

"Air Man" visits child center

Reggie "Air Man" Dixon paid a visit to the children at providence Child Center on Monday.



See Metro, page B1.

♥ Happy ♥
Valentines Day
February 14th

Dangerous Ground

New Line Cinema's new release, *DANGEROUS GROUND*, starring Ice Cube and Elizabeth Hurley, opens in theatres this week.



See Arts & Entertainment, page A3.

The Portland Observer

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Clinton, GOP agree to agree

They still have some differences, but President Clinton and Republican congressional leaders emphasized the issues they agree on. Clinton, House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott stressed the need for bipartisanship after the president paid a rare visit to Capitol Hill to discuss the budget and other issues.

Airline mediator hopeful

The head of the National Mediation Board remains hopeful that American Airlines and its pilots union will work out a contract agreement before midnight Friday, when the pilots have threatened to go on strike. Kenneth Hipp says the shuttle negotiations between the two sides have been "very businesslike" so far. In his words, "no one's taken off their shoe or pounded on the table or done anything like that."

Serb opposition cautious

The political opposition in Serbia is welcoming its election victory with caution. The victory came Tuesday when Serbia's parliament voted to reinstate the results of November's municipal elections, which were won by the opposition but voided by the ruling party. One of the opposition's key leaders says the parliament's action has solved one problem. But he says many remain, including the dismal state of the economy, faulty government policy, and what he calls the "arrogant attitude" of authorities. He says they can be fixed only by "fundamental reforms."

Hackers Take the Money and Run

Security experts say hackers are finding it easier to break into computer networks and steal money, in part because companies are reluctant to admit that they're vulnerable to cyber-thieves. One expert told a House panel Tuesday, "If I want to steal money a computer is a much better tool than a handgun." Eugene Spafford of Purdue University testified that most computer crimes go unreported and he estimates losses run into the hundreds of millions of dollars.

Plaintiffs Hail Simpson Verdict

Attorneys for the plaintiffs in the O.J. Simpson civil trial Tuesday defended the jury verdicts finding the ex-football star responsible for two killings and ordering him to pay \$33.5 million in damages. "The jury acted within its discretion. This man committed a double murder and it found it was not appropriate for him to profit from these murders," said attorney Daniel Petrocelli. Denise Brown, a sister of Simpson's slain ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson, said the damage award was entirely appropriate.

EDITORIAL.....A2
EDUCATION.....A5
OBSERVADOR.....A6
FAMILY.....A7
METRO.....B1
VANCOUVER.....B2
ARTS & ENT.....B3
BLACK HISTORY.....B4
CLASSIFIEDS.....B8

Black Panther founder to speak

Bobby Seale, co-founder and former chairman of the Black Panthers, will speak at Clark College in Vancouver on Wednesday, February 26 at 7 p.m. in the Gaiser Hall Student Center.

An Evening with Bobby Seale is part of the Winter Lecture and Art Series sponsored by the Associated Students of Clark College. Admission is \$5 for students and \$10 for community members. Tickets are available now at Clark College Bookstore.

Seale is the last surviving architect of one of the most important movements in American and African-American history. Taking to the stage with charisma and eloquence, he sheds light on the story of the Black Panthers, a movement which grew out of student activism, not the streets. His presentation will transport the audience back to the turbulence of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Dubbing himself a "revolutionary humanist" Seale discusses how times have changed and makes a call for a new '90s breed of social and political activism.

Before coming to national prominence, Seale worked as a structural mechanic in the U.S. Air Force and as an engineer in the Gemini Missile program. As a student at Merritt College in 1962, he gained his first exposure to the growing civil rights movement and was influenced by both Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela. The death of Malcolm X moved Seale to action and in 1966 he formed the Black Panther Party for Self Defense along with Huey P. Newton.

Today Seale is the Creator/Director of R.E.C.H.I., an organization that teaches young people in America and internationally the methodology of effective community organizing. The author of several books, he is currently completing his latest work,



Bobby Seale, Creator/Director of R.E.C.H.I.

Memoirs (Of an African-American Revolutionary Humanist), and working with Warner Brothers Pictures to bring the Black Panthers story to the big screen.

Seale will also be speaking at PSU on Friday, February 28, at 8:30 p.m. in the Smith Center Ballroom as part of PSU's Black History Month celebration.

Additional activities scheduled in recognition of Black History Month at Clark College include: A display on Black history and culture titled, A Celebration in Blackness. The two-part exhibit, located in Central Gaiser Hall, presents Lessons in History from the pyramids through the

slave trade from February 10-20. Part two will highlight 2,000 years of extraordinary achievement among Blacks from February 20-28.

A musical review, which will raise funds for the Constance Baker Motley Grant for Ethnic Minority Students, was presented Saturday, February 8 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, February 9 at 6 p.m. in the Gaiser Hall Student Center.

The 1997 Variety Show: A Celebration of the Human Spirit features vocalists and dancers from the campus and Southwest Washington community performing a variety of musical favorites for all ages. A selection of

Disney and fantasy tunes from movies like Aladdin, Beauty & the Beast and The Jungle Book begin the program. Broadway Showstoppers includes music from Evita, Grease, My Fair Lady and South Pacific. Nostalgia pop songs and country tunes, plus two original works by Clark College students fill out the show, which received three awards at last summer's Southwest Washington Community Theater Recognition program.

For additional information about Black History Month events at Clark College contact the Multicultural Student Affairs office at 992-2806.

Parents and teachers lobby against budget cuts

BY NEIL HEILPERN

Victoria Davis and Ann Johnson joined more than 120 people who played hookie from the middle of a three day Oregon Head Start Association conference in Beaverton last Thursday - but they had a good excuse.

The parents and teachers from 36 counties were busy scouring the halls of the legislature, hoping to persuade elected state officials not to cut their programs in the wake of tax cutting Measure 47.

After touching bases with Head Start lobbyist Mark Nolan and State Schools Superintendent Norma Paulus, the citizen lobbyists broke up into teams of 2-4 people and went in different directions.

Davis and Johnson headed to the house offices first, concerned that the \$35 million slated for expanded Head Start programs in Gov. John Kitzhaber's proposed budget might be drastically cut.

The funding would provide services to an additional 5,400 children over the next two years, in an effort to break the cycle of poverty for children and their families by wrapping the youngsters' educational, social, health and nutritional needs in one program.

"We don't want them to cut anything," said Davis, whose son Teontra (5) attends Albina Head Start. "And, if they do, we want them to at least keep the programs that are already in action."



Rep. Margaret Carter (right) greets citizen lobbyists from Albina Head Start. From left, they are Victoria Davis, Ann Johnson and Rachelle Mustafa.

Photo by Neil Heilpern

"Don't cut what we already have!" "We want to make the legislature aware of our presence," noted Johnson, who has been a teacher with the Albina Head Start program for the past seven years.

"As a teacher and former Head Start parent I truly believe that Head Start gave

my son a very good foundation," she said. "He is now a senior at Oregon State University."

Johnson said her son's growth in self esteem while involved in the Head Start program was typical of the reasons funding should continue.

"This growth in self esteem is not only for the children, but for the parents as well," she added.

The two women paused just outside the office of Rep. Margaret Carter (D-Portland),

Continued to page A5

UO conference to look at inmates, drugs, gangs

National, state and local perspectives on the problems of inmates, drugs and gangs will be the focus of a Feb. 14-15 conference sponsored by the University of Oregon Substance Abuse Prevention Program at the Lane County Fairgrounds, 796 W. 13th Ave.

"Inmates, Drugs and Gangs" is set from 8 a.m. to 4:40 on Friday and Saturday in the auditorium.

Steve Nawojczyk of Little Rock, Ark.,

will speak on "Inmates, Drugs and Gangs: a National Perspective." An adviser to the Arkansas attorney general's Youth Gang Task Force and a consultant to the U.S. Attorney's office for the Eastern District of Arkansas on gang-related cases, Nawojczyk has spoken at the U.S. Army War College for the nation's adjutant generals and he has been featured on PBS, HBO, CBS News and "Larry King Live."

Kurt Lewis, executive director of In-Time Interventions and consultant to the Powder

River Correctional Institution in Baker City, will discuss "Gangs, Criminal Behavior and thinking Errors: The Parallels Within the Institution" and "inside the Walls: Intervention and Treatment for Juvenies and Adult Offenders."

Sgt. Lisa Wampole, and investigator with the Coos County Sheriff's Department in Coquille, will speak about "Destructive Cults and Occult Affiliates: Profiles and Investigative Techniques for Emerging Offenders."

Elaine Premo, watch commander at the Columbia River Correctional Facility in Portland, will discuss "Inmates, Drugs and Gangs: And Oregon Perspective" and "Update: Emerging Trends in Inmate Profiles."

The conference offers two units of college credit for graduate and undergraduate students. Community professionals and others are also welcome.

For information, call Miki Mace, UO Substance Abuse Prevention Program Coordinator, (541) 346-3397.