

MAX Light rail access expanding

Max tracks are spreading both east and west out of Portland.



See Metro, page B1.

Rhyme & Reason

A moving snap-shot of the state of contemporary Hip-Hop and the state of contemporary urban life.



See inside, page A6.

Caribbean Jazz Project Concert

A band that has a unique blend of Latin, Afro-Cuban and Caribbean jazz.



See Arts & Entertainment, page B10.

The Portland Observer

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Ohio River rampages

Evacuations were ordered along the raging Ohio River Tuesday and National Guard troops were called in to fill sandbags to hold back rising waters from storms that left about 50 people dead. President Clinton issued disaster declarations for parts of Arkansas, Ohio and Kentucky.

FBI Faulted in Unabomber Case

The mother and brother of Unabomber suspect Theodore Kaczynski say the FBI misrepresented their statements in its request for a warrant to search Kaczynski's cabin. The declarations from Kaczynski's relatives are attached to a defense motion that asks a federal judge in Sacramento to throw out all of the evidence seized by the FBI at Kaczynski's Montana cabin in April last year.

Budget amendment fails in Senate

The Republican-controlled Senate Tuesday rejected a proposed balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution that was opposed by President Clinton and most of the minority Democrats. It failed on a 66 to 34 vote, one short of the two-thirds majority required.

Clinton bans cloning funds

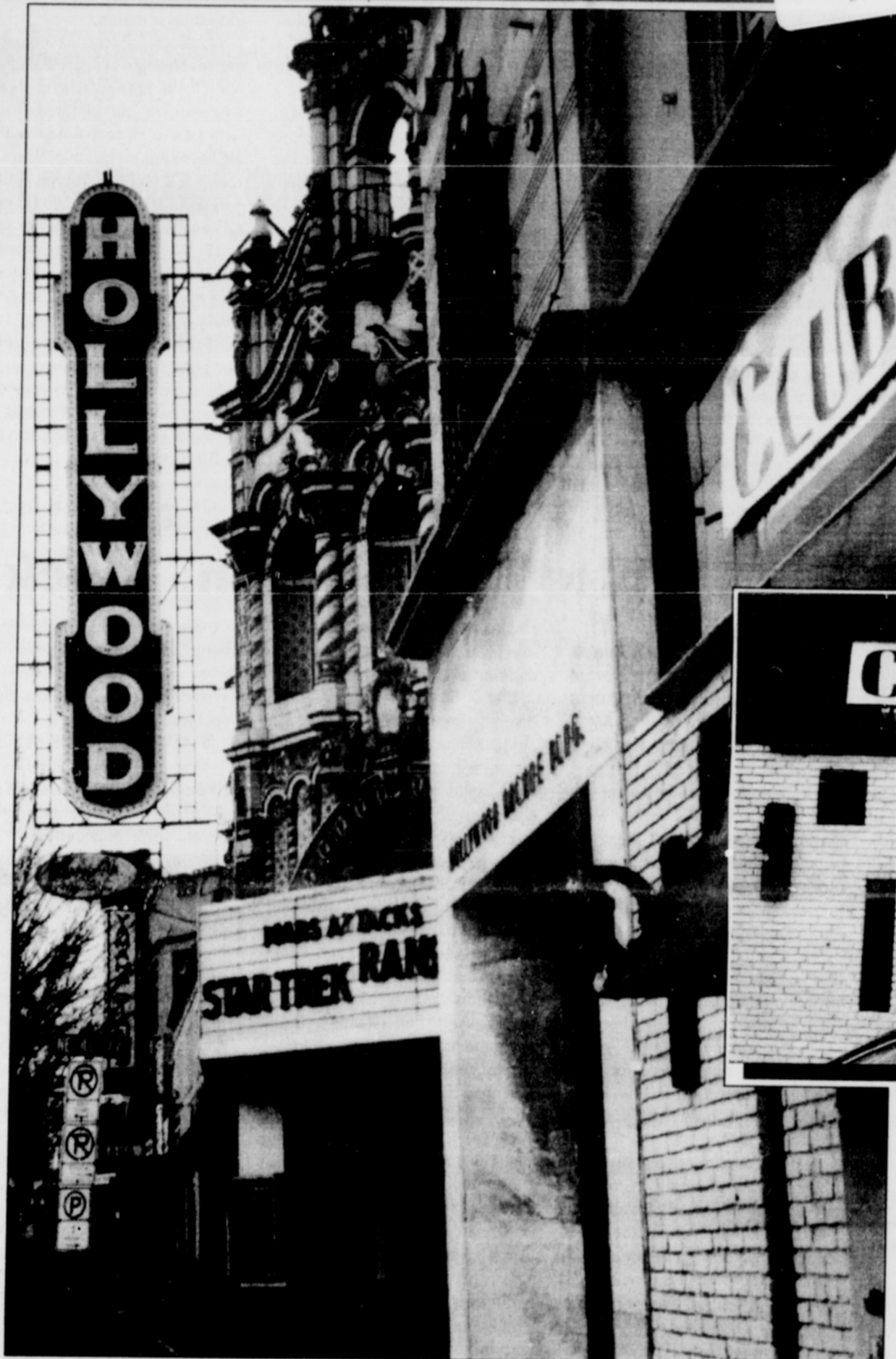
President Clinton Tuesday banned federally funded human cloning and asked private scientists to enact a voluntary moratorium while government advisers review the ethically troublesome issue. The ban is broader than the prohibition on U.S.-funded human embryo research imposed in 1994, and Clinton said his intent is to close any loopholes pending the review of cloning he has requested from his National Bioethics Advisory Commission. Fears of human cloning were spurred last week when a Scottish scientist introduced the world to Dolly, a lamb cloned from an adult sheep.

Pre-teen marijuana use

Marijuana use among U.S. pre-teenage children doubled in 1996, researchers reported Tuesday at the kickoff of a new media blitz aimed at getting parents involved in the war against drugs. In its ninth annual study of U.S. drug use, the Partnership for a Drug-Free America says marijuana use among pre-teens had increased from about 230,000 children in 1995 to 460,000 children in 1996.

Extremist groups on rise

Violent extremist groups have grown in number and vehemence since the Oklahoma City bombing two years ago, an organization that monitors hate crime activity in the United States warned Tuesday. The Klanwatch Project of the Southern Poverty Law Center said at least 858 so-called Patriot groups were active in the 50 U.S. states last year, including 380 armed militias.



New Business brings conflict



The Hollywood neighborhood generally gives a warm reception to new business Development projects, but they have serious doubts about Stanley L. Sykes' Club Coco.

Photos by Mark Washington

Located at on Northeast Sandy Boulevard near the intersection of 41st Avenue, on the site of the former La Habana restaurant and two doors down from the Hollywood Theatre, Sykes Coco Club could attract Asian street gangs. It will also be next to a theater that features family films.

"Exotic dancing is just not in character with Hollywood, and I'm surprised that you think it is," Ueland told Sykes.

Hollywood Neighborhood Association Co-Chairman Norm Stoll added that Northeast Sandy Boulevard is already "over saturated" with nude entertainment places. One in Hollywood would attract others, he feared. Stoll, muttered, "This isn't really dancing, it's strutting."

Kathleen Cody of the Orego Film and

Video Foundation, which is seeking to buy and renovate the Hollywood Theatre, said it is more than just a family entertainment venue, or even the community's most visible landmark. Its renovation is seen as a catalyst to the community's efforts to upgrade the area, and a key to getting public and private help for that cause. The club could harm all this.

"I've already had calls from people who are concerned, who have asked if our project is now off-line," Cody said.

Sykes said that the club will not have garish signs or advertising on its front, and that the dancing will take place deep inside. He also offered to re-arrange the floor plan so that the entrance would be on Northeast Broadway. "I'd prefer to keep it where it is, but if it means acceptance from the Hollywood Theatre, I'd

be willing to do it," he said.

Terry liked the idea. "If I could have gotten the Gypsy to turn its entrance so that it emptied into Mayor Katz's front yard, I'd have done it," he said.

Ueland says the Hollywood Neighborhood Association's stance on the club will be put to a vote at its next meeting, 7 p.m. March 10 at the Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 N.E. 40 Ave.

The same group is also offering its support to Hollywood in any effort it may undertake to deal with Club Coco.

In fact, there was a distinct warming trend in relations between the two neighborhoods last month, aided by a cup of coffee shared by Dick Bogue and Bob Ueland, the respective presidents of the Laurelhurst and Hollywood neighborhood associations.

Monkeys have been cloned in Oregon

Scientists in Oregon have produced monkeys from cloned embryos, making the first time a species so closely related to humans has been cloned, The Washington Post reported.

Citing interviews Saturday with scientists, the paper said in Sunday's editions that the Oregon scientists used a technique similar to the one used by Scottish researchers last week to clone a sheep.

It cited experts as saying the Oregon success, which has not yet been announced, adds to a growing body of evidence that there are no insurmountable biological barriers to creating multiple copies of a human being.

"It demands that we take seriously the issue of human cloning," Arthur Caplan, a bioethicist at the University of Pennsylvania, told the Post.

But he said cloning is still far too expen-

sive and results in too many abnormal embryos to be practical for humans, notwithstanding the public outcry over prospects of human cloning.

"You're probably heading down the path to criminal arrest, not the Nobel Prize, if you try this in people," said Caplan.

The Post said two Oregon monkeys born in August were cloned from cells taken from embryos, not an adult monkey - a crucial difference between them and Dolly, the sheep cloned by Scottish researchers from an adult sheep.

The cloned monkeys thus are not genetically identical to any adult monkey.

The Post said lead researcher Don Wolf, a senior scientist at the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center in Beaverton and director of the human in vitro fertilization laboratory at Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland, said researchers do not

plan to produce clones from adult monkeys.

"This is really an effort to see if we can create genetically identical monkeys for research," he said. He explained that fewer carbon-copy research animals would be needed in drug experiments, for example, because their sameness would eliminate much of the genetic differences that confound such experiments.

"It would allow you to ask questions with fewer animals," Wolf said.

The two monkeys cloned in Oregon are not identical to each other because they were taken from different embryos.

But researchers told the Post the technique could be used to create eight or more identical monkeys from a single embryo, and that further advances could lead to the ability to make clones of adults as well.

The Oregon work has yet to be published in a scientific journal.

Laurelhurst had initially cast a jaundiced eye at Hollywood's plans to spur development at increased density and to do so through the East Portland Community Plan, which deals with territory south of the Banfield Freeway except for Hollywood. The two leaders now have pledged to work together and to maintain better communication.

The Portland Observer would like to give credit to The Hollywood Star Newspaper for this article.

Racial murder trial nears end

Jurors should make a former paratrooper spend the rest of his life in prison if they really want to punish him for the murders of a black couple, said his attorney.

Closing arguments began yesterday in the sentencing phase of the trial of James N. Burmeister, who was convicted last week of first-degree murder in the shooting deaths of Michael James and Jackie Burden in downtown Fayetteville on December 1995.

Jurors must decide whether to recommend a death sentence for the crimes or life in prison without parole.

"I am not here to make excuses for James Burmeister," defense attorney Carl Ivarsson said today in Cumberland County Superior Court. "I am here to tell you that life in prison without parole is the appropriate punishment in this case."

Prosecutors said Burmeister, who was in the elite 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, wanted to earn a spider web tattoo, a badge of honor among certain skinhead groups, indicating the wearer killed a black person.

EDITORIAL.....	A2
FAMILY.....	A4
METRO.....	B1
HOUSING.....	B2
VANCOUVER.....	B3
HEALTH.....	B4
EDUCATION.....	B5
CLASSIFIEDS.....	B7
ARTS & ENT.....	B10