

# MINORITY ENTERPRISE EDITION

## Children Learn On Stage

A performing arts program wraps up with a musical and new stage skills for 57 area children.



See The Metro, Inside

## Wedding Bells Ring

Love is united in holy matrimony for a psychiatrist and civil engineer.



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## Spotlight On Minority Business

The Portland Observer recognizes minority enterprise development with features and photos.



See Special Section, inside

# The Portland

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## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

### Barry Captures Mayor's Victory

Forced from office just four years ago following an internationally publicized drug bust by federal agents, the former mayor of the nation's capitol Marion Barry last week won the Democratic party primary and thus took a giant step toward regaining his old job. In what was essentially a three-way race, Barry captured 47 percent of the vote outdistancing city councilman John Ray who won 37 percent of the vote and incumbent mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly who finished a poor third with just 13 percent. Barry told cheering supporters that he was "Stronger, better and wiser" than he was when he was mayor before. Support for Barry came overwhelmingly from the city's blacks, both low income and middle class. However, Barry faces a double challenge in the November general election. Republican Carol Schwatz and Council member William Lightfoot are both expected to mount aggressive campaigns against him.

### Rangel Defeats Powell In Harlem

Veteran Congressional Black Caucus member Charles Rangel last week beat back an impressive challenge by the son of the late Adam Clayton Powell to hold onto his seat in the U.S. Congress. Rangel represents new York's 15th congressional District which is essentially the world famous community of Harlem.

### Hooks Recovers After Surgery

Former NAACP executive director Benjamin Hooks was reported in stable condition last week after undergoing quadruple heart bypass surgery. He had checked into the Tulane University Medical Center after complaining of chest pains. Hooks headed the NAACP for 15 years. His wife Frances Hooks told reporters, "My husband is resting comfortably, and we are very encouraged that he will make a full recovery."

### Five Blacks On Richest List

Forbes magazine has released its annual list of the nation's richest entertainers and there are five African Americans on the list. They are Oprah Winfrey (\$105 million), Bill Cosby (\$60 million), Michael Jackson (\$38 million), Whitney Houston (\$33 million), and Eddie Murphy (\$30 million). Last year Winfrey headed the list but this year she was knocked from first place by movie producer Steven Spielberg who generated \$335 million over the past two years.

## NIKE Playcourt Dedicated

### Firm Promotes Participation With Youth

There's a new playground for kids at the Christian Women Against Crime Community Center in Northeast Portland.

NIKE shoes donated \$40,000 for equipment and recycled 25,000 pair of NIKE shoes to build the 4,000 square-foot play area at 120 N.E. Ivy.

Portland Mayor Very Katz and Seattle Mariner Ken Griffey Jr. officially opened the playground Monday.

The playground is the third of 10 new playcourts NIKE is building around the country this year, providing sports and fitness opportunities for children. The initiative, as promoted in NIKE television advertisements, is called "Participate in the Lives of America's Youth."

The first court was dedicated last May at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in New York and the second court opened in August at the LeMoine Gardens Housing Development in Memphis, Tenn.

The playground in Portland includes a 4,000 square foot play area, playground equipment, fencing and lights. It will be accessible to over 500 kids in the neighborhood of inner-North and Northeast Portland.



Alberta Phillips of the Christian Women Against Crime Community Center takes the ball to Ken Griffey Jr. of the Seattle Mariners at the dedication of a new Northeast Portland playcourt build by NIKE shoes.

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## Teacher, Principal Win \$25,000

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON

Outstanding performances has brought highly-prized recognition to a teacher and principal from schools in North and Northeast Portland.

Robin Lindsley, a long-time teacher at Boise/Eliot Elementary School and Michael Jordan, principal at Sabin Elementary School, will each receive \$25,000 from the Milken Family Foundation of Los Angeles.

The announcements were made last week by Oregon School Superintendent Norma Paulus.

"I had forgot all about it until Normal Paulus called me," Lindsley said, from her home in Northeast Portland.

Lindsley has been a school teacher for 20 years, 17 years at Boise-Eliot and is a

frequent speaker, lecturer and consultant on early childhood education at seminars and evening classes.

Her emphasis focuses instruction to the needs of each child, rather than trying to fit learning into a classroom program.

She plans to use part of the winnings to take her family on a winter vacation.

Jordan has been principal at Sabin for 12 years.

"I'm thrilled," he said. "This is a very big honor."

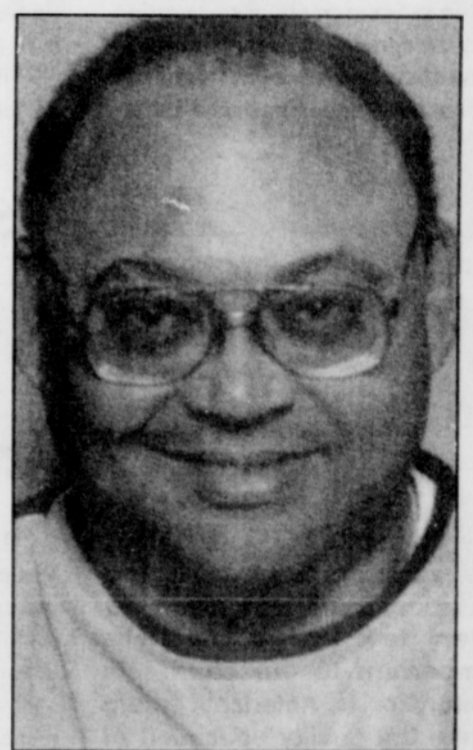
Jordan credits his colleagues at Sabin and the achievements of the school for bringing the spotlight on him.

One of his personal accomplishments is in building parent involvement in the school.

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Robin Lindsley of Northeast Portland is recognized for outstanding contributions to education.



Sabin School Principal Michael Jordan is \$25,000 richer because of his accomplishments in education.

## Bank Survey Finds High Fees, Low Interest

Consumers looking for a savings or checking account should be prepared for high bank fees and very low interest payments, according to a survey by the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group (OSPIRG).

The survey of eight Portland area banking institutions found that interest paid on accounts has continued a trend toward ever-lower payments to the consumer.

"Interest payments to consumers have reached the point of absurdity," said OSPIRG consumer advocate Matthew Rabin. "When we conducted the same survey last year, we thought that interest rates

paid to consumers couldn't drop any lower. We were dead wrong. Now, more than ever before, consumers deposit their money into a bank account and see virtually no interest returns while paying even higher fees to the bank."

For each institution surveyed, the OSPIRG study lists the interest rate paid on savings and checking accounts, the minimum account balance to avoid fees and common charges such as bounced check charges and local withdrawal fees for automated teller machines (ATMs).

Among the finds of the survey are:

- Interest yield on interest-bearing check-

ing accounts ranges from 1.15 percent to 2.78 percent.

- For savings accounts, interest yields to the consumer varies from 2.1 percent to 2.8 percent, a drop from last year's range of 2.17 percent to 3.29 percent. Monthly fees on low cost checking charges vary from zero to \$7. Some of these accounts also include limitations or per check charges.

- Local withdrawal fees for ATMs range from zero to \$1.50. Some banking institutions also charge an additional fee for the ATM card.

- Bounced check charges have increased at over half the institutions surveyed.

"High fees and low interest returns hurt consumers, especially low income consumers," said Rabin. "Consumers should fight for better banking service by switching to a financial service provider which gives them better interest rates and lower fees for the services that they use."

Consumers can receive a free copy of the survey by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: OSPIRG Portland Banking Survey, 1536 S.E. 11th, Portland, OR 97214. OSPIRG is a nonprofit, statewide organization dedicated to working in the public interest.

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