

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer  
Olympic Torch Passes Through Portland

SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### Dynamic Difference Workshop

The Metropolitan Human Rights Commission is offering a free workshop on understanding oppression and developing partnerships Tuesday, May 21 from 5:30 to 7:45 pm at the Gresham Public Library. Space is limited and people with disabilities who need accommodations to the sessions should call 48 hours in advance. Call 823-5136 for more information.

### Parent Enrichment Workshop

The Urban League Portland begins a monthly series of workshops for parents and guardians interested in learning about resources and information to help children succeed. The first meeting will be Wednesday May 22 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Urban League of Portland, 10 N. Russell ST. Free childcare will be available.

### Summer Swim Classes

Registration forms and summer schedules are available for summer swim classes through Portland Park and Recreation. The Portland pools also offer play swims, water exercise classes, junior lifeguard training, summer swim teams and special events. Mail in registration must be postmarked by Tuesday, June 4, walk in registration will be held Saturday, June 15.

### Entrepreneurs' Conference

The Oregon Enterprise Forum Hosts the 1996 on conference on entrepreneurship. The conference will showcase success stories and assistance for emerging and established companies. Call 231-9834 for reservations and further information.

### Bridge Pedal

A 35-mile bicycle trek crossing all ten Portland Bridges is scheduled for Sunday, May 19. A shorter 13-mile ride across six bridges is also scheduled. A festival with food and live music will be at the end of the rides at River Place. Registration forms are available at metropolitan bike shops or call 281-9198 for more information.

### Adult Health Faire

The St Johns Center of the YWCA is sponsoring a free older adult health and wellness faire Tuesday, May 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the center at 8010 N. Charleston. The event will feature diabetes and cancer screening, low-fat cooking demonstrations and product information. Call 721-6777 for more details.

### CPR Training

Free CPR training classes will be held Saturday, May 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 NE Knott St. Adult, Child and Infant CPR and Chocking techniques will be taught. No previous training is necessary. Call 823-3698 for more information.

### My Fair Lady

A free public screening of the film "My Fair Lady" is scheduled Wednesday, May 22 at 7 p.m. at the Arlene Schnitzer Hall, 1111 SW Broadway. Academy Award winning actress Eva Marie Saint will introduce the film.

### Children's Museum Exhibits

Children will be able to test their skills and learn about elementary physics at the Children's Museum MOVE IT exhibit opening May 21. Kids can try a gyroscope chair play air pinball and build mazes. The museum, located at 3037 SW Second, is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Comforting Cradleboards an exhibit of how Native Americans hold their babies is also at the museum. Call 823-2227 for hours.

**SUBMISSIONS:** Community Calendar information will be given priority if dated two weeks before the event date.

## Basketball Team Wins Trip To Nationals

### Fundraising Campaign Launched for Girl's Team

Last month in Oregon City a group of 13-year-old girls from North/Northeast Portland took second-place in the state Amateur Athletic Union girls' basketball tournament.

In so doing, they earned the right to represent Portland and the State of Oregon as one of two qualifiers for the national tournament in Cocoa Beach, Fla. this July.

Typically, winning teams are from the Portland suburbs. Finances often present a problem for kids from inner Portland, but the Portland Baby Saints, the Jefferson Community AAU team, overcame that and has a seldom seen opportunity to compete on a national level.

Organizers say it will give the girls a

chance to display their talents in front of college coaches, and with women's basketball's new popularity, that kind of opportunity can boost the girls' prospects for their educational and athletic futures.

Experts on children's issues believe that academic achievement can be improved when children are taught the connection between hard work and success and between goal setting and achievement. They feel that self-esteem in children is made evident in their achievements. Children today face the lure of gang involvement and drugs, the rise in teenage pregnancies and the consequences of dysfunctional families. Programs like the Baby Saints basketball give girls a chance to learn self-esteem and respect and apprecia-

tion for their talents.

The team is led by three dedicated coaches. Miriam Jenkins a Beaumont Middle School teacher, plays for the Portland Saints Women's adult AAU. Michael Bontemps is girls basketball coach at Jefferson High School. And Craig Wood rounds out the trio.

"We are attempting to nourish the leadership abilities of these athletes and to build a sense of community commitment, the coaches say.

"Typically, these young ladies are in leadership roles in the schools that they attend we are attempting to utilize this status and cultivate these young ladies as polite peer models for our community."

Money is an even bigger obstacle when it

comes to attending the national tournament. The cost of the trip is about \$11,000. The largest expense, however, is air fair for 12 kids and three parents. AT around \$400 for a round trip ticket, the total is \$6,500. The Jefferson Community AAU is approaching family and friends and the community at large for support. They have also launched an appeal to area businesses and cooperations for donations and sponsorships. Also they have scheduled a fundraising basketball camp May 18 at 8 a.m. at Beaumont Middle school.

Anyone interested in contributing got the Baby Saints bid for the national title or in participating in the camp call 282-5610 or 280-5601.

## Anti-Drugs March

More than 10,000 students from Oregon and southwest Washington are expected to converge on Portland Friday, May 17, to demonstrate their stand against substance abuse.

The Oregon Partnership's 11th annual "Say No to Drugs March" will begin at 10 a.m. in Tom McCall Waterfront Park. After parading through downtown Portland, students will return to the park for a learning fair featuring exhibits and entertainment.

An estimated 60 to 70 elementary, middle and high schools with a drug prevention curriculum will send students to take part in the Portland march. Similar marches are scheduled in Medford, Coos Bay, Lincoln City, Salem and Gresham; the Oregon Partnership's goal is for communities statewide to hold their own marches.

The grand marshals of Portland's "Say No to Drugs" march will be KATU-honored

Continued to page A3

Ilesha Williams donates a collection of books from the Portland Observer to LaVerne Davis principal of Humbolt Elementary School. Tina Travis, 2nd grade; Lanisha Dizer, 1st grade; Daedra Carline, 1st grade and Janel James, 3rd grade (clockwise) look on.



A Max light rail car was transported to Elmonica to be used to test track prior to the arrival of the new cars. The work at Elmonica is the first in the new facility since its completion late last year.



The late Ron Brown was a man of many "firsts" as an African American. The former secretary of the Department of Commerce, posed in the first Pepsi-Cola ad designed to target African-American families. The scene is a black family enjoying Pepsi at home. Brown is seen reaching for a carton of the soft drink from his "mother."

## Adidas Plans Store On MLK Boulevard

The Adidas athletic shoe company plans to establish a 6500 square foot retail store on Northeast Martin Luther King Boulevard at Alberta Street.

In association with the new store the owner of the property, Jack Chung, and the Portland Development Commission staff are asking PDC to contribute \$125,000 for the design and construction of a 5500 square foot public plaza on the property. They are also asking PDC to guarantee the last five years of Adidas' 10-year lease for the space. The company stipulated that the lease contain an escape clause for the last half of its term. Realtor Fred Stewart says Adidas is also asking for a loan "in the \$100,000 range." The PDC commission is scheduled to consider the request the morning of May 15.

John Fread, Adidas media representative, said details of the agreement were still being finalized, and the company had no comment at this time.

The facility will be known as Harry Jackson Plaza in honor of police sergeant Harry Jackson of North Precinct, Stewart says.

Jackson was active in early efforts to remove prostitution and other street crimes from the boulevard, often putting in voluntary overtime in this cause.

Chung, owner of the Alberta Street Market and the Gateway Express airline ticket agency, says Stewart at first wanted to name the plaza after him, "but I haven't really done anything. I thought Harry was the best person because he's done a lot for the whole community."

Jackson called the development a "great thing. It's quite an honor for me and a great

improvement for the community. MLK is looking better than it has in along time because of the new businesses coming in, especially those of the quality of Adidas."

The store will have 36 parking spaces, Stewart says. The plaza will be "a little like Pioneer Square, a little like the entrance to Nordstrom's at Lloyd Center," he says.

Stewart, who helped plan the retail improvements at the Walnut Park Center as president of the King Neighborhood Association, said that in several respects this represents a natural progression in the development of the boulevard. "The goal was that one day businesses would move in without the taxpayers paying through the eyeballs for it," he said. Some perspective Walnut Park tenants wanted as much as five years free rent for doing business there, he said. "They treated us like second-class citizens, acting as if

we should be happy they were willing to be involved," he said.

By contrast, he said, "Everything that Adidas is getting, they didn't ask for. We appreciate the respect they've given everyone here."

Michael McElwee of PDC sees the project as "a direct outgrowth of the investment we made" in Walnut Park, and "an indication that there's a stronger market acceptance of MLK as a place to do business."

Stewart noted that in the last year Chung turned down cash offers to lease the space to "everything from a hardware store to an adult video parlor. He turned them all down either because they weren't good for the community, or because they weren't strong enough financially to build immediately. It's paid off for him, but I'm very proud of him for waiting."