Summer Angels

Portlanders can cruise with the Summer Angels. Somer Are Not musical review.



See Entertainment, page B3.

A Taste Of Louisiana

Beignet's, in Vancouver, WA., features a cuisine done in a real southern method.



See Metro, page B1

Minority Youth Initiative

Minority Contractors recruit at risk youth for careers in industry.



See Family, page B2.

The Fortland Pharman 25¢

Mrs. Frances Schoen-Newspaper Roc University of Oregon Libr Eugene, Oregon

Heavy Rain Hits Crash Site

Heavy rain associated with the first tropical weather system of the year doused the Everglades site of the ValuJet crash, as divers wearing special biohazard suits dove into the inky black water filling the crater left when the DC-9 went down. Rescue workers hoped to be able to recover the cockpit voice recorder and more of the oxygen-generating canisters that may have been involved in an explosion. The plane plunged into the Everglades muck on May 11, taking the lives of all 110 people on

Church Fire Probe Continues

Federal investigators say they have not found any evidence that a national conspiracy is behind a series of fires at southern black churches, but they're promising to continue extensive investigations. The director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms told the House Judiciary Committee the ATF is investigating 25 fires at predominantly black churches since January of 1995. Assistant Attorney General Deval Patrick told the panel it's premature to say if the fires are part of an organized hate movement, but he added, "we're facing an epidemic of terror."

Shuttle Retrieves Satellite

Shuttle Endeavour's 50-foot robot arm reached out and plucked a small satellite from orbit today to bring it back to Earth. The satellite holds the results from yesterday's test of a giant inflatable antenna that NASA hopes will be a prototype for cheaper space structures. NASA project manager Steven Bard says they won't be able to say that the experiment was a full success until they look at the data from the satellite. The parachute-like Mylar

antenna was jettisoned from the satellite at the end of yesterday's test. It's expected to disintegrate in a fiery plunge through the atmosphere.

US: Iran Behind Israel Attack

Secretary of State Warren Christopher says there's growing evidence that Iran is using "terrorism" to undermine the Middle East peace process. Speaking to the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Christopher accused an Iranian-backed group of a shooting in Israel last week in which an Israeli-American student was killed. He says that while the United States continues to believe that a comprehensive trade embargo is the only way to get Iran to change its behavior, the U.S. is not opposed to opening a dialogue with "authoritative representatives" of the Iranian government.

Iraq Hails UN Oil Deal, Hits US

Official Iraqi newspapers are combining jubilant reports of an oil export agreement with the United Nations with fierce attacks on the United States. The newspapers said the accord, which will allow Iraq to sell limited amounts of oil to buy food and medicine for its citizens, is the first step toward the complete removal of U.N. sanctions against Iraq that were imposed after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait. One newspaper blamed the U.S. for the deaths of "Hundreds of thousands of martyrs who passed away due to hunger and disease during the past six years." Another called the U.S. "the slave of Satan."

Rose Festival To Crown Queen



Amy Rodger, David Douglas High School



Ana Campean, Marshall High School



Madison High School



Sara Wood, Wilson High School



Chala Barrington, Parkrose High School



Shazi Tate, Lincoln High School



Kristin Waldram, St. Mary's Academy



Adrienne Newman. Benson High School



Erin Fuller, Central Catholic High School



Jaimi Jones. Cleveland High School



Rosemary Breihof. Franklin High School



Jennifer Duran, Roosevelt High School



Renee Watson, Jefferson High School



The achievements of 14 young women from Portland-area high schools will be recognized Thursday, May 30, at Civic Auditorium and one will be crowned Rose Queen at the Incredible Universe Queen's Coronation presented by KWJJ. The event, scheduled to begin at 8 p.m., promises entertainment and suspense starting with the introduction of the 14 court members and culminating with the coronation of the Rose Festival Queen.

Court members are judged on leadership, scholastic achievement, school activities, civic involvement, volunteer projects, communication skills and the overall impression they make on the judges. The Queen will act as ambassador for the Rose Festival and the City of Portland for the next year.

This years rose court:

Amy Rodger, from David Douglas High School, plans to obtain a doctoral degree after she attends Marylhurst College and receives a degree in Education. An Honor student, Amy has earned an excellent rating at the 1995 Publications Olympics and first place at the 1995 American Scholastic Press Association Competition. She coaches YMCA basketball, is active in the Midway Christian Youth Fellowship and is a belly

Ana Campean plays varsity volley ball

Grant High School and is senior class treasurer at Marshall High School. She is a baccalaureate chair and publicity director for Marshall's peer mentors. Born in Rumania, Ana plans to attend the University of Portland and obtain a degree in business management with her eye on starting her own import business. Ana is active in her church choir and band, a mem-

Continued to page A5

Bias Found In Valor Awards For Blacks

BY JESSE BROWN

he impetus provided by the recently concluded four-year national commemoration of World War II was barely sufficient to lift one of that era's untold stories from obscurity.

In late April, The White House announced it was seeking a congressional waiver so that the Medal of Honor could be awarded to seven black soldiers whose deeds in battle date back to the 1940's

In and of itself, belated awards for heroism are not unprecedented. But in this instance we have more than the usual oversights, paperwork snafus and other lapses that mark earlier redresses of missed recognition. Here, it was the astounding fact that not a single black who served in World War II received the nations highest decoration for valor.

As a nation that today still struggles with issues of racial division, we tend to chalk-up vivid examples of earlier offenses against people of color to times best forgotten. The

wrongs of yesterday can't be righted, so we hear. Never would such a notion be more plainly misplaced were it to deny the simple truth and justice of honoring these black

In an exhaustive and meticulous study of half-century-old documents, a distinguished team of scholars assembled by Shaw University under contract with the army made a compelling case for its recommendations. Clearly concluded was that disparities did exist in the criteria and administrative processes associated with valor awards. Blacks, whose acts of bravery seemed to meet the Medal of Honor test of "above and beyond the call of duty," were instead awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The Historians, noting the nature of segregated military forces and all-white higher command echelons, perceived a form of bias and discrimination; they viewed the outcomes as a product of the times that in many ways relegated blacks to inferior status, The ultimate formation and deployment of all-black combat divisions may have itself allowed the issue of race to prevail over proclaimed ob-

Men and now women, in battle confront dangers that are nonselective. War kills and maims without regard to race, gender or creed. It has always been that way and it most certainly prevailed among the 1.2 million blacks who served in World War II.

The medal of Honor for that era was awarded -- many posthumously -- to 432 Americans whose regard for their own safety evaporate in a supreme test of human strength and nobility. Today, only one of the seven new nominees survives. But kin and others seeking to somehow reconcile these now proven instances of prejudice, can inherit the wise morality of President Clinton's decision. In no small way, this is an act of healing at a time when it may very well mean more than it might have 50 years ago. We will all be better for it.

DOLE **EXPLORES FUTURE**

enator Bob Dole completed his first full-length foray as a soon-to-be ex-senator Monday a preview, his aides said, of what Dole might be like as a full-time presidential candidate.

But Dole's campaign schedule was sparse and cobbled-together, as his staff sought to adjust to the candidate's sudden new status, which has forced them to rethink their entire approach.

Dole spoke in Key Largo for a total of four minutes on the subject of education. That was one minute longer than his campaign appearance Sunday night, in which

Continued to page A5

EDITORIAL

EDUCATION

HOUSING

HEALTH

FAMILY B2

ARTS & ENT. B3 .

RELIGION *B*6

CLASSIFIEDS

B7