

Albina Youth Opportunity School guest writer



See *Observador* inside, page B2.

Mike Lindberg retires

Long time public servant and Commissioner Mike Lindberg will retire this December 31.



See *Metro*, page B5.

Ashford & Simpson join Maya Angelou

The three collaborated on an album that could only be titled "Be Found".



See *Arts & Entertainment*, page B6.

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

NAFEO takes the lead

The National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) has received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control to help educate Black college students about the dangers of HIV. NAFEO will develop a system for higher education policy and decision-making designed to support programs that prevent infection among college students. AIDS is the sixth cause of death among 15-24-year-olds in the United States. African Americans and Latinos together account for nearly 50 percent of all AIDS cases today.

Joycelyn Elders' autobiography

During her tenure as surgeon general, Dr. Joycelyn Elders, M.D. created a storm of controversy with her forthright, in-your-face, tell-it-like-it-is viewpoints. She will surely never be forgotten, writes *The Michigan Chronicle*. In "Joycelyn Elders, M.D.: From Sharecroppers Daughter to Surgeon General of the United States of America", she shares the story of her extraordinary life, the roots of her values and the evolution of her ideas, and reveals the behind-the-scenes machinations that led to her firing from the office of surgeon general. Presently, Dr. Elders is professor of pediatrics at the University of Arkansas Medical School.

Repression keeps award winner anonymous

A Sudanese human rights activist will receive the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award, but the identities of the recipient and the groups with which the laureate works are being kept secret amid fears Khartoum will seek out and punish them, reports IPS. This is the first time the Washington, D.C.-based Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights has had to give the award anonymously, since it was launched 13 years ago. The award carries a \$30,000 cash prize and will be presented Nov. 20 in a Capital Hill ceremony.

South Africans live "Jim Crow" style

During Apartheid, the South African authorities carefully housed Blacks and whites as far from each other as possible, reports IPS. Blacks lived in areas called "locations" as if to emphasize their anonymity, while whites lived in the suburbs. This is one legacy of Apartheid that may never be undone. As government improves housing, it is doing so in those long established settlements. The fertile, prime land still belongs to the rich, white farmers, while the government only owns some 26 percent of the surface area.

Lagos police criticized

When the Lagos State government set up a special police unit in 1995 to respond quickly to rising crime, residents heaved a sigh of relief, reports IPS. Lagos State Official statistics show that between 1990 and 1994, 123 police and 276 civilians were killed by armed robbers nationwide. During the same period, 3,613 suspected armed robbers were arrested and 532 killed, some 7,538 armed robberies were reported during the same period and more than 50 percent of the incidences occurred in Lagos State. Now, a year later, "Operation Sweep" has turned into a nightmare, not just for criminals, but for law-abiding citizens, according to some human rights activists here.

Clinton wins re-election



United States President William Jefferson Clinton.

President Bill Clinton won re-election to a second term as *The Portland Observer* went to press November 5th. Bob Dole, the Republican nominee, was never a serious threat and national attention focused on key Senate and House races early in the evening.

Exit polls showed that 67% of the electorate felt that Senator Dole would not be able to cut taxes and balance the budget as he had promised, 58% felt that he did not understand the problems the country was facing, and only 12% felt that he had a vision for the future. In contrast, 77% of voters surveyed believed that President Clinton has such a vision, a point which he apparently successfully articulated throughout the campaign.

President Clinton also won the women's vote by a significant margin, 54% to 31% for Senator Dole.

Projections at press time suggested that Republicans would continue to control the US Senate and would probably the House of Representatives, but at 7:30 PST, Democrats were showing a net gain of five House seats East of the Mississippi with good prospects for more gains in the Rocky Mountain and Pacific Coast states.

Locally, the biggest news was a controversial and possibly slanderous political advertisement that Republican candidate Bill Witt aimed at Congresswoman Elizabeth Furse. The last-minute ad purchased by Mr. Witt suggested that Congresswoman Furse used political influence to obtain a home loan several years ago.

Congresswoman Furse filed a slander suit against Mr. Witt in response on Monday, November 4. Mr. Witt defended the allegations in the ad but conceded that he had no proof and was relying on the statement of a person whom he would not identify.

Dole, Perot concede defeat

Republican Bob Dole, and Independent Ross Perot, Tuesday formally conceded defeat to President Clinton in the U.S. election.

Dole said he had telephoned Clinton to congratulate him. Dole told cheering supporters at a hotel in Washington: "It hurts to lose an election, but stay involved and keep fighting the good fight." Echoing a statement he made throughout his campaign, he added: "I'm still the most optimistic man in America." He said he plans to rest for a few days and then stand up for what he thinks is right for America. He drew a laugh when he said: "I was just thinking on the way down the stairs that tomorrow will be the first day in my life when I don't have anything to do." Dole had been in Congress for 35 years when he resigned as Senate majority leader in May.

Reform Party candidate Ross Perot shrugged off his crushing defeat in the presidential race Tuesday night. But he vowed to "climb back in the ring" to keep fighting his battle for a balanced budget and campaign finance reform. "We have to keep the pressure on," Perot told hundreds of disappointed supporters in downtown Dallas on Tuesday night. Perot said he would back President Clinton and Congress "all the way" if they push through the reforms he has campaigned for. Perot won 19 percent of the popular vote in his independent bid for the White House in 1992 but he failed to inspire angry or independent voters this time around.

Book Drive Helps South African Students

The hardest part about studying for an exam in South African townships is locating a textbook. Many students must share one book with more than 50 classmates.

Soon there will be more textbooks to go around in the townships, thanks to a 60,000 pound shipment of books scheduled to go overseas this week from Greensboro, N.C.

The books were presented to Dr. Ron Carter, Dean of Students of South Africa's Witwatersrand University last week. Local

businessmen, faculty and Superintendent of Guilford County Schools, Jerry Weast were on hand to present the textbooks.

"We have great hurdles to overcome and this book drive will help," said Carter. "We don't have enough schools to hold students and of the schools we do have, many are without books and proper learning materials."

The South Africa Book Project began in 1993 and has been successful in the shipment of thousands of books to impoverished and under-educated children in South Africa.

"When a concerned teacher told me that used textbooks were being destroyed instead of recycled, we knew we could do better," said Robert Brown, chairman of B&C Associates. Together with a number of local business associates and Guilford County Schools, Brown pulled together efforts to collect used books for countries in need.

The South Africa book project has grown rapidly in a short time. Two U.S. Corporations have been in the forefront of this effort, Sara Lee Corporation and first Union Corpo-

ration. They have partnered to assist with gathering the books, transportation costs and storage and distribution once the books arrive in South Africa.

Avroy Shlain, a subsidiary of Sara Lee Corporation, located in South Africa has also been instrumental in providing company trucks to pick up and deliver books to schools, satellite libraries and universities once they arrive in South Africa.

Sara Lee is the leading U.S. multinational now operating in South Africa.

Has the government declared war on Black America?

Tony Brown's *Journal*, one of the nation's longest-running television series, will examine the controversy surrounding the allegation that the CIA played a role in launching the crack-cocaine epidemic in the inner cities of the United States, the week of November 8-14.

This story reached national notoriety when the San Jose Mercury News began publishing a series alleging that the origins of the crack cocaine epidemic among inner-city Blacks was started by two Nicaraguans. The article stated that the Nicaraguans raised millions of dollars for the CIA's contra army in Nicaragua by selling large quantities of cocaine to a South Central Los Angeles dope pusher who converted it into crack. The implication was that the CIA was aware of a

scheme to introduce crack cocaine to raise money to fight communism while devastating American communities.

The CIA denies any involvement and mainstream news organizations such as *The Washington Post* and *The Los Angeles Times* reported that there is no evidence to support a CIA role or master plan to traffic drugs in South Central Los Angeles in 1983.

However, PBS commentator Tony Brown examines the charges and the relationship between the federal government and Black America within a broader historical framework.

"If the allegations about a CIA-sponsored crack-cocaine epidemic that wrecked entire Black communities in the 80s and 90s are true, it could represent the continuation of a government policy that began in 1917," says

Tony Brown.

Using documentation that he gathered for his book, *Black Lies, White Lies: The Truth According To Tony Brown* (William Morrow & Company), Brown examines the Military Intelligence Division's campaign against Black America during WWI. This domestic spy network was the largest ever assembled in a free country.

It is documented that this government intelligence against Blacks continued into the 1960s, and perhaps beyond.

Brown noted that when the spy network was organized in 1917, President Woodrow Wilson and the government assumed that because Blacks were discriminated against, they would not be loyal to America during times of war.

This domestic intelligence operation

served as a forerunner of the COINTELPRO FBI-led counter-insurgency program of the 1960s, and perhaps others.

Brown examines the connection between the Army's spy network and the U.S. intelligence community's surveillance of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr. He reports that military leaders mobilized and dispatched troops, including snipers, and scouted 124 cities as war zones in preparation for an outbreak of war with Black America, led by Martin Luther King, in April 1968, the month King was assassinated.

Also examined is the infamous Tuskegee Experiment, a study in which government agencies, the U.S. Public Health Service and the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention, used Black men as nonconsenting guinea pigs in a syphilis experiment.

Urban League seeks nominees for "Equal Opportunity Award"

The Urban League of Portland is seeking nominees for its Equal Opportunity Award, which will be presented to one or more individuals at the agency's Equal Opportunity Day Dinner on February 27, 1997.

The award is presented each year to local individuals who have worked to promote the concept of equal opportunity for all. Up to three awards may be presented.

Past winners have included people in busi-

ness, government, education, the media, non-profits and community organizations. Winners are chosen for their success in opening doors for others and the furthering the League's mission, which is to "assist African Americans and others in the achievement of parity and economic self-sufficiency."

Past award winners have included Rep. Avel Gordly, Tony Hopson, and Gerald McFadden (1996); Dr. Vivian Bull and Jaki Walker (1995); Ed Jensen, Edna Robertson

and Fred Stickle (1994); Marsha Congdon and Carl Talton (1993); Gladys McCoy, Dr. Mathew Prophet and Rev. Rodney Page (1992); and Vern Ryles and Sam Brooks (1991).

The award is presented to individuals rather than organizations, since the Urban League believes the award should recognize individual talents and achievements.

Nomination forms are available from Michael Pullen (280-2615) at the Urban

League. Completed forms must be received at the Urban League by Friday, November 8 at 5 pm. Award winners will be selected by the Urban League Board of Directors.

The Urban League of Portland is a non-profit, community based human service, economic and social justice agency serving youth and families, students, job seekers, and seniors in the metro area. The League is one of 115 local affiliates of the National Urban League.