

Labor Of Love

Habitat For Humanity helps build productive lives with the homeowner's own "sweat equity."



See Metro, inside.

Midnight Basketball Success

Young men trade the streets for the basketball court in YMCA's Midnight Basketball.



See Metro, inside.

The Portland *Mer*

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

New Lloyd Tower Planned

Liberty Northwest insurance has announced plans to build a new 17-story office tower in the Lloyd District of northeast Portland. Plans call for the building to be built by October 1997 at a cost of \$40 to \$50 million.

Rose Fest Kids Launched

Rose Festival Kids will replace the all-girls Junior Court, Rose Festival officials recently announced. Under the system, boys and girls from selected elementary and middle schools will tackle public service projects and march in the Rose Festival Junior Parade.

Gas Tax Hike Scuttled

Metro has decided against asking voters to approve of a 4-cent tax on gasoline and diesel fuel to raise money for road repairs. But the regional government is still thinking about making another tax proposal in the fall.

Keiko, A Marketing Dream

The journey of Keiko the killer whale, from a Mexico swimming pool to the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport, is a perfect marriage of community and marketing expertise, according to a University of Oregon marketing expert. Marian Friestand said Keiko's story is the kind of event that companies dream of, but can never really orchestrate.

High Tech Passes Timber

For the first time, technology manufacturing employed more Oregonians than the timber and paper industries. The high tech origins in Oregon began with Tektronix, founded by Howard Vollum in southeast Portland in 1946.

O.J. Juror's Book Is Out

The forewoman of the O.J. Simpson jury thought Mark Furhman, the racist cop for the prosecution, was a "snake." "My first feeling when I saw him, he sort of looked like a Ku Klux Klan or a skinhead with hair," Amanda Cooley writes in her book, "Madam Foreman," which came out last week.

Suns Coach Westphal Fired

The ax fell last week on Suns head coach Paul Westphal. During his seven years as a coach in Phoenix, the Suns posted a better regular-season record than any other NBA team. Cotton Fitzsimmons, twice coach of the Suns, takes over the team which has been riddled by injuries this season.

Americans Eat More

Americans are eating four times as much Mexican food and three times as much popcorn and pretzels as they did two decades ago. An Agriculture Department survey also finds that the average daily calorie intake is up, but the percentage of calories from fat is down.

Brandon Breaks Ground On NE Enterprise



NBA player and Portland resident Terrel Brandon returns to his roots Sunday to address residents and city officials on the groundbreaking of his new business venture on Northeast Alberta Street. (Photo by Michael G. Halle)

BY ERIC NOON

Walker Temple Church let church out early Sunday and quite a few of the congregation, including the pastor and his wife, proceeded to an empty lot at Northeast 14th and Alber-

ta. It was at this site, that hundreds of other area residents gathered to welcome northeast Portland resident and professional athlete Terrel Brandon.

Brandon, a former Grant High School student and now a veteran NBA player, announced plans to build a shopping outlet to include a Barber Shop and offices at the location. His long-time friend Dante Pashel is a partner in the effort.

"This is a dream come true for me," said Brandon, now a starting point guard for the Cleveland Cavaliers and an NBA all-star candidate. "It's something I've always envisioned, to help out the community."

The barber shop will be run by Pashel as part of Tee Bee Enterprises, which will have offices at the same site. The opening date is set for July and is expected to boost the economic revitalization of the Alberta district.

"Until people are willing to step up and put a plan into action, it's just a plan," said city commissioner Charles Hales who was at the ground breaking ceremony. "The city of Port-

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O.J. Gives First Sworn Testimony

O.J. Simpson sometimes spoke just above a whisper in his first sworn testimony about events surrounding the murders of his ex-wife and her friend.

Nearly four months after his acquittal, the former football star sat down Monday in a west Los Angeles law office and began answering questions under oath in a wrongful-death civil lawsuit brought against him by the victims' families.

It was his first face-to-face showdown with opposing lawyers. He opted not to take the witness stand during his year-long criminal trial. The case ended with a jury clearing him of the June 12, 1994, murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald

Goldman.

Subdued and at times speaking so softly that he could barely be heard, Simpson was grilled for several hours by the Goldmans' lead attorney, Daniel Petrocelli, according to a lawyer who was present for the much-anticipated deposition.

In the first in a series of closed-door interrogations, Simpson was questioned about the June 17, 1994, car chase in which he led police down the freeway in a white Bronco before surrendering at his Brentwood mansion, according to Michael Brewer, attorney for Goldman's mother, Sharon Rufo.

Simpson was asked about his actions and feelings the day of the nationally tele-

vised slow-speed chase and about a letter he left only hours before with his friend, Robert Kardashian, that many interpreted as a suicide note.

Simpson gave simple yes or no answers to some questions and occasionally refused to respond, according to Ron Goldman's father, Fred Goldman.

There were frequent interruptions as Simpson's lawyers complained that certain questions violated attorney-client privilege.

Outside the building, the scene was reminiscent of the media circus surrounding Simpson's criminal trial, with dozens of camera crews and photographers staking out positions.

Bowman Seeks NE House Seat

Jo Ann Bowman of northeast Portland is running for State Representative in House District 19, representing northeast Portland.

In officially making her announcement official on Saturday, Bowman presented an endorsement from State Rep. Avel Gordly, who currently holds the elected office, but who now is running for the state Senate.

Bowman works as a community partnership specialist to Multnomah County Chair Beverly Stein.

She listed a need for consensus building and a lack of funding for education as two priorities in her campaign.

"We can't just sit back and allow millions of dollars to be spent build-

ing prisons while our public school system suffers from inadequate funding," Bowman said. "I'm not saying we don't need jails. But when all your resources are focused on locking people up, you will always find more people to lock up."

Bowman said she plans to build on her county experience, to bring Oregon's most multi-cultural neighborhoods together to reach consensus in tackling problems facing northeast Portland in particular and Oregon in general.

Gordly said Bowman's commitment to the community makes her "the perfect candidate."

Stein said Bowman has demonstrated the leadership skills necessary to be a highly effective lawmaker.



Jo Ann Bowman

Civil Rights Leader Barbara Jordan Mourned

In a setting rich with reminders of the 1960s civil rights campaigns that she championed, mourners lined up last week to pay their respects to the late U.S. Rep. Barbara Jordan.

Her funeral was held Saturday and was attended by President Bill Clinton.

Jordan, who became the conscience of a nation with her stirring defense of the Constitution during the dark days of Watergate,

died last Wednesday of pneumonia as a complication of leukemia. She was 59.

Jordan, a preacher's daughter from an impoverished Houston neighborhood, was a political pioneer who in 1966 was elected the first black state senator in Texas history and in 1972 the first southern black to the U.S. Congress since Reconstruction.

A relentless fighter for civil rights, she caught the eye of the nation as a member of the House Judiciary Committee that voted

to impeach President Richard Nixon for his role in the 1972 Watergate break-in and coverup.

Her vote to impeach, she said, was based in her belief in the Constitution and the rule of law.

Jordan left Congress in 1979 because she had multiple sclerosis. She became a teacher of political ethics at the University of Texas' Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs.

Rosemont Proposal Gets Second Look

BY LEE PERLMAN

Central City Concern intends to hire an independent consultant to create a "master plan" for the old Rosemont School property in north Portland.

The non-profit agency, which operates low income housing in the downtown area and the Hooper Detox Center, created an uproar last year when they announced they wanted to buy the 7.6 acre property at 597 N. Dekum St. to house AIDS patients, recovering alcoholics and drug addicts.

The Piedmont Neighborhood Association held two meetings to discuss the proposal that drew more than 150 people each, most of them strongly opposed to the proposal.

Association leaders say they would not object to use of the property for AIDS housing or for drug and alcohol-free housing on a much smaller scale. However, they say, creating so many units for such a "fragile" population could undermine their efforts to "stabilize" their inner north and northeast neighborhood.

Central City Concern officials have been reluctant to consider alternatives to their "vision" for the property. In contrast, they told the Piedmont board at its Jan. 11 meeting that the study they propose would explore the "full range" of possibilities for the property.

"We would ask the consultants to interface with our vision, but also to interface with neighborhood concerns," Ian McKechnic of Central City Concern says. "We wouldn't rule anything out as long as it was financially feasible."

They have asked Piedmont to participate and the board is referring the request to the general membership at its next meeting, 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Holy Redeemer School, 127 N. Portland Blvd.

Meanwhile, some Piedmont board members, including former presidents Betsy Radigan and Tom Markgraf, have proposed that the neighborhood form a community development corporation, acquire the property and develop it themselves.

"We don't feel we should oppose this plan unless we can come up with something better," Markgraf says.

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