

Anita Hill To Speak

Anita Hill, the law professor who testified against Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, is coming to Linfield College.



See Metro, Inside.

Halloween Fun!

Portland's Zoo Boo, pumpkin carving, food and carnivals. A complete schedule of events.



See Halloween, page B5.

Portland's Boxing Tradition

A former world heavyweight contender signs a young prospect for training.



See Sports, page B2.

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Lloyd Parking Meters Opposed

Opposition to a city proposal to install parking meters in the Lloyd Center district is growing. Five residential and merchant groups are developing strategies to defeat the proposal. The meters would be aimed at promoting mass transit and managing available parking areas.

Blazer Says Tire Led To Accident

Portland Trail Blazer Guard James Robinson said he was not being careless when his 1994 Mercedes flipped over in a spectacular wreck early Sunday on Interstate 5. Robinson estimated he was driving between 65 and 70 mph through the Terwilliger curves when a tire blew out. He was shaken, but not seriously injured in the accident.

Alcohol Ban Sought For Arena

A group of community organizations, including the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and Mothers Against Drunk Driving, are opposing a proposal to permit alcohol consumption in seating areas of the Memorial Coliseum and new Rose Garden. The Oregon Liquor Control Commission is considering the proposal by the Oregon Arena Corp.

Hispanic Populations Grow

Hispanics now outnumber blacks in Los Angeles, Houston, Phoenix and San Antonio, four of the nation's largest cities, according to a recently released Census Bureau report. The reasons for the population shift appears to be that Hispanics are having children at a faster rate and the increasing numbers of middle income blacks who are leaving the cities for the suburbs.

America's Poverty Rates Rise

According to a new Census Bureau report, the number of Americans living in poverty went up last year for the fourth year in a row. And the group with the highest poverty rate is African Americans. As of last year a record 33 percent of American blacks were officially classified as poor. The government classifies a family of four as poor if it earns less than \$14,763 a year. Overall, 39 million Americans fall below the poverty line.

Bahamas Want Stop To Gun Smuggling

Faced with a rise in violent crime, politicians in the Bahamas are calling on the U.S. to do more to stop the smuggling of weapons out of the U.S. into the resort nation where the primary industry is tourism. The call comes after the Bahamas has stepped up its efforts to slow the flow of illegal drugs into the U.S.

Islam Nation Meets In Ghana

The Nation of Islam has concluded a meeting in the west African nation of Ghana, the group's first such gathering outside the U.S. Ghana's President Jerry Rawlings praised Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan as one of the "most impressive people I have come across." However, observers said relatively few Ghanaians participated in the conference.

Students Say Wilson Is Short On Diversity

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON

Students at Wilson High marched into the school office Monday demanding a hearing on grievances over minority concerns.

About 75 students were stopped just past the office door by a uniformed police officer who asked them to move their protest to the school's auditorium.

The students then were provided with a microphone and addressed their complaints. Student Erica DeLazerda said the demonstration was organized because there is a lack of cultural diversity at Wilson.

In particular, she said, were complaints over the job elimination of a staff counselor hired for ethnic integration programs at Wilson.

DeLazerda said the employee, school counselor John Mays, had been pivotal in organizing support groups and addressing the concerns of minority students, especially Hispanic and black students.

The students said they also were unhappy with dress code policies, they claim unfairly target clothing worn by minority students.

To make their point, they wore paper hats from Burger King and wore their belts hanging. The hats and style of dress are allegedly banned at the school because they are said to be related to gangs.

The students said they were upset by the employment of so few minority teachers at the school and the lack of cultural diversity in the subjects studied. Students also complained about minority representation on the school's home-



Wearing hats the school says are gang-related, senior Erica DeLazerda leads about 75 of her classmates on a protest at Wilson High School.

coming court and pep rally squads.

Wilson High School Principal Carole Viebrock listened to the complaints during the 35 minute presentation and then addressed the students.

Viebrock said programs to improve ethnic diversity at the school would not be eliminated, despite the loss of the counselor.

She asked the students to form a board of students who represent every ethnic minority at the school.

"We will work with you for inclusion and improvement of diversity," she said.

Viebrock explained how the school's counselor for integration was assigned by the school district to other duties because of

budget cuts.

She said Mays was now employed half-time at Whitaker Middle School and half-time at Madison High School.

The position at Wilson was started in the 70s to help students make the transition from a segregated school to one that is racially integrated.

Housing Fair Held Saturday At Coliseum

A home buying fair on Saturday can help put you on a path toward home ownership.

Fannie Mae, the nation's largest source of home mortgage funds and the Portland Trail Blazers are hosting the fair from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Memorial Coliseum.

The event is part of an effort to increase home ownership in the metropolitan area.

"By teaming up with the Blazers, we hope to reach thousands of low and moderate income residents of the Portland area who think they may never own a home and show them how they can get started," said James A. Johnson, chairman and chief executive officer for Fannie Mae.

The fair brings together a wide range of experts at one location who can provide all types of information on the home-buying process.

According to the latest Census figures, the overall home ownership rate in Portland



is 53 percent, below the national average of 64.2 percent.

Among minorities, the disparity is greater: only one out of three African-Americans and Hispanics who live in the greater Portland/Vancouver area own their own home.

"Naturally, we'd like to see more people be able to own homes because with ownership comes increased pride in neighborhood," said Marshall Glickman, Blazers/Oregon Arena Corp. president. Glickman said the Blazers and the arena corporation are deeply committed to supporting efforts to revitalize local neighborhoods.

The fair will focus on the how-to's of the

home-buying process, including how to qualify for a mortgage, how to repair credit problems and how to find affordable loans.

More than 80 information booths will be set up with mortgage lenders, counseling groups, community organizations, real estate professionals and others. Workshop topics cover the process of qualifying for a mortgage, finding affordable loans and understanding credit issues. The fair is designed to help eliminate the lack of knowledge and fear that can sometimes come with the home-buying process.

Fannie Mae said these two barriers have proven to be serious impediments to buying a home. Furthermore, the company has found that the absence of information about the home-buying process correlates with a lack of confidence in one's ability to negotiate a purchase of a home.

Blankets Needed To Warm Families

The Low Income Families Emergency Center has begun its annual drive to collect blankets for needy families and individuals in the Portland metro area.

"We hope to collect 200 blankets before the winter weather begins, said chair Richard Rickel. "A lot of needy families and senior citizens come to us for help and we need to be ready."

The blankets should be in good shape and clean.

They can be dropped off at the LIFE Center, 2746 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., or a pick-up can be arranged by calling 284-6878.

For more information, call director Charles Carter at 284-6878.

Young Minorities Recruited For Apprenticeships

Young people in Portland are in a good position for lifetime employment in skilled labor jobs.

Keith Edwards and others in the construction trades are looking for minority and other students to enroll in apprenticeship programs to meet increasing job demands.

Students can prepare themselves for acceptance into these jobs by concentrating on their education, especially in math and English.

"Be all you can be, and get the most out of school," Edwards advises young people.

Opportunities in the construction trades is "one of the best keep secrets," Edwards said.

"A skill can take you to the jobs and keep you employed for a family" he said.

Portland's projected growth in population and business is expected to sustain and create a need for skilled labor jobs for many years to come.

Edwards started his career as an electrician in 1969. At the time he was only one of six African Americans employed in the profession in Portland. Today, there are nearly 50 journeyman and apprentice electricians in the metropolitan area who are black and the numbers are going up.

Edwards, as a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, is involved with the Metro Electrical Training Trust, an educational facility for the construction trades at Northeast 42nd and Killingsworth. The facility is supported by the union and employers.

He also works with Portland Communi-



Keith Edwards

ty College to create and support classes giving students job skills.

He said, currently, there is a shortage of

skilled labor in the Portland workforce.

Lou Boston of the Oregon Arena Project echoes those concerns.

He said the construction of Portland's new Trail Blazer arena has seen a shortage of electricians.

With only about 20 percent of students going on to college, a lot of kids are left wondering what is left for them to earn a living after high school, Edwards said.

He said apprenticeships are a great alternative to a college degree.

Edwards said being skilled in labor jobs is also a way to get into the contracting business.

The IBEW union has been a front runner in getting minorities employed in the trades.

"We're always trying to bring in more women and minorities," Edwards said.

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