

**IFCC Gallery presents two January exhibitions**

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center presents two exhibitions in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the civil movement.



See Metro, page

**PICA Presents "Stuff"**

A performance by Coco Fusco & Nao Bustamante, Jan. 23-25 at the Clinton Street Theater.



See Observador, page B2.

**Little House On The Prairie**

Laura Ingalls (Maura McNamara), front, and her sister Mary (Sarah Anne Sherman) at home on the Prairie.



See Arts & Entertainment, page B3.

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## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

### Gingrich apologizes

Gingrich House Speaker Newt Gingrich apologized to his fellow Republicans for ethical lapses, according to a House member who attended a closed-door party meeting Tuesday. "He apologized for making the mistakes he did," said Republican Rep. Peter King of New York. He said Gingrich conceded that "as a leader he shouldn't have made those mistakes and thereby put the party in this position." King also said Gingrich told Tuesday's meeting he did not want a small group of Republicans to hold the House majority "hostage."

### Gulf War illness report

President Clinton asked a blue ribbon panel Tuesday to continue its study of "Gulf War Syndrome," the mysterious illnesses which have afflicted many veterans of the 1991 Gulf War. The president acted after receiving a report from a panel of scientists and defense experts that criticized the Pentagon's investigation of the syndrome. But the panel supported the Defense Department's conclusion that there is no single cause for the condition.

### 'Babyface' ties Grammy record

Rap and pop producer Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds tied the all-time record for Grammy nominations set by Michael Jackson when he was nominated Tuesday for 12 of the U.S. music industry's top awards. The artist, who last year won a Grammy for producer of the year, was nominated in categories ranging from record of the year to song of the year.

### Obstacles remain over Hebron

Israel says it wants to delay by two years a promised troop pullback from West Bank areas, but the PLO blasted the proposal as a key obstacle to a deal on handing over most of Hebron to Palestinian self-rule. U.S. Middle East peace envoy Dennis Ross renewed his mediation efforts between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat. But the prime minister's office did not signal any breakthroughs.

### Up, up and away

British tycoon Richard Branson and two co-pilots floated skyward Tuesday in a giant balloon in an effort to be the first balloonists to fly around the world. Branson and his two co-pilots lifted off from an airbase near Marrakesh this morning. Branson expects the trip to take between 14 and 21 days.

### Ray returns to hospital

James Earl Ray, the confessed assassin of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., is back in a Nashville hospital Tuesday, according to hospital officials. Ray, 68, returned to Columbia Memorial Hospital in Nashville from a prison hospital where he was moved last week after emerging from a coma. His family has said Ray suffers from cirrhosis of the liver. Ray confessed to the 1968 slaying of King in Memphis, although he later recanted and claimed he was set up.

## Avel Gordly Senate Swearing-In

**S**tate Senator-elect Avel Gordly is scheduled to be sworn into office on Monday, January 13. She will be the first-ever African-American woman to serve in the Oregon Senate.

"This has been a long time coming for everyone in Oregon who wants to see diverse leadership experience in the legislature," said Senator-elect Gordly, who will represent Senate District 10 in Portland. Gordly has represented District 19 in the Oregon House of Representatives.

After attempts in the early decades of this century by pioneers such as attorney-activist Beatrice Cannady, Oliver Smith, Sr. in 1952 was the first African-American to win a nomination to the Legislature, and others had tried over the years before. William McCoy and Jim Hill won election to the State Senate, and African-American House members have included Margaret Carter and now JoAnn Bowman. William Boyer was appointed in 1996 to fill the remainder of the late Sen. McCoy's term, which expires in January 1997.

"Oregon faces extraordinary challenges on a wide range of issues, including coping with measure 47 and taxes, finding stable education funding, fighting off attacks on the environment, and preserving essential human services for our most vulnerable citizens," Gordly stated. "I am proud to represent Senate District 10 and all of its diversity in the Oregon Legislature."

"Senate District 10 is one of the most diverse districts in the state in business



Senator-elect Avel Gordly

development and civic participation as well as ethnic and racial diversity," Gordly pointed out. "We have substantial numbers of Hispanics, Asian Americans, Russian immigrants, and African Americans. We also have a thriving international airport, strong small business growth, and a high degree of activism by citizens who produce some of the highest voter participation percentages in Oregon."

Gordly has developed a comprehensive legislative agenda on behalf of District 10. Highlights include:

- \* Economic development and equal opportunity: Agricultural worker safety, fair benefits for temporary workers, low income tax credit, and support for community development financial institutions;

- \* Education: Full funding of head Start, transfer funds from Measure 11 modifications to education, and support for multicultural programs and policies;

- \* Public safety: Strengthen bias crime reporting laws, require firearm fatality reporting, safe gun storage, and handgun sales regulation.

In addition, Gordly will introduce various bills at the request of constituents and existing partnerships such as the Racial and Ethnic Justice Act; Minority/Women Owned Business Acts (developed with the Governor's office, Office of Emerging Small Business, and the City of Portland); and initiative petitioning (with the Secretary of State).

Gordly will announce details and specific bills stemming from her legislative initiatives in the near future.

## Ebonics And Black English Why Not Slavonics Or Yiddishonics?

**BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT**  
**Why not indeed! We need look no further than the revealing pages of noted scientist Stephen J. Gould's, "The Mismeasure of Man" (W.W. Norton) for a cogent account of the "Scientific Racists" and their never-ending assault upon those who "don't look just right - or who don't talk just right."**

A national uproar of prodigious proportions was launched when the L.A. Times-Washington Post News Service preempted all other December education news with the following dispatch.

"The Oakland, Calif. School Board has declared Black English a second language, making it the first district in the nation to give the dialect 'spoken by many black Americans' official status in programs for bilingual students."

Of course, those of us who are or have been members of the education establishment immediately recognize a standard academic ploy or gambit used in times of severe

financial shortfalls and constraints. The grant departments and inter-governmental offices go into overdrive in a frantic search for federal funds in 'any' area that can be related to the education process.

There is a method in this madness as I have several times pointed out in accounts of my tutelage under Dr. Julius Hobson. He was the African American Economist who instigated and won the famous 1969 lawsuit, "Hobson vs Washington, D.C. Board of Education." Hobson recognized that school districts across the country were using just such gambits to obtain H.E.W. demonstration grants to remedy real or fancied skill deficiencies in black students. In many cases, based on faked statistics.

However, Dr. Hobson's assemblage of noted educationists, linguists, psychologists, 'Big Eight' accounting firms and economists were successful in demonstrating to the court that much of the "black money" obtained was diverted to unrelated projects. The school districts had used "inspired accounting tech-

niques" in an effort to conceal the fact that monies were used for delayed plant maintenance, sports programs, and for science equipment/texts that went to suburban white schools (among other things).

Many tens of millions were recaptured as a result of this suit, but much was lost forever. Nobody went to jail and of course the media and teacher's unions were absolutely silent. I cite these matters in reference to the "Ebonics" push because it often was the case that naive, or not-so-naive black teachers and school board members were 'fronted' in the grant applications. As has happened with several Portland teachers in the past, these people were quite chagrined when they found out the real name of the game: Promised positions were temporary and on "soft money" at that. Often white athletes were employed on the special 'black' summer programs. I found an Oregon State football player developing black "Baseline Essays."

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## Alleged Dallas Cowboys assault contested

**D**allas Cowboys star Michael Irvin says he was at a sports bar the night a woman said he held a gun to her head while a teammate and another man raped her, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Thursday.

The 23-year-old woman told police she was raped at the home of offensive lineman Erik Williams on Sunday night. Irvin has denied being at Williams' home that night, and said he looks forward to talking to police.

Sources told The Associated Press that the woman informed police Irvin videotaped at least part of the alleged attack.

One of Irvin's lawyers, Anthony Lyons, told the Star-Telegram that Irvin says he was at Cowboys Sports Cafe in Irvin most of the evening.

Another of Irvin's lawyers, Royce West, said Thursday on ABC's "Good Morning America" he can prove his client wasn't at

Williams' house Sunday night because the security guard at the gated complex says he didn't see Irvin.

"I want America to know that that security guard will state Mr. Michael Irvin never went in that security gate, never went to Erik Williams' house Sunday night," West said.

A manager for Triad Protective Services, which handles security for Williams' community, said the guards are not required to keep a list of visitors.

Therefore, it would be the guards' word as to whether Irvin--or anyone else--visited the area.

Meanwhile, the woman's estranged 22-year-old husband told The Dallas Morning News that he doubts her story. The man, who was not identified, said she has twice falsely accused men of sexual assault without telling police.

"It seems very reasonable that she is making this up," he said. "She's very melodra-

matic. She accused me of doing this, and she accused her fiance before me of doing this, so I don't know why she wouldn't do it again." The story gave no detail on what precisely the husband says she accused him of doing.

The man, who was separated from his wife in 1994 after two years of marriage, said she told him she met the players while working as a waitress and dancer at a Dallas topless club.

The husband said she briefly lived with two players and "would brag to me about living with the Cowboys."

Friends of the woman said she met the players while doing makeup for the Cowboys cheerleaders and she now works at a cosmetics counter in a mall.

The two friends, who asked not to be identified, have said the doubt she faked the report. They said they consoled the woman the morning after the reported rape, describing her a bruised, distraught and fearful.

## Oakland's Cop-Out

**T**he California English Campaign today released the following statement: **Responding to inquiries from membership and supporters, the following statement was issued by Stanley Diamond, Chairman of the National English Campaign and the California English Campaign:**

"The Ebonics, Black English, ('I be doin' de projects') uproar in Oakland, described as 'a disgrace,' 'stupid' by Black leaders, has the Oakland Board of Education flooding print and air with a desperate cop-out. This program is for teachers to help teachers understand and help students bridge the path to student English proficiency. That's the cop-out. Of course, don't take the eye off another goal: state and federal funding for Black English, Ebonic teacher training, seminars and retreats.

"I bring up the subject because perhaps the time is appropriate for the exposure of all bilingual education programs. They are a five to eight billion dollar failure in this country.

"The recent, respected Russell Baker survey of bilingual education results concludes that '...bilingual education is no better or actually worse than doing nothing at all for non-English speaking children in terms of improving their English skills. Bilingual education benefits administrators, counselors, teachers and book publishers who are funded by these programs. And the losers? immigrant children. Ask their parents.

"For eight years my two organizations have been saying 'dismantle this disastrous facade and prepare our kids for the real world. Immigrant children should be in English only classes in two years.' We now include Black English, Ebonics in the facade."