

love jones

The film breaks away from the stereotypical portrayal of African American courtship.



See Arts and Entertainment, page A6.

Library Closure protested

Local parents, students, and concerned citizens protested the imminent closure of Albina Branch Library.



See Metro, page B1.

Jammin' Arts Fest

A free, family event brimming with stage performances, creative crafts and local information about arts opportunities.



See Family, page B3.

The Portland Observer 25¢

Mrs. Frances Schoen-Newspaper University of Oregon Library Eugene, Oregon 97403

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Soldiers say coercion used

Five female soldiers from the U.S. Army's Aberdeen Proving Ground said Tuesday investigators coerced them in seeking statements that the women had been raped by higher-ranking soldiers.

Industry shaken by rapper's murder

The murder of rap star Notorious B.I.G. has sent shock waves through the music industry. Critics of "gansta" rap called the killing another example of the music's violent side.

DNC to return tribal funds

The Democratic National Committee Tuesday offered to return \$107,000 donated by Native Americans after tribal leaders said they had been pressured to make even more contributions.

Four killed at Detroit bank

Singing the Lord's Prayer during a horrific shotgun rampage, a man dressed in camouflage killed two Detroit bank employees and a hostage Tuesday in an apparent robbery attempt before police shot him dead in a hail of bullets.



The Thursday morning fire Near the Hollywood Theatre closed down two major streets adjacent to the blaze. A bakery, tax service, and Club Coco were badly damaged, but Portland firemen managed to save the neighboring Hollywood Theatre from the Blaze. Faulty wiring in the tax service was discovered by investigators to be the source of the fire.

Photo by Mark Washington

Clinton seeks to limit gun sales

Capitalizing on the popular law-and-order issue, President Clinton invoked last month's shooting spree atop the Empire State Building in pushing recently for a ban on foreign visitors buying or carrying firearms.

With uniformed state troopers and Democratic lawmakers assembled in the Oval Office, Clinton also signed an executive order requiring that firearms carried by federal law enforcement officers be equipped with child safety locks.

"Easy access means deadly consequences," Clinton said and noted that children and teen-agers are involved in more than 10,000 unintentional shootings each year.

Wednesday's brief ceremony, also attended by gun-control activists Jim and Sarah Brady, broke scant new ground. Clinton successfully mined crime-fighting, always politically popular, in his re-election campaign.

Spokesman Mike McCurry dismissed suggestions that the president staged the ceremony to draw fire away from questions about campaign fund raising swirling him and the White House.

In brief remarks, the president urged Congress to make it illegal for nonimmigrant foreigners to carry or buy firearms and announced new proof-of-residency requirements for legal aliens to buy guns under current law.

The new rules would require a photo identification card and other proof such as utility bills that the applicant has been in the country for three months.

Clinton said his initiative was prompted by a Palestinian teacher's attack on New York City tourists last month.

"We were all shocked," Clinton said, recounting how the man had been living on a tourist visa in a Florida motel for only three weeks before buying a pistol there.

fire on the Empire State Building's observation deck, then fatally shot himself.

The president also:

Announced that the Treasury Department would amend applications for firearm sales to make explicit the requirement under current law that foreign visitors be in the United States 90 days before buying one.

Resubmitted to Congress "cop-killer bullets" legislation to prevent future development and manufacture of armor-piercing ammunition. The bill is a leftover from the last Congress, which did not act on it.

Rep. Bill McCollum, chairman of the House Judiciary subcommittee on crime, expressed reservations on the ammunition ban and blanket mandate for child-safety locks. But he said he is open to looking at the broad ban on gun sales to foreigners.

"Obviously, someone who is not a citizen doesn't have the same rights as citizens or legal permanent residents," said McCollum, R-Fla. "So I'd think about it. I don't foreclose anything there."

The National Rifle Association said it

stands by the rights of foreign visitors to carry firearms. Spokesman Chip Walker said the bill would "essentially announce to criminals a whole category of people they can attack without fear that this person is going to own a gun and protect himself."

Andrew Molchan, director of the National Association of Federally Licensed Firearms Dealers, said Clinton's plans to keep guns from foreign hands would only "make it a little more inconvenient but not solve the problem."

The only foolproof check would be through a national, computer-based identification system, said Molchan, who represents 9,000 dealers.

Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Richard Durbin, D-Ill., proposed banning gun sales to foreigners just days after the Feb. 23 Empire State Building shooting.

The bill also would prohibit gun dealers from knowingly selling a firearm to an unqualified foreigner. Certain embassy personnel and foreigners coming to the United States for hunting would be exempted.

New 'boot camp' to receive youth offenders

The first "platoon" of 26 juvenile offenders will begin a four-week program of education, training and work at the new Tillamook Youth Accountability Camp on March 17.

The fully fenced boot camp is a 52-bed, 15,400-square-foot one-level facility located on 40 acres in the Port of Tillamook industrial park off Highway 101 about two miles south of Tillamook.

Offenders placed at the Tillamook camp are predominantly property offenders who otherwise would serve their sentences at the MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility in Woodburn, said Rick Hill, Oregon Youth Authority director.

"A lot of these youth are very receptive to making a change, turning their lives around, and getting out of the corrections system," Hill said. "Most of these kids never thought

they would be sent to MacLaren, and they know the next step is the adult correctional system." (MacLaren is a state-run youth correctional facility at Woodburn.)

The Tillamook camp, designed for youth offenders ages 15-18, is similar in program to the state's Shutter Creek Correctional Institution for adults at North Bend.

Hill said the Tillamook camp will operate a seven-day, 16-hour-a-day regimen of education, treatment and work. He said the state Department of Education, responsible for schooling in youth correctional facilities, has contracted with the Tillamook School District to provide teachers. He said OYA is contracting with the state Department of Forestry to take two eight-person crews a day to do reforestation, trail-building, clean-up and other work on the Tillamook State Forest.

Included in the facility are four class-

rooms, a half-size gymnasium and a large fenced field with a paved running track.

Mike Conzoner, camp director, said youths will wear uniforms and participate in physical training and drills as well as treatment that includes alcohol and drug, communication skills, decision-making, anger management, job skills and team building. He said youth will be brought into the Tillamook camp in 26-member platoons every 60 days to help teach teamwork, and that the second group would enter in May.

Conzoner said the camp will be highly structured with intensive parole supervision following the boot camp experience. "It's incredible how they respond to structure if it's consistent and fair," Conzoner said of youth offenders.

He said more than half of the 38 staff and teaching jobs will be held by local persons, who were reached by way of community

meetings, newspaper ads and the state employment department.

The Oregon Youth Authority, which will operate the new Tillamook camp, already operates an adjacent work-study camp. The new camp was financed by \$1.6 million in federal crime bill money, which was matched by a 25% match authorized by the state legislative Emergency Board. A second boot camp in Bend is serving a few youth offenders and is expected to be at full strength in several months, and Conzoner said Gov. John Kitzhaber's 1997-99 recommended budget includes operating dollars for a third boot camp.

OYA, which operates Hillcrest and MacLaren youth correctional facilities in Salem and Woodburn, is also building five youth-correctional facilities in Albany, Burns, Grants Pass, Prineville and Warrenton, scheduled to open in late 1997.

EDITORIAL.....A2
EDUCATION.....A4
HOUSING.....A5
ARTS & ENT.....A6
METRO.....B1
HEALTH.....B2
FAMILY.....B3
RELIGION.....B4
CLASSIFIEDS.....B5