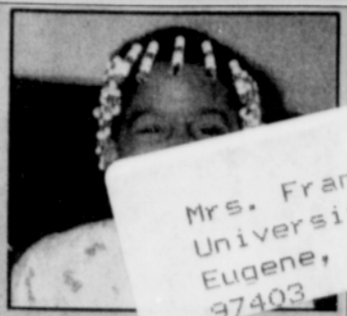


Join In Celebrating Our
25th
ANNIVERSARY

Searching For Love

Adoption services are looking for a family to care for Taylor, a beautiful little girl with special needs.



See Religion, page B4.

Support...

Mrs. Frances Schoen-Newspaper...
University of Oregon Libr...
Eugene, Oregon...
...on the African...
American experience.



See Arts and Entertainment, page B3.

The Portland Observer 25¢

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Get Ready For Summer Swims

Sign-ups are now being taken for summer swim lessons for all ages and skill levels at Portland pools, including the eight outdoor pools which open on Saturday, June 17. Registration is encouraged by mail to beat the last-minute rush. Registration forms and summer schedules are available by calling 823-5130. You can also call 823-SWIM for more information.

Toran Earns Alumni Award

Kay Toran, Children's Services Division administrator, has been given an outstanding alumni award at Portland State. Toran began her career as an assistant professor of social work at PSU. She served as director of affirmative action under Gov. Vic Atiyeh before moving to CSD. Toran has served as president of the Portland chapter of Links, Inc., as a board member of the Walker Institute, the Oregon Art Institute, Metro Women Inc., and the Portland chapter of the NAACP.

Bush Resigns From NRA

Former President Bush angrily resigned from the National Rifle Association last week after a NRA official called Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents "jackbooted thugs... wearing Nazi bucket helmets." Bush, a gun enthusiast and decades-long member of the NRA, called the attack "vicious slander" that "deeply offends my own sense of decency and honor and it offends my concept of service to country."

DNA Appears To Link Simpson

Jurors in the O.J. Simpson trial last week finally saw how his genetic fingerprint was linked to murder. Dark blots on his DNA X-ray are similar to those from a blood drop found near the slashed bodies of his ex-wife and her friend. Jurors were told that DNA on a sock found at the foot of O.J. Simpson's bed was consistent with his ex-wife's.

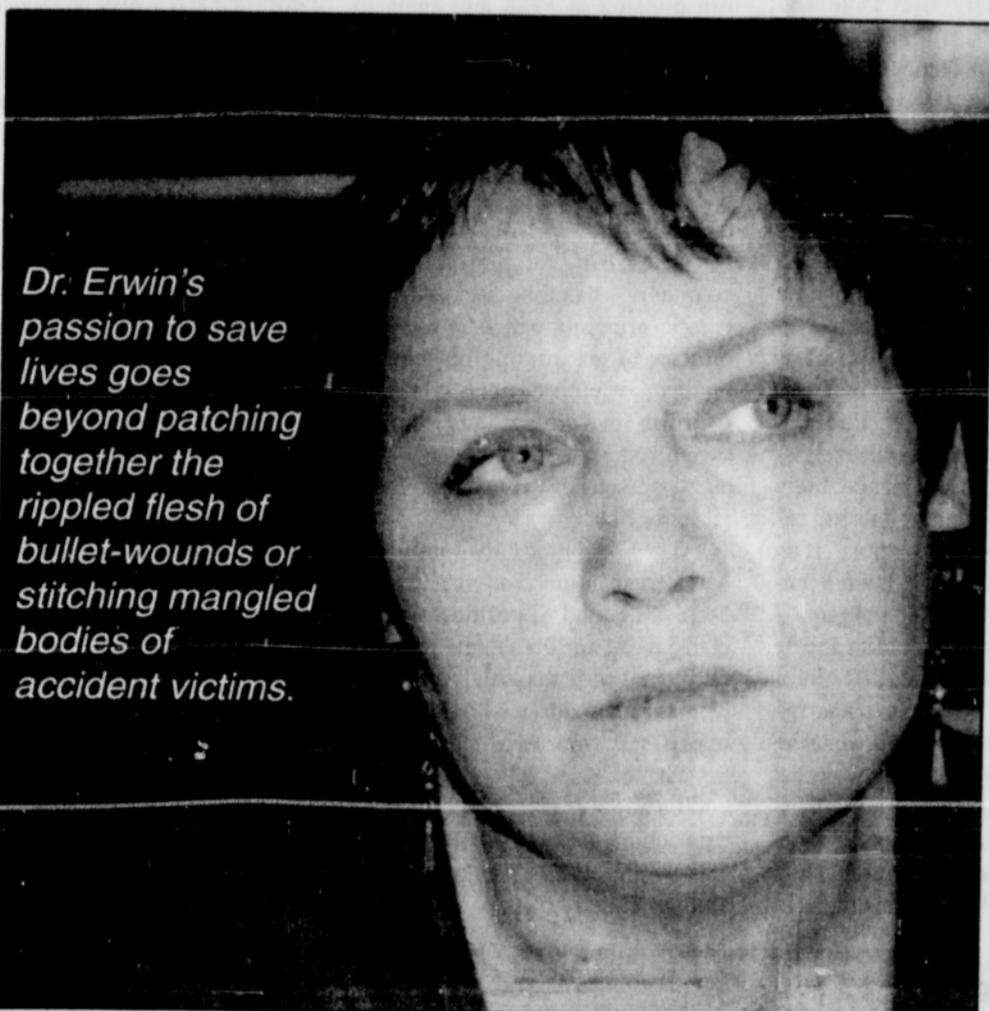
HMO's Court Elderly

University of Oregon professor Judith Hibbard, who studies health care issues, says health maintenance organizations (HMOs) are signing up Medicare beneficiaries as a way to expand their markets. The government, says Hibbard, is encouraging the trend because of perceived cost savings. Experts say without a major overhaul, the Medicare Trust Fund will run out of money within eight years. HMOs are attractive to Medicare managers because of their record of holding down costs, but may mean less services to patients.

Executives Named To Growth Panel

Metro Executive Officer Mike Burton has appointed a group of business executives for advice on ways to implement a 50-year growth plan for the tri-county Portland metropolitan area. The group called "2040 Means Business" will lend their expertise about how the region can encourage the type of residential and commercial development which is outlined in the plan.

Trauma Doctor Battles Violence



Dr. Linda Louise Erwin is an emergency room surgeon at Legacy Emanuel Hospital.

Dr. Erwin's passion to save lives goes beyond patching together the rippled flesh of bullet-wounds or stitching mangled bodies of accident victims.

BY PROMISE KING

Dr. Linda Louise Erwin is not your ordinary surgeon whose vocation is confined to the operating room.

And if stars are given to distinguished surgeons who have made a difference, Dr. Erwin would probably be a decorated five star surgeon-general.

She is the associate director of trauma services at Legacy Emanuel Hospital. In her hands lie the fate of many critically injured patients.

But Dr. Erwin's passion to save lives goes beyond patching together the rippled flesh of bullet-wounds or stitching mangled bodies of accident victims.

She is actively involved in a violence prevention campaign in the state and around the nation.

On her normal schedule, she doubles her primary medical duties by speaking to school kids about violence resolution and the outcome of violence.

"Most people don't realize that preventing gun violence will not only save lives, but also save money. The average cost of medical treatment for one hospitalized gunshot wound patient is more than \$30,000, the surgeon explained.

"The reality is that approximately 80 percent of patients who suffer from gun violence are uninsured or ineligible for government medicare cost assistance," she said.

To this end, Erwin has developed the Save Our Youth program - a violence intervention program in conjunction with Multnomah County Juvenile Justice.

The program caters to students in Portland public schools, teaching kids how to resolve violence without resorting to firearms.

"This has taken me to Lake Oswego Junior High, Jefferson High School, Tubman Middle School and also Parkrose High and others," she recalled.

The surgeon who is also the chairman of the Trauma Multi-disciplinary Committee is a staunch supporter of Ceasefire Oregon - an organization devoted to taking guns out from the wrong hands.

Born in Jackson, Miss., Dr. Erwin came to Oregon as an intern at Oregon Health Sciences University.

The intensity, team work and the challenges that come by every day, keep this surgeon in love with her job.

"It's very exciting and very challenging. It's hard to find a job where you are with different personalities everyday," she said wryly.

The downside of her job, she said is watching kids she cannot save, die. And so

Continued to page A5

World Watches As Ebola Takes Toll

The Ebola virus and fear of the disease is taking a horrifying toll on the frightened people of Kikwit, Zaire.

The latest outbreak of the mysterious virus has the attention of much the world because it is so deadly.

An Italian nun died of the disease on Sunday, bringing the death toll in the central African city to 64, according to officials in Zaire.

The virus, virtually unheard of until it broke out in 55 villages in Zaire in 1976, is marked by high fever, vomiting and massive bleeding, fatal to 90 percent of its victims.

There are few bugs that researchers know less about than Ebola.

They don't know where it comes from or

how it initially gets into humans.

They don't know much about its physical composition or why it is so virulent.

They don't know how to treat it.

What they do know is that it ravages the human body, destroying the immune system, invading soft tissues, including the heart and the brain and that it causes massive bleeding and usually ends in death.

Medical officials continue to assure people that the virus isn't spread like colds or influenza, by sneezing or coughing. It's only spread through contact with flood or bodily fluids. Officials in Zaire have tried to contain the virus with a quarantine around the Kikwit.

Jean-Jacques Muyembe, Zaire's leading virologist, says no one knows how the latest outbreak started, but that it somehow made it

way to the hospital.

The first person known to have the disease was a 36-year-old lab technician at the hospital whose job involved collecting blood from patients. He died April 14, but infected 12 people, mostly medical personnel. They in turn cared for other medical people who became ill.

The strain of Ebola is the same one that caused the previous epidemics in the 1970s, the World Health Organization said.

That may be a positive sign: "It doesn't appear to have mutated into something new," said WHO spokesman Christopher Powell.

But he said little is known about the virus.

"Nobody's managed to find where the reservoir is," he said.

Official hope to isolate the virus' carrier, possibly monkeys, bats or insects, he said. "It's hard to find because it is such a rare virus."

The virus has a short incubation and victims are generally too ill to travel.

In 1976, the first outbreak of the disease occurred in Yambuki, Zaire, near the Ebola River, for which the virus was named.

Of 300 infected people, 274 died. Most of the deaths were traced to a Catholic mission hospital that used the same three syringes on about 500 patients a day. Outbreaks also occurred in Nzara, Sudan in 1976 and 1979.

In 1989, doctors detected a virus similar to Ebola in monkeys imported to the United States.



Memorial Honors Duty

Police and other city officials honor the men and women of the Portland Police Bureau who were injured or killed in the line of duty. Police Chief Charles Moose (right) presents special awards to Officer David Howe and Sgt. Andrew Kirkland during the Monday event. Richard Walker (left), a 1990 police bureau retiree, was master of ceremonies.



Packwood Gives Hope To Foster Nomination

U.S. Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., has broken ranks with conservative members of his own political party by supporting the nomination of Dr. Henry Foster as U.S. Surgeon General.

Packwood, appearing Sunday on the NBC program Face the Nation predicted Republican efforts to block confirmation will fall short.

Foster is "qualified," Packwood



Sen. Bob Packwood

said. "His background is excellent."

The Oregon senator's comments seem to improve Foster's confirmation chances.

Initial opposition, focusing on the Tennessee doc-

tor's record of legal abortions and his first inaccurate statements about them, has weakened since Foster testified at confirmation hearings this month.

But Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, appearing on the same show, vowed to lead a filibuster to block a vote on Foster.

"I'm going to do everything in my power to stop this nomination," said Gramm, a presidential candidate.

Said Packwood: "My hunch is on this one the filibuster won't last long."

Majority leader and presidential hopeful Bob Dole, who threatened to keep Foster's nomination from a full Senate vote, has softened and asked to meet with the nominee.

Foster faces a May 24 committee vote, where he's expected to pick up the one more vote needed to send the nomination to the full senate.