

Walnut Park Manager Promoted

Penny Moncrief moves up in management at Walnut Park Videoland store.



See Minority Enterprise Development, page B6.

Join In Celebrating Our
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ANNIVERSARY

Escaping A Hopeless Life

Larenz Tate concealed behind whiteface, chooses a dangerous criminal path, in the drama "Dead President."



See Arts & Entertainment, page A9.

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Get Out Of Jail With Visa

The Linn County Jail in Albany has started taking VISA and MasterCard in an effort to make it easier for people to post bail and security deposits. Sheriff Dave Burright said he hoped it would free up more jail space.

Powell Considers Perot Party

Ross Perot's pledge to build the "largest party in the country" got a boost last week as Colin Powell opened the door to becoming its first presidential nominee. Perot said he plans to form an Independence Party that would nominate a 1996 presidential candidate.

Speed Bumps Opposed On Boulevard

Dozens of angry north Portland residents last week demanded city officials reject plans to install speed bumps and bike lanes along Willamette Boulevard. "By the time the city gets through it'll look like an East Berlin border crossing," said Ruth Tuttle, a protest organizer. However, transportation officials continue to hold to the plans which call for slowing down traffic.

Marsalis Says He Despised Leno

Former "Tonight Show" bandleader Branford Marsalis says he "despised" Jay Leno and quit last January after his role on the show changed. "The job of musical director I found out later was just to kiss the (posterior) of the host," Marsalis said.

SEI Center To Become Reality

Students, public officials, business leaders and community residents gathered in Unthank Park in inner north Portland last Wednesday for the groundbreaking of the \$8.5 million Center for Self Enhancement. The two-story facility will include classrooms, computer labs, a library, health clinic and performing arts complex with a 300-seat auditorium and music, dance and recording studios. It will also feature a cafeteria, game and TV room, child-watch area, gym, running track and weight room.

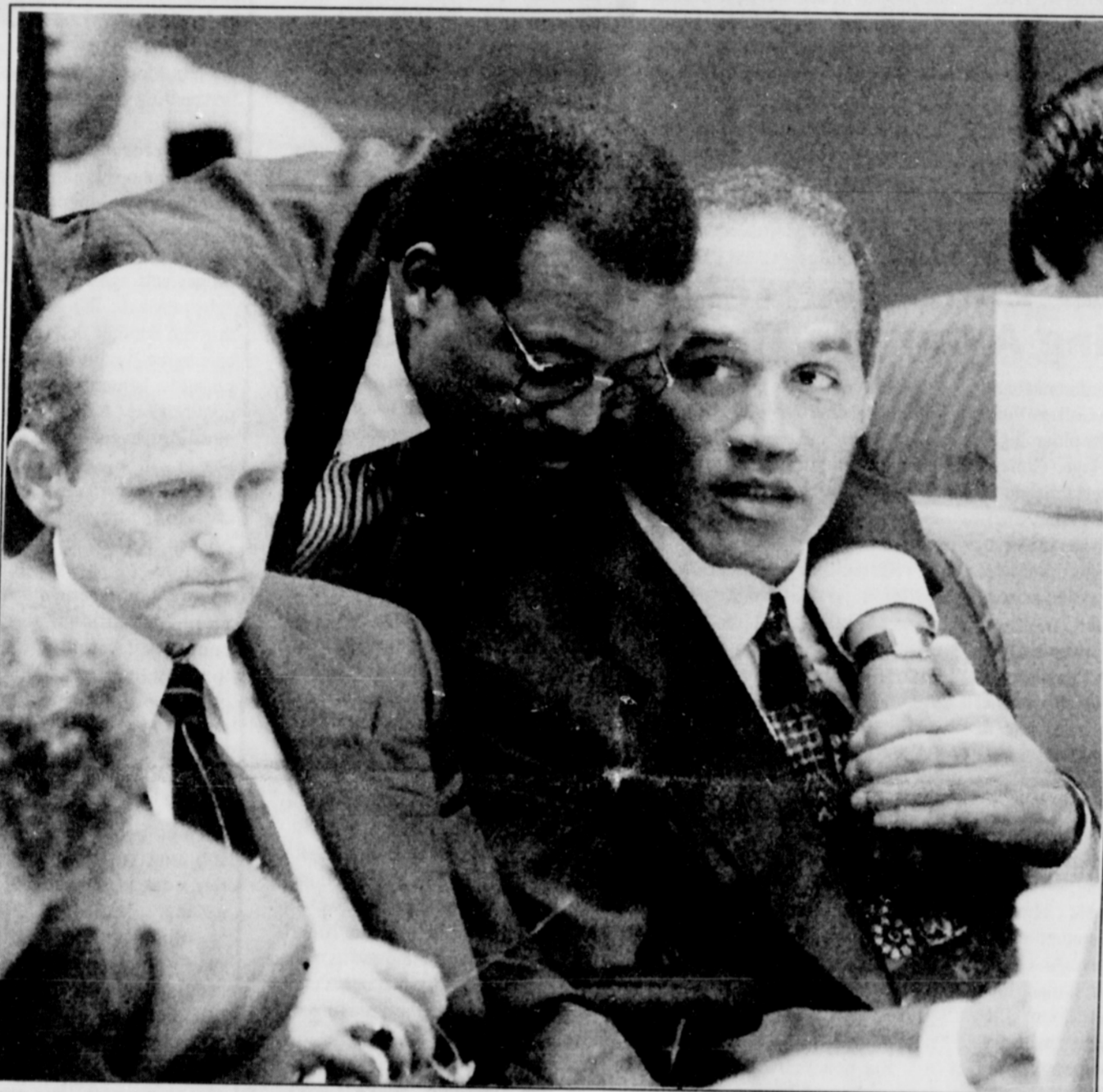
Time Warner To Sell Rap Label

Time Warner, Inc. decided last week to get out of the gansta rap business. The New York entertainment giant announced it would sell its \$115 million stake in the successful, but controversial Los Angeles-based Interscope Records, home to such award-winning rap stars as Snoop Doggy Dogg and Dr. Dre.

Furse Drops Out Of Senate Race

U.S. Rep. Elizabeth Furse, D-Ore. decided last week to drop out of the race to replace Sen. Bob Packwood. Furse, a second-term congresswoman from Hillsboro, had hoped her gender and liberal activism would bring support, but said she could not raise enough campaign cash to be competitive.

O.J. Not Guilty



Defendant O.J. Simpson confers with his attorney Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. during closing arguments in Simpson's double-murder trial in Los Angeles. (Photo courtesy of The Oregonian)

Vows To Pursue True Killers

Former football star O.J. Simpson was acquitted of double-murder on Tuesday after a sensational trial and vowed to dedicate his life to tracking down the "killer or killers" of his ex-wife and a friend.

Nearly 16 months after his arrest and less than an hour after the not-guilty verdicts were read to a hushed courtroom, Simpson was released and issued a statement expressing relief that "this part of the incredible nightmare... is over."

While his family and defence attorneys, smiling and patting one another on the back, appeared in a televised news conference, Simpson returned to his mansion in the exclusive Los Angeles suburb where he was arrested on June 17, 1994, following a bizarre highway chase.

In a remarkably swift conclusion to a trial that transfixed America for a year, the mostly black jury deliberated for less than four hours on Monday before reaching the verdict, which was kept secret

overnight at the judge's order. When the verdict was announced, Simpson - the most famous murder defendant in U.S. history - smiled quietly with relief, patted his hand over his heart and hugged his lead attorney, Johnnie Cochran.

Relatives of the two victims — Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman — broke into loud sobs as they realized that the man they had repeatedly called a killer was going free.

Witnesses said they had to hold each other up as they staggered away from the courtroom, crying loudly.

Outside the downtown courthouse, hundreds of Simpson supporters celebrated wildly, dancing and shaking handwritten signs in triumph.

But many Americans expressed shock that the jurors had ignored what prosecutors described as a "mountain of evidence" linking Simpson to the crime. "We are profoundly disappointed with the verdict," District Attorney Gil

Garcetti said. Simpson had pleaded not guilty to murdering Nicole Brown Simpson, 35, and Goldman, 25, who were stabbed and slashed to death on June 12, 1994, outside her Brentwood townhouse. He could have been sentenced to life in prison if convicted.

In a statement read by his son, Jason, Simpson said "my first obligation is to my young children who will be raised the way Nicole and I had always planned."

"But when things have settled a bit I will pursue as my primary goal in life the killer or killers who slaughtered Nicole and Mr. Goldman. They are out there somewhere. Whatever it takes to identify them and bring them in, I'll provide somehow."

The fast verdict defied the predictions of most analysts, who had predicted only the day before that the jury — 10 women and two men, comprising nine

Continued to page B11

SIMPSON VERDICT STUNS THE NATION

The not guilty verdict in O.J. Simpson's double murder trial Tuesday shot across America with a coast-to-coast jolt, prompting both relieved cheers and gasps of disbelief.

It was a verdict that surprised both those who believed the former football idol was innocent and those convinced he killed ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman - opinions that often divided along racial lines.

Simpson defender Johnnie Cochran,

who had urged the jury to deliver a verdict repudiating police racism, said after their decision that the idea the judgment was based only on the race issue was "preposterous."

But in the end, public reaction reflected earlier polls showing that most whites believed Simpson guilty and most blacks thought him innocent, along with a hint of suspicion that Simpson's wealth helped to buy him freedom.

"This was money versus no-money. If you've got enough money in this coun-

try, obviously you can hack up your wife," said Jewel Holt, 47, a white television producer from Boca Raton, Fla.

"Even if he did kill them, he didn't do anything wrong, because white people have killed us, they have lynched us, they have hanged us. They took everything we've had," said Charles Miller, a black 28-year-old incense vendor in New York's Times Square.

President Clinton said the verdict must be respected and Americans should pray for the families of the victims.

The Chronology Of Events In The O.J. Simpson Case: 1994

- JUNE 13 - The bodies of Simpson's ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman are found outside her Brentwood townhouse. Simpson returns home after an overnight flight to Chicago, is questioned by police and then released.
- JUNE 16 - Victims are buried in separate ceremonies. Simpson attends his ex-wife's funeral.
- JUNE 17 - Simpson is arrested after a nationally televised slow-speed pursuit along Los Angeles freeways.
- JUNE 20 - Simpson pleads not guilty.
- JUNE 24 - Judge Cecil Mills halts a grand jury probe into the murders, saying panel tainted by unprecedented media coverage. Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz and flamboyant trial lawyer F. Lee Bailey join defence team.
- JUNE 30 - Simpson's preliminary hearing begins.
- JULY 8 - Judge Kathleen Kennedy-Powell orders Simpson to stand trial.
- JULY 20 - Simpson offers \$500,000 reward for information leading to the "real killer or killers."
- JULY 22 - Simpson pleads "absolutely, 100 percent not guilty" at his arraignment. Case assigned to Judge Lance Ito. Noted trial lawyer Johnnie Cochran joins defense.
- SEPT. 9 - Los Angeles district attorney's office says it will not seek death penalty against Simpson.
- SEPT. 26 - Jury selection begins.
- NOV. 3 - Jury of 12 sworn in.
- DEC. 8 - Twelve alternate jurors sworn in.

1995

- JAN. 11 - Jury sequestered.
- JAN. 24 - Prosecutor Marcia Clark begins opening statement.
- JAN. 25 - Cochran begins defence opening statement.
- JAN. 31 - Testimony begins.
- FEB. 1 - Ron Shipp, a former LAPD officer and friend of Simpson, testifies that Simpson told him he dreamed of killing Nicole Simpson.
- FEB. 3 - Denise Brown takes the witness stand to testify about Simpson's alleged abuse of her sister, Nicole Simpson.
- FEB. 12 - Jury tours crime scene and Simpson's mansion.
- FEB. 24 - Arguments erupt over testimony of housekeeper Rosa Lopez, forcing Ito to take her testimony on videotape.
- MAR. 9 - Detective Mark Fuhrman takes the witness stand to testify about finding both bloody gloves.
- MAR. 21 - Simpson houseguest Kato Kaelin testifies.
- APRIL 12 - After removal from jury, Jeannette Harris says jurors discussed case and deputies promoted racial divisions.
- APRIL 21 - To protest the removal of three deputies, half of the jurors appear at the courthouse wearing black.
- JUNE 15 - Simpson tries on bloody gloves in court and pronounces them "too small."
- JULY 6 - Prosecution rests case.
- JULY 10 - Defence begins its case by calling Simpson's daughter, Arnelle, to the stand.
- AUG. 29 - Portions of taped interviews with Fuhrman played in court in which he is heard uttering racial slurs.
- SEPT. 6 - Taking the witness stand with jury absent, Fuhrman asserts Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination and refuses to answer questions.
- SEPT. 22 - Simpson proclaims his innocence in a surprise courtroom statement; both sides rest; Ito instructs jury.
- SEPT. 25 - Prosecution's Clark begins closing statement.
- SEPT. 27 - Prosecution concludes first phase of closing argument. Defence begins closing statement.
- SEPT. 28 - Defence wraps up closing argument.
- SEPT. 29 - Prosecution completes final phase of closing argument. Case is handed over to jury.
- OCT 2 - Jury reaches a verdict after just over three hours of deliberations.
- OCT. 3 - Verdicts are read in open court finding Simpson not guilty of the murders of Nicole Brown and Ron Goldman.

EDITORIAL

HEALTH

HOUSING

SPORTS

RELIGION

FAMILY

CLASSIFIEDS

A2

A4

A5

A7

A8

B5

B3