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Serving the community through cultural diversity

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MINORITY ENTERPRISE EDITION

Portland Wins Husky Classic

Carolina with the longest winning streak in college sports is next for the Pilots.



See Sports, page A7

Portland's Expanding Skyline

Minority business enterprises in Portland are in a position for growth.



See MED section, page Cl

Karyn White

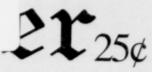
"The basis for this album was simple: it was about trusting my `gut' feelings."



See Entertainment, page B2



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REVIEW

Jordan On List To Replace Chavis

Former Democratic Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, 58, of Texas is reportedly on the list to replace the NAACP's ousted executive director Ben Chavis. Jewel Jackson-McCade, 49, New York City, is the other woman highly regarded for the post. Many say the group will be "politically correct" if they name a woman to the post.

Figures Show Economic Gains

Government figures show that job growth from April 1993 to last March raised payroll employment at private businesses and government agencies nationwide by 2.5 million, to 112.3 million. And because of continuing economic growth, nearly 1.5 million more workers were added to the same job payrolls from last March through August.

Winfrey's Offer Draws 20,000 Responses

Voters To Decide North/South Light Rail

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON

If you look into the future of Tri-Met you will see more mass transit, massive new construction and added jobs. It's both the short-term and longterm outlook for this public service agency.

Moving in step with the momentum of progress is Tri-Met General Manager Tom Walsh.

And while Walsh tries to increase ridership for Tri-Met, he works to build private, public and legislative support to expand the agency into the next century.

A proposed bond levy for Portland area voters in November is a major step to adding a third, and most aggressive tier yet, to Tri-Met's transportation system.

The South/North Corridor would create a 25-mile light rail line serving North and Northeast Portland, connecting a route from Clackamas County to Vancouver.

Tri-Met currently is in a major construction phase, extending its Gresham to Portland rail line to the west side from downtown to Hillsboro.

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Rider Advocates Rise From Storm Of Gunfire

A \$3 million offer by talk-show host Oprah Winfrey to help poor families find a way out of public housing has generated over 20,000 calls to a social service agency which will administer the program. Winfrey's money will go to Chicago's Jane Addams Hull House Association and it will help 10 families this year and 90 families next year get job training, housing assistance and other services.

Chavis Praises Barry Victory

Benjamin F. Chavis, speaking before a black church congregation in Washington, D.C. hailed Marion Barry's election victory and urged African Americans to be wary of the media and other "oppressors" of the black community. Chavis said Barry's winning of the Democratic nomination for D.C. Mayor was the perfect example of what blacks can do when they "work in unity."

Wilder Drops From Senate Race

Finding it difficult to raise money and under pressure from the Democratic Party, L. Douglas Wilder has given up his bid to become the second black in the U.S. Senate. Wilder, the first black elected governor of Virginia, was running as an Independent. The Democrats feared his candidacy would take away votes from incumbent Democrat Charles Robb and help elect conservative Republican Oliver North.

Poll Shows Gap In Progress Beliefs

A racial equality problem in the U.S. is a minority view, according to an Associated Press poll. Six in 10 whites think that blacks and other minorities have the same opportunities they do. Seven in 10 blacks disagree. Only one in three Americans say the nation has done too little to help blacks in the 30 years since the Civil Rights Movement.



Tom Walsh, Tri-Met general manager.

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON

In the aftermath of a shooting on a city bus, Tri-Met General Manager Tom Walsh said he was left with only two choices.

Two teenagers had been shot on the Number 4 Fessenden bus at North Albina and Jessup streets. They were innocent victims in the crossfire of gang violence.

The way Walsh saw it, he could do nothing and admit crime as a fact of life or fight back.

"It took about three seconds to choose," Walsh said.

"I wanted to do something immediately," he recalled, thinking back to the violent episode last October.

Walsh put armed security guards on the bus.

They rode along every No. 4 bus and other buses in North and Northeast Portland for 10 days before finally being replaced with a non-armed security force and much later, community-based rider advocates.

Walsh said he didn't want to just give lip service that Tri-Met was committed to a safe transportation system.

His actions were not without risk and criticism. But it did send a strong message the public agency would take very tough measures to make buses safe.

My attitude was "dammit, that's our property and our responsibility and our customers deserve a safe system," Walsh said. He said armed security was a forced alternative.

Portland police were unable to respond to the extent and as quickly as Walsh wanted. The agency Tri-Met hired for crowd control declined to get involved. That left a Tri-Met park-and-ride security force that would only move in if its employees were armed.

Walsh said he wasn't pleased with the choices. He knew security with guns was another exposed risk, but saw the alternative as doing nothing.

Today, the neighborhood-based advocates ride the buses on eight lines in the region, from afternoon until late evening. They serve as full-time paid customer service representatives and augment Tri-Met security and a Portland Police Tri-Met enforcement unit.

The rider advocates are equipped with two-way radios and information about Tri-Met services. They can call for additional law enforcement if needed.

"They're not substitute police," Walsh said. "These are people with community ties."

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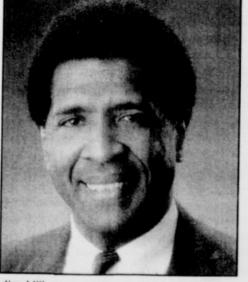
Western State Treasurers Elect Hill As Vice President

Oregon State Treasurer Jim Hill has been elected vice president of the Western States Treasurers Association (WSTA).

During the annual conference of the western treasurers in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Hill was unanimously elected to serve during 1995. Term begins December 1, 1994 and ends November 30, 1995.

"I am very honored to have been selected to be vice president of the Western States Treasurers Association," said Hill. "I look forward to working with my colleagues on a variety of issues that challenge treasuries across the nation. More importantly, this will provide an opportunity to share some of the lessons we have learned in Oregon that will benefit other treasuries. Oregon will in turn profit from the innovations pioneered by others."

The 1995 president of WSTA, Arizona State Treasurer Tony West, commended Hill's election, saying "Selection by your



Jim Hill

peers is truly a mark of excellence. Treasurers have always been on the cutting edge, and our leadership in 1995 will continue to work hard to make sure our views are known to

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Ticketmaster's Fees Called Outrageous

E xcessive fees are charged by Ticketmaster on tickets to concerts and other events, according to the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group (OSPIRG).

On average, the fees add \$5.10 in additional costs or 27 percent of the value of a ticket, according an OSPIRG survey of Ticketmaster service charges to 80 events in 10 states.

OSPIRG's national consumer advocate highlighted the survey results in testimony last week before a Congressional subcommittee.

"Ticketmaster clearly rips-off consumers," says Maureen Kirk, OSPIRG's executive director, who supervised the research in Oregon. "Ticketmaster charges outrageous, monopolistic and often undisclosed fees for its services. It's a nationwide problem evengoes should be aware of here in Oregon," Kirk said. The survey also found that Ticketmaster charges service fees for every ticket sold on each order, regardless of whether a consumer buys one ticket or 100 tickets.

For family events like the circus (as opposed to rock concerts), Ticketmaster usually charges only \$1.75 or less per ticket and caps the total fees at \$7 per order.

In Portland, where there is some competition, ticket service charges averaged \$1 less than nationally. But Ticketmaster service fees in Portland still add 25 percent to the actual ticket price.

And at least two-thirds of Ticketmaster agents surveyed said that their service charges are not disclosed separately on tickets.

"We urge Congress to take strong action to ban Ticketmaster's monopolistic practices, cap their outrageous fees and push the Justice Department to investigate possible antitrust violations by this monolithic beast," concluded national consumer advocate Bill Wood in his testimony before Congress.

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CLASSIFIEDS

