager of student media at KSU's School of Journalism and Mass Communication, said he felt Simpson's case was receiving more attention because of his prominence as a football player, actor and network commentator, not because he is a black male.

"Is he getting more attention as a male than he is as a female? I don't think so," he said. "I haven't been aware - of any racial implications in the stories I've seen, so I don't think that plays a role."

In a telephone interview from Los Angeles, before authorities is-

sued warrants for Simpson's arrest, Hutchinson said the case would have a great impact on societal perceptions of black males. Hutchinson said cases like Simpson's do two things for the image of black males. They affect all black males by convicting them as a group, and tend to affect media coverage of trials.

When a case involves race, sex or a celebrity - as Simpson's does - Hutchinson said media coverage is more likely driven by hearsay.

That means they are "Prejudged and convicted of a crime long before a court of law kicks in." And it becomes more difficult for Simpson who must defend himself against a presumption of guilt. Bentayou, who is white, disagreed with Hutchinson.

"I certainly think it's true that the media often explore stories regarding prominent people more "I certainly think it's true that the media often explore stories regarding prominent people more than they do people who don't have prominence, but that's one of the tenets of journalism, in a sense," Bentayou said.

"People are shocked by this story, and everyone seems to have an opinion about the character of O.J. Simpson because he's been a likable person

generally," Bentayou said, adding that he didn't think Simpson's race or gender would make any more difference than "If a prominent female athlete or entertainment figure were accused of murdering an ex-husband and his female associate."

Hutchinson said one of the greatest problems black males face in terms of image is frequent portrayal in the mass media as irresponsible and violent or as criminals and drug dealers.

"White males, we see them climbing mountains, we see them chasing sharks... We see the whole spectrum, we see the diversity."

"Now, when we turn on the TV, do we see (black males) climbing mountains, do we see them playing volleyball?" Hutchinson said, noting that the image of black males is largely that of buffoons and fools. "You have only one image."

(A Los Angeles author lecturer, Hutchinson's books discuss politics, economics and crime in the black community. *The Assassination of the Black Male Image*, released in April, focuses on the perception of black males in America and around the world.

## New Portland Target Store Hosts Dedication Of New Habitat Home

Jason Brooks from "Days Of Our Lives" Joined Local Family, Target and Habitat for Humanity at July 23 Dedication Event

To celebrate the completion of the new Habitat home located at 1142 NE Dean Street in Portland Target employees host a home dedication event in conjunction with the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate and the Rudy and Margarita Gonzales family. The dedication began with a presentation to the Gonzales family, who invested hundred of "sweat equity" hours to help build their home, followed by an open house with refreshments. Jason Brooks, who plays Peter Blake on the daytime drama "Days Of Our Lives," joined in to help celebrate.

The Gonzales family was selected by habitat based on their need, income, character, ability to repay a loan and their willingness to invest

hundreds of hours of labor to help build the house.

Also at the celebration was Target store employee volunteers who helped build the home and Portland Habitat for Humanity representatives.

This dedication event marks the culmination of a five-month partnership program between the Portland Target store in Tanasbourne Town Center and Habitat for Humanity. Through this program, Target donated both construction materials and volunteer time. In addition to the home in Portland, Target has pledged to build up to 38 homes for low-income families in 1994 through its national "Building a Wonderful Life" program, a long-term program that provides funding and people power to build homes together with Habitat for Humanity and families in need.

## Heating Systems Need Check-ups

Natural gas heating systems should be serviced periodically by a qualified contractor to ensure top performance, according to the American Gas Association. Such maintenance will ensure safe and efficient operation.

Heating contractors should follow the manufacturer's maintenance guidelines for each unit in accordance with local building codes and regulations, A.G.A. says.

The check-up should include:

- inspection of the furnace vent system;
- removal of any leaves, nests or other obstructions from inside the chimney;
- replacement or cleaning of the air filter;
- lubrication of the blower motor;
- replacement of blower belts, if needed;
- cleaning of pilots and burner chamber;
- removal of dust and lint from furnace vents, registers and baseboard heaters; and
- cleaning and adjusting of thermostats.

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