

**Support For School Building**

Rance Spruill welcomes patrons contributing to the Albina Youth Opportunity School building fund.



See Metro, inside.

**Football All-Stars Saluted**

Jason Scott and other high school players earn honors on the Portland Observer All-City Team.



See Sports, page B2

**Alberta Boutique Opened**

Diana Lewis-McKnight brings popular African fashions to northeast Portland.



See story, page B4.

# The Portland O

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## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

**Battle With New Congress Expected**

"The Republican victory is a temporary setback, but none of us is going to roll over and play dead. The caucus is going to be very visible in trying to protect hard won gains we made in the last few years." Those were the words last week of Congressional Black Caucus member John Lewis, D-Ga., in anticipation of an expected Republican Party assault on programs favored by most black leaders.

**GOP To Kill Funding For Caucus**

There are reports that new Republican House leaders plan to eliminate public funding for the Congressional Black Caucus. With such a loss, the caucus, would still be able to meet but would not have any staff. And one of two black House Republicans, J.C. Watts of Oklahoma, has said he is "not sure" whether or not he will join the caucus when he takes office in January.

**Simpson Lawyer Earns Award**

O.J. Simpson attorney Johnnie Cochran is the recipient of an award for African American achievement. The presentation was made by the Los Angeles-based Brotherhood Crusade Black United Fund in recognition for Cochran's three-decade fight for justice, equity and fairness.

**Denny's Works On Image**

An Atlanta, Ga. company, NDI, Inc. will operate 50 Denny's Restaurants under a deal announced last week. The agreement is part of an effort by Denny's to improve its image after being hit by a series of complaints and racial discrimination suits from black patrons.

**War Ends In Angola**

One of the most bloody and longest wars in Africa officially ended last week. Rebel leader Jonas Sivimbi signed a peace treaty with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The nearly 20 year-old war which has taken tens of thousands of lives was forced to a conclusion when government troops captured a rebel base in the provincial capital of Huambo. The white minority government in South Africa along with the Reagan and Bush administrations had long supported the rebels as part of a campaign to weaken the left-leaning Angolan government.

**Mandela: Winnie Not Guilty**

In his autobiography, South African President Nelson Mandela said his estranged wife, Winnie, showed poor judgement over her use of private bodyguards but was not guilty of any serious offense. Winnie and the guards, drew controversy and condemnation when the guards, known as the Mandela United Food Club, gained a reputation in black townships for violence. "I wholly supported my wife and maintained that while she had shown some poor judgement, she was innocent of any serious charges," Mandela said in the book.

## AIDS Day Draws Look To Lost Lives

By JONATHAN HUTCHISON

Thursday is World AIDS Day, a time to reflect on the over 10 million people who are infected with the HIV virus worldwide.

In Oregon, there are 2,866 reported AIDS cases and about 6,200 people living with HIV. In some African countries, one in 40 adults is infected with the virus.

Generally, people react to these statistics with sadness, pity or indifference. Despite the innocent lives ending prematurely and the emotional and physical pain often accompanies AIDS, there is a great deal of beauty, joy and optimism that has resulted from this epidemic.

Last November, DeNice Paschal, 43, Portland, lost three good friends to AIDS.

Paschal was not aware that two of the individuals were HIV positive. One person died suddenly, another was perfectly healthy only seven months prior to their death. When thinking about the people who died, Paschal remembers the beauty and dreams the individuals possessed.

The first person was a woman Paschal knew through her work at as a counselor at a drug and alcohol treatment facility. This woman was a client, but when she returned to treatment following a relapse, Paschal hardly recognized her.

The woman's hair was falling out and she was rapidly losing her sight. But even with these obstacles, the woman completed treatment and had an active social life. Although the blindness was irreversible, Paschal remembers the plans this woman had upon regaining her eyesight. She felt silly doubting the woman's plans as she was incredibly enthusiastic.

The second person was a well-known African American male performer and publisher. He once served as high school class president and positively impacted the African American community as an openly gay man.

Paschal remembers how he impacted



**Christmas Tree Opens Holiday Season**

A giant evergreen tree in Pioneer Courthouse Square has been lighted for the Christmas season.



**She Knew Three People Who Died From AIDS**

DeNice Paschal of Portland reflects on the three people she knew who died of AIDS and a new appreciation for setting life goals.

her three children; his presence allowed them not to harbor prejudices against homosexuals. Such attitudes allowed Paschal, herself, to be open with her children about her lesbianism, which ultimately made the family closer.

She feels that her children are privileged to have been influenced by this man, with his generosity, compassion and creatively being embodied in their attitudes.

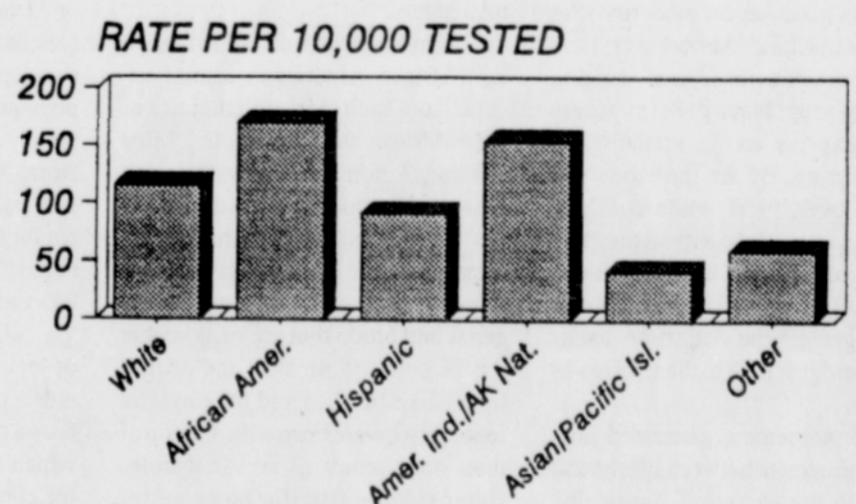
Her third friend to die last November of AIDS was the sister of the man mentioned above. Paschal questioned why two people in the same family would die one after the other. Eventually she concluded that perhaps she will never understand, but appreciated knowing they are together again.

She laughs and remembers how nervous she felt visiting people once they were ill. What would she talk about, how should she act? Now, such questions seem irrational, as they would talk about their plans, relationships, hair; the same things they always dis-

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**HIV Diagnosed In All Races**

NEW HIV DIAGNOSIS BY RACE/ETHNICITY OREGON, 1989 - 1992\*



\*HIV Test Results, Public & Private Laboratories

## Roosevelt School-To-Work Program Wins Support

A north Portland program preparing students for jobs after high school has been awarded \$359,909 by the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education.

The grant to the Roosevelt Renaissance 2000 School-To-Work Opportunities Program is part of an effort to assist young people in low and middle-income urban and rural communities make a successful transition from school to work.

The grant is part of a \$10 million allocation to 21 business, education and labor part-

nerships across the nation under the School-To-Work Opportunities Act signed into law by President Clinton.

"For many young people who live in impoverished areas of the country, the road to economic self-sufficiency and success in the world of work is block with innumerable barriers," U.S. Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich said. "These grants will help break down these barriers and provide access to programs which will prepare them for bright futures."

The Roosevelt project works to prepare

students to succeed in a changing economy requiring a highly skilled and adaptable workforce.

Through its school-to-work opportunities system, art and communications, health occupations, human services, business and management, manufacturing and engineering technology and natural resources fields are the targeted career pathways.

"Young people living in high-poverty areas must have access to opportunities that prepare them for college and careers," said Armando Quiroz, labor department official

in Seattle. "These grants will help communities learn how to build systems to improve schools, help school dropouts and produce meaningful work experiences."

The Act is designed to broaden education and career opportunities for all students by encouraging partnerships between business and educational institutions at the state and local levels. These partnerships will help students made the connection between what they learn in school and in the workplace and prepare them for careers and further education and training.