

Marquis Apparel Appeals

Portland's Ramon Blackburn aims to become the King of men's casual wear.



See Metro, inside.

Kids Eye Future Careers

Engineers from Intel Corp. help students get ready for the modern job market.



See Education, page B2.

Ain't Misbehavin'

The Pointer Sisters head to Portland's Civic Auditorium as stars in a Broadway hit musical.



See Arts and Entertainment, page B3.

The Portland Observer

Mrs. Frances Schoen-Newspaper Room
University of Oregon Library
Eugene, Oregon
97403

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Dole Wins Oregon Vote

Kansas Sen. Bob Dole won the Oregon Republican Primary last week in his bid for president. Dole received 51 percent of the vote in the mail-in election with commentator Pat Buchanan receiving 22 percent and publisher Steve Forbes 13 percent. President Bill Clinton ran uncontested in the Oregon Democratic Primary.

Clinton Nomination Cinched

The luxury of being unopposed in the Democratic primaries has paid off for President Bill Clinton. Clinton, who hasn't even formally announced his plans for reelection, has now received enough delegates to clinch the nomination.

Mabon To Battle Smith

Lon Mabon, leader of the anti-gay rights Oregon Citizens Alliance, will challenge Gordon Smith in a battle of conservatives for the Republican nomination to succeed Mark Hatfield in the U.S. Senate. Mabon entered the race last week just before the filing deadline.

House Leader Aims For Hill

Oregon House Speaker Bev Clarno has launched a campaign for State Treasurer. In announcing her candidacy last week, the Bend Republican said she has had a long interest in financial management, investments and watching the bottom line. The office is currently held by Jim Hill, a Salem Democrat.

Coast Route Reopens

Flood damaged U.S. Highway 30 has been reopened, connecting Portland with Astoria on the Oregon coast. A 300-foot section of the highway was completely washed out in a massive landslide during the early February flooding. More than 180 separate road closures or restrictions occurred statewide during the height of the flood.

School Crisis Grounds Katz

Mayor Vera Katz canceled a three-day business trip to Washington, D.C. last week. Her office said she wanted to stay home and focus on how Portland can best help its public schools bridge a budget crisis. The school district has announced plans to cut 500 or more jobs because of a multi-million dollar budget shortfall.

Detention Alternative Opens

A program for juvenile offenders was dedicated Friday at Mallory Avenue Church. The Detention Alternative Reporting Center, 126 N.E. Alberta, will be open 15 hours a day and managed by the staff of Emmanuel Temple general services. The purpose of the program is to hold delinquent juveniles accountable for their behavior and provide educational services and drug and alcohol counseling.

Community Mourns Publisher's Death

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON

Portland Observer Publisher Joyce Washington is being remembered as a model of human strength for her lifelong commitment to her family and community.

Washington, 59, died Friday, after suffering a heart attack Feb. 6.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Maranatha Church of God, 4222 N.E. 12 Ave. Burial will follow at Skyline Memorial Gardens, 4101 N.W. Skyline Blvd. Arrangements are under the direction of Vann and Vann Funeral Directors.

Friends, family and community members are expressing sorrow in her death and remembering her as an advocate for family values, elderly care and the community.

Long-time friend, journalist and professor

McKinley Burt said she was a "model of strength, character and commitment to family, friends, professionals, and all whom she came in contact."

Washington was hospitalized in intensive care following the heart attack. She showed signs of improvement and was moved to a skilled nursing care facility, but never regained full consciousness.

Washington served as publisher of the Portland Observer since purchasing the community paper in 1989 after several years as an account executive.

She was a member of the West Coast Black Publishers Association.

Her success as the only female publisher in a group of more than 20 minority-owned publications, was an accomplishment that made her very proud, family members said.

In December, she hosted the Portland Observer's 25th Anniversary celebration, an event that was testament to her hard work in keeping alive Oregon's oldest continuing minority publication.

She served her community as a member of the Oregon Association of Minority Entre-

preneurs, the Oregon chapter of the NAACP and the Urban League of Portland.

She was committed to senior services and volunteered with Meals on Wheels and the Northeast Multicultural Senior Center.

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The Legacy Of Joyce Washington

BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT

There are articles you wish never to be called upon to write; and so it is as we mark the passing of a great lady whose appointed time among us has ended, leaving us to lament, yet tearfully thankful for her presence as God has chosen to allot.

All of-- family, friends, employees, grieving associates and the community at large find it difficult to express the full measure of the loss we feel.

We do not know how far we will have to search for another such model of strength, character and commitment to family, friends, professionals, and all with whom she came in contact. But we are sure that the strong, bright light of her memory will make that task the easier, and the choices the more intelligent.

As is too often the case in these circum-

stances, I would now express my regrets that I did not state often enough my appreciation for the opportunities Joyce provided for many of us to reach our community (and the world) with the news and information so vital to our well being.

And the chance to motivate our youth to greater achievement and fuller lives through the medium of the Portland Observer newspaper.

Indeed, it was with these goals in mind that Joyce Washington drove herself so relentlessly to establish a family enterprise that is at the very same time both a valuable economic unit of our community and a significant gain in the ability to express important concerns.

We shall see that the energies, the time and the sacrifices will not go unrecognized, nor be forgotten.

Goodbye dear friend and counselor, thank you for sharing.



Joyce Washington, a model for her commitment to family and community, died Friday.

Teachers Talk Strike

BY PROMISE KING

Portland Association of Teachers President James K. Sager's tough strike talk failed to move the Portland School District from colliding head on with the association over a protracted budget crisis.

"If it takes a strike or a breath of a strike to produce action, so be it," Sager said, appearing before a tumultuous crowd of teachers holding a rally Thursday at Cleveland High School.

It was clear that the teachers are tired of labor contract talks and are bent on going on strike after a dispute that has lingered for a year.

"What we are saying and what we continue to say is that we are ready to reach a fair agreement, but not at the expense of our right to strike," said Sager, alluding to a possible walk out as teachers prepare to vote Tuesday on a strike resolution.

The school board and administration is not budging in the dispute.

"We don't just have the money," district superintendent Jack Bierwirth told dozens of parents, students and educators pleading for the teachers at the board's public meeting Thursday evening.

The district is facing a financial squeeze brought on by fewer dollars from local property taxes since Oregon voters approved Ballot Measure 5.

To make up for the deficit, the board voted to eliminate 456 to 493 full-time jobs and cut back on many special programs.

The school budget will be trimmed from \$319 million this year to \$309 million next year.

Teachers in the past have recommended cutting jobs through attrition to save money for the system. But until now, district officials replaced retiring teachers to keep class sizes from growing.

The proposed new cuts in teaching and instructional staff will save \$17.5 million and class sizes will grow.

The board is also calling for an emergency roundtable of community, business and political leaders to come up with a new fund raising campaign for Portland schools.



Portland teachers pick up picket signs on their way to the meeting of the Portland School District Board. (Photo by Michael Halle)

Metropolitan Human Rights Commission Appointments

Four new members have been appointed to serve on the Metropolitan Human Rights Commission. The Commission, a fifteen member volunteer group, is dedicated to fostering mutual understanding and respect and protecting the human rights of all persons in the City of Portland and Multnomah County.

Rev. Cecil Charles Prescod, appointed by County Chair Bev Stein, is the pastor of the Highland United Church of Christ. He is a graduate of Haverford College and received a Masters of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary. Rev. Prescod has a long history of community involvement serving with Coalition of Black Men, People of Faith Against Bigotry, Oregon Fellowship of Reconciliation, Brother to Brother and other groups dedicated to peace and human rights.

Leon Fox, appointed by County Chair Bev Stein, is the founder and Director of the Lazarus Art Society, Inc. Fox has been active in the Civil Rights movement of since his days at Fisk University, where he received a BA in Psychology. He brings years of business experience, particularly in the field of affirmative action and recruitment of qualified minority candidates. Fox has a particular interest in preparing young people to function effectively in this society, accepting nothing short of full inclusion socially and economically.

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