

Gospel Choir Reaches To Heavens

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See Religion, page B5.

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Portland Ready For Clinton Visit

President Clinton and Vice President Gore will attend an economic meeting June 27 at Portland State University. The Pacific Rim Regional Conference will attract about 200 business and community leaders from Oregon, Washington, California, Hawaii and Alaska to discuss making the economy work better for working people.

Graffiti Line Works

Portland is cleaning up thanks to the involvement of a city anti-graffiti program, according to Mayor Vera Katz. A graffiti hot line has generated the clean-up of 400 sites or about 50 percent of the calls received. Katz credits several thousands of volunteers who pitched in over the past year, the commitment of local businesses and the cooperation of city agencies.

Campaign For School Levy Opens

The Yes on Portland School Bonds Committee kicked-off a campaign last week to win support for a general obligation bond levy in the November General Election. The \$196.7 million measure would pay for computers, building upgrades and other maintenance needs to meet safety and building code requirements. "It's a prudent, common-sense way of protecting our billion-dollar investment in public education," said Portland school superintendent Jack Bierwirth.

Summer Plans For Youth

Summer camp and many other activities, including computer camp and a program called Tennis in the Parks are being planned for kids by the Police Activities League. "Kids who are involved in organized structured activities are less likely to get into trouble," said Northeast Precinct Commander Bruce Prunk. For information call 823-0250.

Deficit Forces Staff Cuts

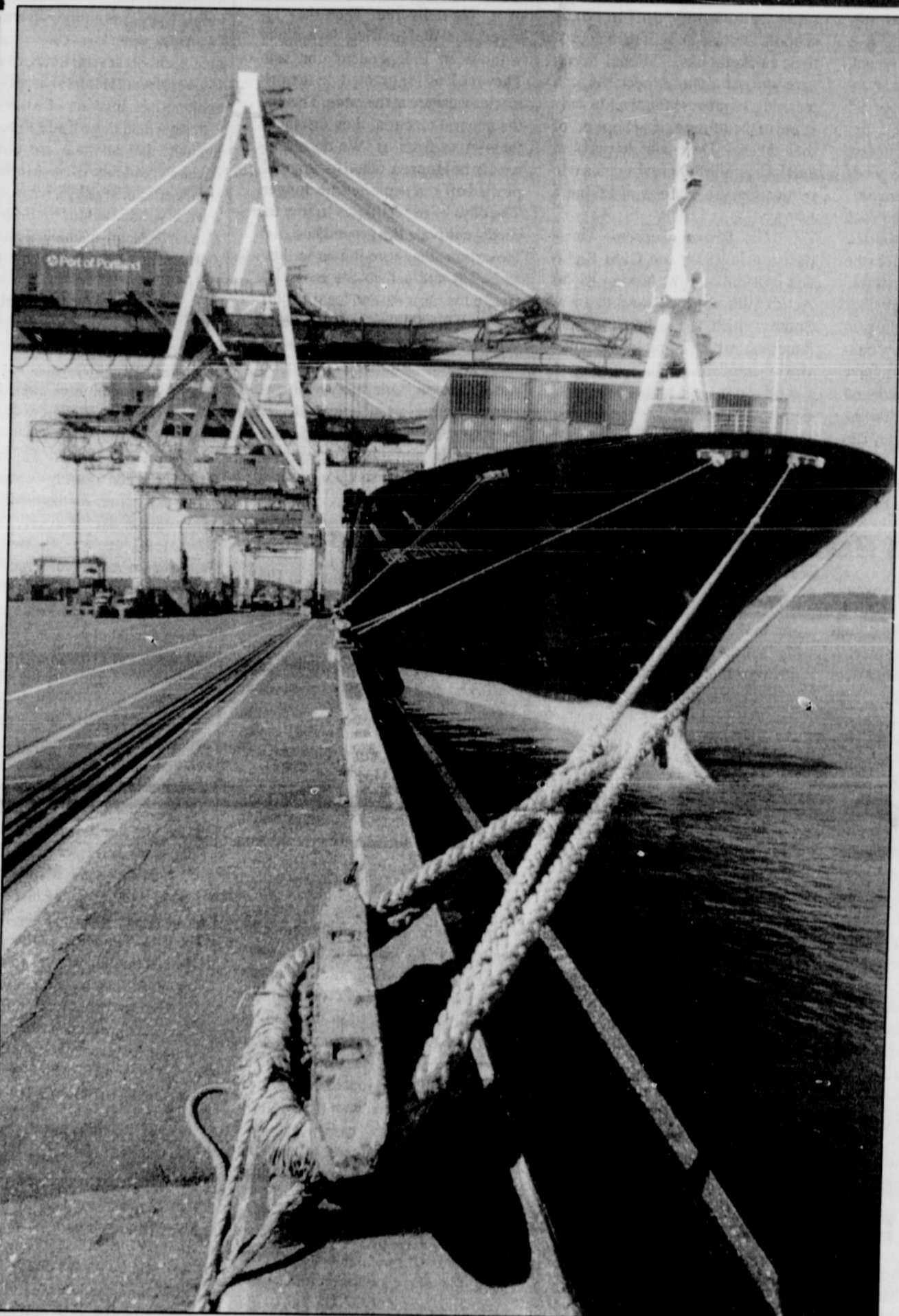
Faced with a \$3.8 million deficit and an order to rein in spending by 40 percent, the NAACP will have to cut much of its Baltimore national operations and some of its seven regional offices.

Feds Take Control Of Housing

The federal government has taken control of the Chicago Housing Authority in an attempt to improve the wretched living conditions of almost 100,000 public housing residents. Vincent Lane, the authority's outgoing chairman, gained a national reputation for innovative management, including the "midnight basketball" leagues which helped lower crime among youth.

Illegal Drug Buys Down

Americans spent about \$40 billion on illegal drugs in 1993, compared to \$64 billion spent in 1988 largely because of a decline in buys for cocaine and heroin, according to government officials.



BY PROMISE KING

Paige Knight does not take no for an answer if the issue undermines the environment.

She is part of a coalition battling the Energy Department over the proposed shipment of nuclear waste through the Port of Portland.

The radioactive materials would come from around the world as part of a nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Leading the battle against the shipments are the Portland dock workers themselves and members of several environmental organizations.

They include the International Longshoreman and Warehouseman Union, Nuclear Free America, Greenpeace, Don't Waste Oregon Committee, Gray Panthers, Hanford Watch, Hanford Action of Oregon, Oregon Peace Works and the Pacific Party.

The objective of the group is to thwart any effort to store spent nuclear fuel in Portland area ports.

"We have told the Department of Energy every time they asked that Portland is not acceptable as a port of entry for this cargo. It was not acceptable in December of '93, it was not acceptable in August of 1994 and it's not acceptable now," Joe Keating, a local environmentalist and Pacific Party member said.

The coalition is boiling against every aspect of the Energy Department Draft Environment Impact Statement except a no action alternative. It's demanding that President Clinton convene a blue ribbon task force to establish a comprehensive nuclear waste policy with full public debate.

The draft statement evaluates the potential environmental impacts that could result from adopting a policy for the United States to receive and manage spent nuclear fuel from foreign research reactors.

Much of the fuel in question contains

highly enriched uranium, a material that could be used to produce nuclear weapons.

It's the government intention to reduce the potential for such highly enriched uranium from being diverted into nuclear weapons.

It suggests that by providing incentive for reactor operators, it would encourage foreign operators to switch to low enriched uranium fuel.

The draft statement maps out three alternative plans and also a no plan action.

In the first alternative, 10 potential ports

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Coalition Fights Nuclear Port

Energy Department Environmental Impact Statement Stirs Opposition

Will our public shipping facilities become a transfer point for nuclear waste from around the world? Not if a Portland coalition is successful in fighting the proposal.

Test Concerns At Middle School

BY DANNY BELL

A group of 31 eighth graders were recently selected to be re-tested at Portsmouth Middle School in north Portland after earning high scores in algebra. Some parents expressed alarm because they were minority or low income students.

The action followed a district wide competency test called PALT. The test is used as a tool to assess the proficiency of students in the area of math.

According to Ron Reilly, a district administrator for Portland public schools, the PALT emphasizes arithmetic and basic math skills, although there is some algebra

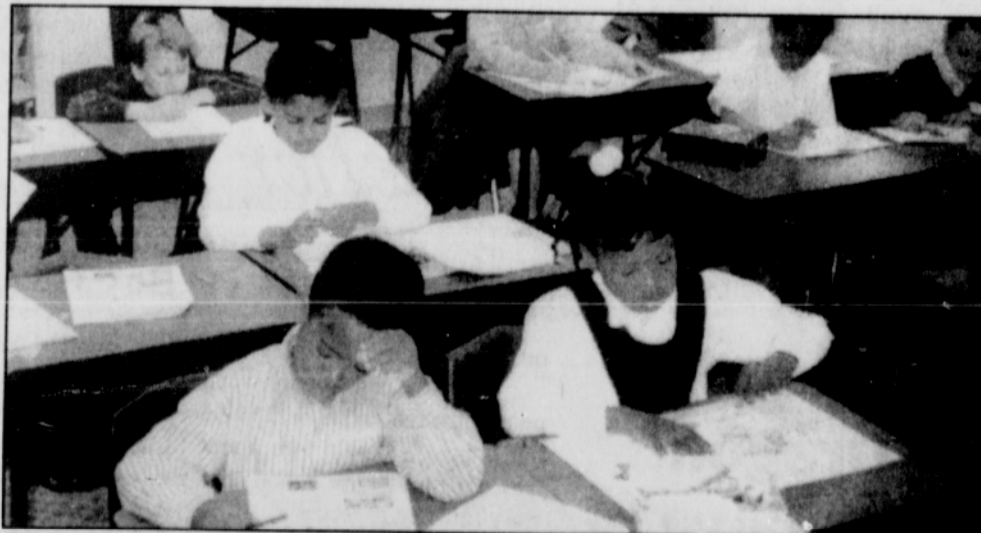
in the test modern.

Members of the community became concerned about the re-testing partially due to the lack of notification and confusion surrounding the grounds for the re-testing.

Portsmouth students in the original test given in April, scored above average as a group in the area of algebra.

The PALT test that the students took was a level 8 test, which is higher than the level 2 to level 5 test ordinarily given to middle school students. The district makes a recommendation on what level to use and the individual school chooses a level they

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Students at the Community Learning Center were hitting the books this spring, but now will be away from their desks for awhile. The bell rang Tuesday for the last day of classes and the start of summer vacation for the private school at 4212 N.E. Prescott.

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