

Orlando Willaims Home For Globetrotter Debut

Benson High and University of Oregon standout is now a pro of pros.



See Metro, Inside.

African American Olympians Of The Century

A salute to some of the greatest athletes the world has known.



See Black History pages 5A-7A, Inside

The Portland

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Flood Brings Jobless Claims

Disaster unemployment assistance is now available for workers who are out of work as a result of the February flood. The jobless benefits are made possible under President Clinton's federal disaster declaration.

Clinton Visits Flooded Area

President Clinton toured flood ravaged areas of Woodland, Washington last week and then flew to Portland. The president offered warm words of sympathy to flood victims and promised millions of dollars in federal aid and assistance.

Rain Brings New Flooding

The Willamette River was bank full and approaching flood stage again after a weekend of rain, although well below the level that caused widespread damage earlier this month.

Car Injures Road Worker

A road worker was struck by a car and critically injured last week while working to clear a mud slide on U.S. Highway 30. He was one of hundreds of state employees working to clear slides and repair roads in the aftermath of flooding.

Students Help Flood Victims

Several students at area schools last week helped with clean-up for flood victims. Wilson High and Smith Elementary students in southwest Portland collected food and supplies for flood victims in Vernonia.

Airport Eyes New Taxiway

The Portland of Portland has approved a \$1.3 million contract to build a new taxiway at Portland International Airport. The 2,900 long taxiway will connect with the airport's south parallel runway. Construction will begin in March.

Emergency System Performs

Portland's new radio emergency system performed up to expectations during a recent test demonstration. The system was upgraded after technical and weather-related problems during a December storm.

Nuclear Port Plans Dropped

The Department of Energy has dropped plans to ship spent nuclear fuel from foreign reactors through the Port of Portland.



100 Years Old And Standing Proud

For 100 years, Union Station has stood as tribute to the magnificent vision of a country and its people on the move. Formed from the hard work and craftsmanship of laborers, its familiar shape is recognized the region over. A stroll through its restored lobby brings a feeling of grandure and of time gone by. (Photo by Chuck Washington)

No Relief Soon For Housing Prices

By PROMISE KING

Paul Ozig of northeast portland want to buy a home but he's waiting for prices to come down.

And if recent study by area top developer and metro councilor, Don Morissette is any thing to go by Ozig and many others who are hoping for affordable prices would have to wait for a long time.

Housing prices in the region according to the report are not expected to cool off anytime soon.

It indicates portland housing are continu-

ing to escalate at enormous rates.

Wage stagnation in the region the report says has compounds this escalation costs.

The stark imbalance between housing costs and wages is driving the ability to own a home out of the reach of the many of our citizens, particularly younger families and individuals according to the reports.

The study finds that while this increase costs hinged on cost of labor and materials additional federal, state and local regulations on construction and price of buildable land in the metro area are part of the problems.

It finds that portland is among cities that have flirted with slow or no growth policies or placed other substantial regulatory barriers in the way of affordable housing. The study also concludes that the growth management policies in this region have substantially affected the price of land.

If the supply of housing is not adequate to meet the needs of middle and upper middle income residents, the study says it is the lower income residents who are squeezed out of the picture. This buying out is called "gentrification".

Essentially, gentrification entails wealthier residents moving into lower income neighborhoods in the hopes of getting a bargain on housing.

North portland serves as example of the economics of gentrification for two years in a row.

Consequently, many middle income resident who find affordable housing elusive have made concerted efforts to buy up less expensive homes in inner North / Northeast

Continued to page 6A

Buses Fill In For MAX In Gresham

Tri-Met has temporarily closed the Max light rail line in the Gresham area through May 10 for construction work.

All four Max stations east of Rockwood/188th will close. Tri-Met will replace Max service with buses that will shuttle passengers between the closed stations and the fully functional Max station at Rockwood/188th Avenue where train connections are available.

Shuttle buses will run about every five minutes during rush hour and Tri-Met customer service representatives will be on hand at stations to assist customers. The improvements, combined with low floor trains will make boarding easier for everyone and eliminate service delays in the future.



Community Honors

Tony Hopson of Self Enhancement, Inc. (from left), Gerald McFadden of the Volunteers of America and State Rep. Avel Gordly will be honored for their accomplishments in the area of equal opportunity during the Urban League of Portland's annual dinner Thursday evening at the Hilton Hotel.

Downspout Disconnections Target North/Northeast

The city of Portland plans to disconnect thousands of residential downspouts from the city's combined sewer system this spring, summer and fall.

The Bureau of Environmental Services is targeting 17,000 homes in north and northeast Portland.

In some parts of Portland, drainage from roof gutters and storm drains fills combined sewer pipes to capacity when it rains.

The stormwater mixes with sewage and contributes to combined sewer overflows in the Columbia Slough.

Disconnecting residential downspouts and diverting drainage to lawns and gardens can remove millions of gallons of stormwater from the combined sewer system. A test disconnection of 150 homes last summer removed approximately 1.75 million gallons of stormwater annually from the combined sewers.

Starting this spring, teams of workers trained to disconnect residential downspouts will work in north and northeast Portland neighborhoods.

Environmental Services will also train workers from several community groups and neighborhood associations to disconnect downspouts for property owners who want the work done for them.

Property owners also have the option of doing the disconnections themselves. Envi-

ronmental Services will provide technical assistance and will reimburse property owners \$53 for each disconnected downspout. This program is only offered in targeted neighborhoods in north and northeast Portland.

The Bureau of Environmental Services provides city residents with water quality protection, sewage treatment, wastewater collection, sewer installation and oversees solid waste collection and recycling services.