

Affordable Housing Bolstered

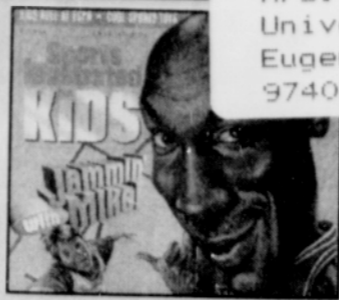
Affordable Housing Director Howard Nolte works on Michigan Block Project.



See Metro, Page B1.

Sports Illustrated For Kids CD ROM

Michael Jordan ducks into cyber-space, find out why.



See Sports, page B2.

Mrs. Frances Schoen—Newspaper Room
University of Oregon Libr
Eugene, Oregon
97403

Earl Klugh's "Sudden Burst Of Energy" music release.



See Entertainment, page B3.

The Portland Observer 25¢

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Court To Decide Gun Control Law

The Supreme Court says it will hear a constitutional challenge to the Brady gun control law filed by two law enforcement officers. The law requires a five-day waiting period before the sale of a handgun. During the wait, local authorities are supposed to determine if the buyer has a felony record, a history of mental illness or drug use or other problems that would bar the sale. It is strongly opposed by gun enthusiasts. Two sheriffs in Montana and Arizona sued to overturn the law. They claim Congress overstepped its authority and that requiring the records check violates the Constitution's 10th Amendment.

Anti-Abortion Ruling Dumped

The Supreme Court has cleared the way for the reinstatement of key parts of a 1991 Utah law prohibiting most abortions. The law barred abortions except in cases in which the life of the mother is endangered, reported rape, incest or grave fetal defects. In its 5-4 ruling today, the Supreme Court set aside a federal appeals court ruling that struck down major provisions of the law. The justices ordered more hearings on the matter to determine what parts of the law can be reinstated. The lower court had declared unconstitutional the provisions of the abortion ban and a requirement that physicians performing late abortions use the method most likely to ensure fetal survival.

Hillary Responds To Whitewater

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has complied with a request by the Senate Whitewater Committee for last-minute written responses to questions about a 1986 land deal. In a two-page affidavit, Mrs. Clinton referred Senate investigators to her previous testimony to federal regulators regarding a question about a telephone conversation with a former Arkansas savings and loan officer. The first lady also said she had no first-hand knowledge about the disappearance and discovery of her Rose Law Firm billing records.

Yeltsin Maneuvers

Russian President Boris Yeltsin is maneuvering to win the broader support he needs to defeat Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov in next month's presidential runoff. In yesterday's election, Yeltsin won 34.8 percent of the vote, with Zyuganov second at 32.1 percent. Because Yeltsin failed to win a majority, a runoff is being held. Yeltsin today held talks with Gen. Alexander Lebed, the law-and-order candidate who came in third. Lebed again ruled out any deal with the Communists, but also said he would not directly ask his supporters to back Yeltsin.

Israeli Leader To Govern

Israeli Prime Minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu says he will have his new hard-line government in place by tomorrow. The Likud Party leader was given the go-ahead to assemble the new government when he enlisted the support of a Russian immigrant party, thus assuring his government of a majority in the 120-member Israeli parliament.

NFL Player Cleared

A judge in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., has thrown out the conviction of Seattle Seahawks wide receiver Brian Blades on manslaughter charges. Broward County Circuit Judge Susan Lebow today granted a defense motion for acquittal, overturning a guilty verdict rendered by a six-person jury Friday.

Livable Communities Honored



Six Oregon projects were honored with the Governor's Livability Award for their efforts to reinforce Oregon's quality of life and support its transportation and land use goals.

The award recipients were announced Friday by Livable Oregon during the organization's annual conference held in Seaside.

The winning projects include a mix of renovation and new construction of housing mixed commercial and residential projects, a community center with retail, and a city's effort to revitalize its downtown area. The 1996 Governor's Livability Awards were presented to:

- **Coos Bay Downtown and Waterfront Revitalization Project**, a city effort to make the downtown shopping area and waterfront more inviting and economically viable;
- **Field of Dreams**, a development of 44 single-family homes on a former baseball field in a mixed-use area of Eugene.
- **La Torre**, for renovation of an historic building for mixed-use in northwest Portland;
- **Walnut Park**, a housing development in a city neighborhood near services and retail shops, northeast Portland;

- **Taylor-Dale Apartments**, for renovation of abandoned space in an historic building for apartments in downtown McMinnville;
- **The Walnut Park Community Policing and Retail Center**, a multi-use facility developed at an abandoned grocery store site in northeast Portland.

The Governor's Livability Awards are prompted by the Governor's commitment to livable communities and his desire to honor the organizations and individuals who are contributing to Oregon's livability.

Winners were selected by the jury for contributing to the economic vitality of the community, and demonstrating how developers, planners, architects, builders and lenders can work together to help preserve Oregon's quality of life.

Award recipients incorporated development practices that enhance livability in the community including the following:

- *locating near a variety of transportation choices and connecting with existing walkways, bike paths and streets;*
- *using land and resources efficiently;*
- *selecting sites in or near already developed areas;*
- *designing the project to complement the existing neighborhood.*

As evidenced by the high level of early occupancy, these projects are also commercially successful. The award winning developers give witness to Livable Oregon's vision of economic prosperity combined with an "Oregon" quality of life in each of the state's communities.

Walnut Park Community Policing and Retail Center: A view of the retail side of the multi-use facility developed at an abandoned grocery store site in Northeast Portland.

Church Burnings Unite Local Clergies

BY PROMISE KING & DANNY BELL

It may be unholy fire that has ravaged many black churches in down south, but the ominous impact has brought together Portland leading Jews, Muslims, and Christians on a sympathy table.

The clergies echoes' irrespective of their different religious philosophy sounded in support of those whose churches were engulfed.

"This act of terrorism is incomparable with the teachings of Islam and it's inconsistent with civilized manners" says Dr Iqman Mirza, local president of Ahmadiyya Muslim Missions.

"Islam strongly abhors racism in any form. It speaks strongly against the burning of churches, synagogue and anywhere the name of God is being commemorated"

Though it's not clear how the churches will be rebuilt, Temple Beth Israel, a local Jewish congregation under the umbrella of Religious Action Center of reform Judaism, is leading a fund raising drive to rebuild the black churches.

The center which mobilizes the Amer-

ican Jewish community towards social justice is pushing legislation that would expand the ability of the federal government to prosecute vandalism of religious institution.

"As we watch the destruction of churches, we grieve and mourn as if these were our own sanctuaries" Rabbi David Saperstein wrote the congress last week."

"The values that emanates from the Holy Book and that have shaped the forming of this great country leave no room for the tolerance of such destructive prejudice" echoed Rabbi Emmanuel Rose.

Local Black preachers say the church burnings trend open a cancerous wound of the Jim Crow era when Black Churches were burnt with impunity.

Many of the Black Pastors are wary of taking a hard-line position on the issue, fearing that strong tirades and reactionary rhetorics could spell chaos and doom racial progress in this part of the country.

"Let us as a group, no matter what not retaliate against white churches. We believe in prayers and we know prayers changes things" pleaded Rev Allen Bethel of



Rev McCullough of Bethel AME

Maranatha Church.

Pastor Johnny Pack of fellowship Baptist church in North Portland sees the burnings as

final days phenomenal. He is concern that this will eventually spread to Portland. "This is the time to seek the face of the lord" says Pastor Park.

"We as a body of Christ need to draw together and encourage one another and be oppose to this burnings" Rolling Hills Church's youth Steve Catts said.

Pastor Eric Knox of Bible Temple sees the burning as an attack on African - Americans and a satanic approach polarize the nation.

Racism appears to be a motive in many black church burnings. Independent experts say perpetrators could include psychotics with religious delusions, thrill seekers, copycats and vandals.

But Carol Fouke, a spoke woman for the National Council of churches says she has evidence that race is the motivation in terms of black churches.

Rev McCullough of Bethel AME commended the effort of the justice department. "Let us leave this war against our church to the police and the justice system. I am for reconciliation that is the spirit christ died for" advised Rev McCullough.

A Tribute To Ella Fitzgerald, The First Lady Of Song

BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT

Ella' passed away last Saturday morning and the America lost a national treasure. In fact, the world press needed only that magical first name to capture the attention of the tens of million admirers of the 'First Lady of Song'; " Ella's Gone!"

Whether the venue was the sweep poignancy of a soulful ballad or the sophisticated lyrics of a Rogers and Hart showtune, she was the controlled, master chanteuse. And Whether her magical presence graced the concert stage of a huge auditorium like the Philharmonic, or the small space in front of the orchestra in smoke-filled rooms Ella's unique style would evoke aa response from her audience no other could match.

But then, too, the 'first lady of Song could take the hard driving syncopated beat of aa song like "Mack the Knife" and convert on



Ella Fitzgerald

older, sedate audience of adults into a happy foot-stomping crowd of finger-popping adolescents. You were never quite sure who recited

the best tale of that London miscreant, Ella Fitzgerald or Louis Armstrong. It was close.

This lady whose first name was sufficient identification for fans around the world was eulogized by two top male vocalists; "Male or female, she was the greatest singer on the planet" said Mel Torme, aa longtime friend. he continued, "She was a little girl/woman singer. She had that little girl quality, even at the end, yet she could tackle Gershwin and Porter and Ellington tunes with authority and maturity. It was a very enigmatic quality."

Tony Bennett said, "she was my favorite singer. Her recordings will live forever. She'll sound as modern 200 years from now, no matter what techniques they come up with."

And that comment reminds me that at one time Ella had imprinted upon my adolescent mind every riff and nuance of a number of jazz instrumental-- She had perfected a technique of using her flexible golden voice to

emulate or mimic the sophisticated sounds of the horns of the orchestra. Swing, bop, bossanova, you name it--Dizzy Gillespie or Duke Ellington.

Ella Fitzgerald burst forth upon an unsuspecting but appreciative world in 1934, when she won first prize in amateur night contest at the Old Apollo Theatre in Harlem. But it was in 1938 with Chic Webb band that the world became aware of her talent, when she recorded the sup-hit, " A-Tisket, A-Tasket". Ella co-authored the little ditty which was soon to be on the lips of every school child, then every adult in America--and eventually translated into scores of languages around the world.

Let us take a look through this particular window in time. It was my junior year of high school, and while there was no television in

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