

**Blimpie Subs And Salads opens at Walnut Park**

Alvernon & Bonnie Bagley, Owners of Blimpies at Walnut Park.



See Metro, page B1.

**Truth Becomes Drama**

movie audiences will have the chance to look into a newly revealed part of America's history.



See Arts & Entertainment, page B2.

**"The Ditchdigger's Daughters"**

Airs on Sunday, February 23rd from 7pm to 9pm ET/PT (check local listings).



See Black History, page B4.

# The Portland Observer

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## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

### Clinton defends welfare Change

President Clinton has been defending his push for welfare reform during his visit to New York Tuesday. During a roundtable discussion at a church on Manhattan's West Side, Black Enterprise Magazine publisher Earl Graves told the president it's unfair for the government to ask businesses to "sacrifice profit margins in order to do the government's job." Graves told Clinton, "unlike the federal government, we can go out of business."

### Concern over air incident

Government investigators said Tuesday that a Feb. 5 incident in which an airliner off the New Jersey coast made an evasive dive to avoid nearby Air Force planes clearly raises potential safety concerns and needs further investigation.

### Albright proposes joint force

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is proposing a military partnership for NATO and Russia. In a speech to NATO foreign ministers in Brussels, Albright Tuesday proposed that NATO and Russia immediately start to develop a joint military force.

### Glenn reportedly to retire

A veteran of Capitol Hill reportedly has decided not to seek re-election next year. The Cleveland Plain-Dealer says Ohio Democrat John Glenn, 75, who is in his fourth term in the Senate, has decided he won't try for a fifth. Glenn's office is not commenting on the report, which cites Democratic party sources.

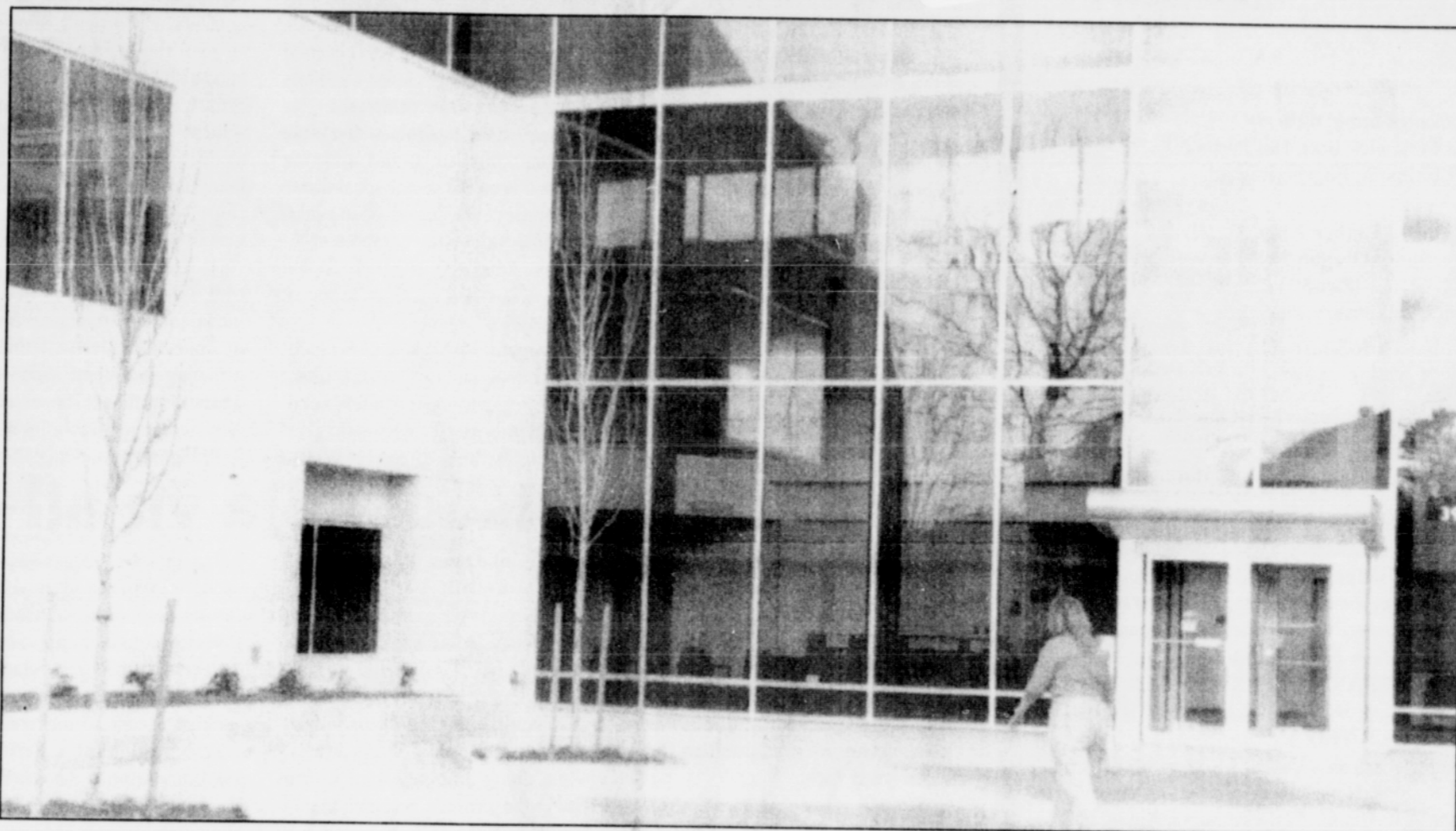
### Florida loses prison term appeal

The state of Florida has lost a legal fight to keep violent criminals behind bars as long as possible. The U.S. Supreme Court Tuesday denied Florida's appeal of a state court ruling that requires it to grant early good-behavior releases to more than 20,000 inmates convicted of violent crimes and sex offenses.

### Groups push anti-smoking rules

U.S. anti-smoking groups are planning a campaign to stress compliance with new federal rules against selling cigarettes to minors. The group Action on Smoking and Health, joined by health and education organizations, says it will make sure retailers are aware of the new regulations, which take effect at the end of the month.

## SEI opens community center



The front of the new Self Enhancement Inc. community center

BY LEE PERLMAN  
With 10 days to go before its scheduled February 22 opening, Self Enhancement, Inc.'s new community center at 3930 N. Kerby Ave. is a box waiting to be filled.

Some features, such as the floor, chairs prop room of its 300-seat theater will be there on opening day. In other ways, president Tony Hopson says, the social service program for children will grow into its 62,000 square foot digs. On opening day or soon after, 35 staff members will serve 450 children at the elementary, middle school and high school level. Eventually, Hopson says, he wants to expand this to 50 full time staff, 20 more part timers and 1200 kids.

Doing so will take money and other contributions. The center cost \$8.5 million to build, with almost \$2 million more in in-kind contributions, most of it coming from large corporate and construction industry sources. Operations will cost another \$4 million a year.

"We'll have to be creative about raising

those dollars," Hopson says. "I hope we don't have to go outside the community for every dollar we raise. I want the people in the community around the center to have the opportunity to help keep it running. I want them to think of this as their center."

In practical ways it will be. Hopson says that a weight room, with exercise equipment donated by the U.S. Bank Tower Club, will be used mostly by adults, as will a locker room, shower and sauna. ("Kids don't shower anyway," he says.) There may also be community use of the center's other facilities: meeting rooms, three classrooms, cafeteria, library, computer lab, double gym, music and dance studios, and theater with sound system and projectors courtesy of Act III Theaters...but here Hopson draws a firm line.

"What's happened with some community centers is that the adults have taken over everything, and that won't happen here," he says. "Here kids have the right of first refusal. The facilities will be used first by SEI kids, then by other kids, then by civic groups

if time and space is available."

In general the community, including the Boise Neighborhood Association, has endorsed the new center, but there has been some background murmuring. Some residents questioned turning over nearly half of Unthank Park, one of the major products of the Model Cities Corporation, to a private concern. (SEI holds a 50-year lease on the grounds from the Portland Bureau of Parks.) Others question whether neighborhood streets can handle the traffic, and the 43-space parking lot the cars, generated by the center.

Hopson, obviously weary of the discussion, points out that when SEI made its proposal drug dealers and gangs virtually owned the park. This winter the Park Bureau and SEI are doing major renovations on the remaining land, giving the neighborhood "basically a brand new park." The city has removed four traffic diverters on the park's perimeter, meeting a longstanding community request and easing traffic movement. The center's conditional use permit limits

the number of major events it can hold per year. In addition, Hopson says, "We've held meetings with the folks within a two-block radius. I hope that if there is a problem, they'll see it as a problem among neighbors."

Self-Enhancement, Inc. works with school-age children, some of whom wish to develop leadership skills, some of whom are having problems with schoolwork or behavior. They come on their own or are referred by teachers or counselors. They receive tutoring and counseling, and engage in group activities. They take field trips to career centers such as the Oregonian or Mentor Graphics where they "see at a young age the dress code, language and behavior you need to use to succeed in America, and you can't wait until you get to college to learn," Hobson says. As a requirement of the program they do community service projects. Good grades, good performance in self-enhancement, good deportment in general earns the students privileges such as concert or Trail Blazer game tickets.

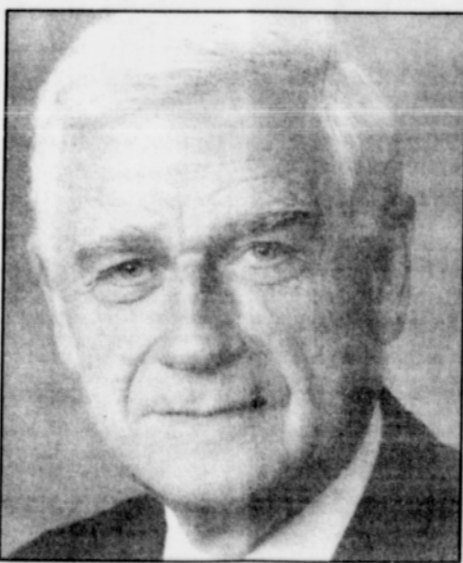
## Hatfield to speak for equal Opportunity

Judge Mercedes Deiz and Kenneth Lewis to be honored

Retired U.S. Senator Mark O. Hatfield will be the guest speaker at the Urban League of Portland's Equal Opportunity Dinner February 27, 1997 at the Portland Hilton.

The dinner will also feature the presentation of the League's Equal Opportunity Award to Judge Mercedes F. Deiz and Kenneth Lewis for their contributions to advancing equal opportunity in Oregon. The event is being sponsored in part by Kaiser Permanente, Legacy Health System, and Providence Health System. Marty Brantley, President and General Manager of KPTV-Oregon's 12, is Chair of the event.

Throughout his long career in public service, Senator Hatfield has been known as a leader who votes his conscience, even when his stands were unpopular. As a young state representative in 1953, he sponsored Oregon's Public Accommodations Law, which made discrimination in public places based on race, religion or national origin illegal. He was an early critic of the Vietnam War and took a lonely stand against the proposed balanced budget amendment in the first Clinton administration. Retired Circuit Judge Deiz is Oregon's first African American woman attorney and judge. She became active in the Urban League of Portland soon after she arrived here from New York in the 1940's. She was appointed to the bench by Governor Tom McCall in 1970 and was re-elected to her fourth term in 1990. Judge Deiz has been honored, with the Oregon State Bar's Affirmative Action Award and the Oregon Women Lawyers' award



Sen. Mark O. Hatfield (Retired)

named in her honor for her "outstanding contribution to the advancement of minorities," especially in the legal profession.

Kenneth Lewis is chairman of the national "I Have A Dream" Foundation and a co-founder of the foundation's Oregon chapter, which sponsors college educations for whole classes of inner city elementary children who graduate from high school. There are four classes of "dreamers" in Portland, including 410 students.

Mr Lewis has been active in several civil rights battles, including the No on Measure Nine Campaign and work with the American Jewish Committee. The retired president of Lasco Shipping is a past president of Temple Beth Israel, Port of Portland, Oregon Ballet Theatre and the World Affairs



Judge Mercedes Deiz

Council of Oregon. Other volunteer activities include service on the boards of Oregon Community Foundation, Oregon Peace Institute, and Tri-Met.

"We invite the entire community to come celebrate individuals and organizations that demonstrate equal opportunity and equal access for all Oregonians," said Urban League President Lawrence J. Dark. "The achievements of Judge Deiz, Kenneth Lewis and Senator Hatfield show how much difference one person can make in opening doors for others to achieve."

The dinner theme is "Equality At Work." The program will include a video showing how the Urban League works with job seekers and employers to build workforce diversity. The evening will also feature entertain-



Kenneth Lewis

ment by local students and the presentation of \$1,000 scholarships to two students selected by the award winners.

Dinner tickets are \$150 per person, \$1500 for a table of ten. Dinner proceeds support and enhance the league's agenda for economic and social justice through education, employment, and equality. The evening begins with a reception at 6 pm followed by dinner at 7 pm. For more information, contact the Urban League at 280-2615.

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.

EDITORIAL.....	A2
EDUCATION.....	A5
FAMILY.....	A7
SPORTS.....	A8
METRO.....	B1
ARTS & ENT.....	B2
BLACK HISTORY.....	B4
RELIGION.....	B7
CLASSIFIEDS.....	B9