

National Brotherhood of Skiers Summit
Over 4500 African American Skiers were in attendance.



See Sports, B3.

Pre-Grammy Bash

Clive Davis stated that "all of the artists and label heads come together, set aside the competition and celebrate the music."



See Arts & Entertainment, page A6.

Struggle isn't bad

Local teacher Sandy Herder recalls determined comeback from traumatic auto accident.



See Metro, page B1.

The Portland Observer

Mrs. Frances Schoen-Newspaper University of Oregon Libr Eugene, Oregon 97403 25¢

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

US says Russia won't have NATO veto

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright says the United States will not "bargain away" the rights of central Europeans at the Helsinki summit late this week. At a White House briefing, Albright told reporters that Russia will have a say in discussions of Europe's future but it won't have a veto.

N.H. rejects King holiday

For the 10th time since 1979, the New Hampshire Legislature Tuesday killed a measure that would have established an official holiday for slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King. House lawmakers supporting a King holiday failed by one vote, 178-177, to approve a Senate-passed bill establishing a Martin Luther King Civil Rights Day holiday.

Fans mob Rapper's procession

More than 1,000 fans mobbed a motorcade carrying the body of rap superstar Notorious B.I.G. Tuesday, causing pandemonium in the New York City neighborhood where the slain musician once lived. The motorcade followed funeral services in Manhattan for the 24-year-old rapper, whose real name was Christopher Wallace. The heavyset Wallace, also known as Biggie Smalls, was killed in a drive-by shooting outside a Los Angeles party March 9.

Search on for new CIA nominee

President Clinton today deplored the cycle of "political destruction" he said claimed Anthony Lake, his first choice to run the CIA. Administration officials said acting CIA Director George Tenet is Clinton's likely choice to replace Lake, who abruptly withdrew from consideration yesterday, saying he was tired of the poisonous atmosphere in Washington. Tenet drew quick praise from Senate Republican Majority Leader Trent Lott. Clinton said he plans to move quickly to name a replacement but complained about the mental gauntlet presidential nominees face. "For too long we have allowed ordinary political processes and honest disagreements among honorable people to descend into political sniping, then into political revenge, and too often that results in political destruction," Clinton said.

Fighter jets collide

A U.S. Air Force F-16 fighter jet crashed into Florida Bay south of Miami Tuesday, apparently after hitting another F-16 flying nearby, defense officials said. The pilot of the crashed jet, from Homestead Air Reserve Base, ejected safely at about 11:45 a.m. EST and was picked up uninjured by a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter about 20 minutes later. The second fighter returned safely to the base.

Grant's Royal Blues tour



Putting gusto into a recent performance of Grant High School's Royal Blues choral group are, from left, Shawnea Posey, Molly Ogden-Osterlund and Dan Majkut.

BY NEIL HELPERN

Members of Grant High School's Royal Blues Chamber Choir are counting their days - and musical notes - until the time they get to sing in William Shakespeare's Globe Theater in England this summer.

The ensemble was selected earlier this year to represent Oregon at the British Invitational Music Festival. Their two-week tour will also include Cardiff, Wales, Cambridge, Westminster Abbey, York and London.

The group, which performs choral music from Bach to rock, dresses in tailed tuxedos and royal blue ball gowns, also participated in the 1994 50th anniversary D-Day celebration in Europe where they laid a wreath and sang at a Normandy cemetery followed by appearances in Paris.

"It was a fabulous trip," recalled Grant's director of vocal music Doree Jarboe. "The French people loved the kids, running after them, shouting 'Marveleux!' while waving handkerchiefs."

The Grant singers will touch down at Heathrow Airport June 23, and be taken by private motorcoach to various homestays in Cardiff. A brief visit to the Cardiff Castle will precede their first concert.

They'll even get to see the Tower of London before their recital at St. Margaret's Church in Westminster. They return July 6.

"Being in the Royal Blues is a magical experience," said senior Rebekah Johnson. "There is nothing like it -- such camaraderie. We perform together, go out to get pizza together, went on a rafting trip together, bicker and live like a family."

Johnson, who claims Norwegian and German ancestry, noted the ancestral diver-

sity in the Royal Blues. Other students have Irish, English, Scandinavian, African-American and Japanese backgrounds.

During local appearances Jarboe proudly gets the students to raise their hands when she calls out the foreign languages they speak: French, Spanish, German, Italian, and Japanese. Some speak several languages.

"They are ambassadors for young people," said the choir director. "One works at the Cascade AIDS Project, one at a battered children's group and one is on the top 30 U.S. hockey players list."

The group has a 3.5 grade point average, she said, with 10 students enrolled in the Institute of Science and Math and 10 belonging to the National Honor Society. Several are active in sports. If they all got out their assortment of musical instruments, they could probably also form a band.

Now that they have been invited to the British Isles, the Royal Blues are planning a series of fund raising events to meet their travel budget of \$60,000.

The 27 Royal Blues members have already raised one third of the funds through poinsettia sales, candy sales, numerous performances, cash contributions and doing inventory work for Nordstrom's Department Store.

A "Massive Rummage Sale" is scheduled for 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday and Saturday, March 28 and 29, at The Irvington Club, 2131 NE Thompson.

Donations are still being accepted for collectibles, clothing, jewelry, antiques, appliances, musical items, kitchen and household gadgets, athletic and camping equipment, furniture and china/glassware/porce-

lain. Drop off for Saturday, March 22, will be at NE 15th and Fremont at the Old PP&L Building between the library and dry cleaners. For pickup of rummage, call 282-4985, 287-8012 or 284-2802.

The group's next concert, "Swingin' Away the Blues," will be held in the school's auditorium (2245 NE 36th Ave.) 7:30 p.m., Fri., April 11. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7.50 for senior citizens and students.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at the school's student store, from Royal Blues members and their families or at the box office the night of the performance. The school has requested that no ticket orders be placed by mail or phone.

On May 3, the young singers will have both silent and oral auctions, buffet dinner and entertainment at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 134 NW Couch St.

The students perform at least 35 times a year in the community, including performances for the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Rose Festival, Olympic Torch Relay and the Mark Hatfield Humanitarian Awards Dinner.

Several times in the last five years they have sung the national anthem at Trail-blazer games.

To be chosen as a member of the Royal Blues, a student must demonstrate superior character and maintain high academic achievement.

Jarboe enjoys teaching in a spacious music room that was redecorated and outfitted by the producers of "Mr. Holland's Opus" which was filmed at the school. Her philosophy is to pursue and perfect all styles and periods of choral music.

Poe elected to United Way board



Lolenzo P. Poe, Jr.

Northeast Portland resident Lolenzo P. Poe, Jr. has been elected to United Way of the Columbia-Willamette's board of directors.

Poe, director of the Multnomah County Department of Community and Family Services, was named to the board of directors at United Way's annual meeting. Board members are responsible for determining the strategic goals of the organization, formulating policies, and approving and monitoring its finances.

He joins Nancy Carter, vice president at Bowler and Associate; Dale M. Harlan, an attorney; and Gary Tipton, site operations manager at Hewlett-Packard Company, as newly elected board members.

Additionally, Michael M. Morgan, an attorney at Tonkon, Torp, Galen, Marmaduke & Booth, begins his second term as chairman of the board; James D. Kuhn, a certified public accountant at Fellner and Kuhn, PC, was named treasurer; Mark Dawkins, vice president at Pacific Diesel Allison, was named assistant treasurer; and Neva T. Campbell, a partner at Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, was elected secretary.

Fire victims Need donations

The Portland Salvation Army is collecting donations to provide ongoing, long-term assistance to more than 100 victims of the recent San Marcos Apartment fire, which left 24 families homeless.

Working through the Red Cross, The Salvation Army is also offering free temporary shelter to families who currently reside at a Southeast Portland emergency shelter.

"These families face a difficult recovery process that will take weeks, even months. While shelter is an immediate priority, our goal is to provide long-term assistance to help them further down the road as they work to rebuild their lives," stated Cascade Divisional Commander Colonel Richard Love.

Donations needed include clothing, disposable diapers, bedding, pillows, blankets, towels, and cash donations.

Donations can be dropped off at any Salvation Army thrift store in the Portland Metro area, Monday through Saturday; or at The Salvation Army warehouse, 1712 NE Sandy Blvd., Monday through Friday.

To make a financial contribution call The Salvation Army at 503/234-0825 for more information. Contributions marked "Fire Relief" can be mailed to The Salvation Army Cascade Division, PO Box 2823, Portland, OR 97208, or dropped off at 1785 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

Health officials demand cleaner air

More than 1,350 physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists and other public health professionals from around the nation recently urged President Clinton to back stricter new clean air standards for smog and soot.

"This is the most important environmental health decision of your Administration, one that will affect public health for decades to come," the health professionals said in a letter to the President.

"Numerous medical and scientific studies indicate that current allowable levels of air pollution contribute to respiratory disease and early death. Air pollutants also are linked to medically significant respiratory symptoms and other serious health consequences."

The letter's co-signers, including more than 840 medical doctors, come from across the nation.

Their letter comes at the close of the public comment period on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposal to set more protective national health standards for ozone (smog) and fine particle matter (soot).

Based on an exhaustive review of scientific studies, EPA concluded the proposed standards could prevent at least 20,000 premature deaths, 60,000 cases of chronic bronchitis and other serious health effects each year.

Dr. Jefferson H. Dickey of the Cooley Dickinson Occupational Health Service of Northampton, MA, said he and his colleagues signed the letter "because we have seen first-hand the dangerous health effects of dirty air."

Dickey added that "Millions of children with asthma, the frail elderly and other vulnerable people are put at risk from breathing smog and soot."

Dr. Alfred Munzer, a pulmonary physician and past president of the American Lung Association, noted that big polluters are spending millions of dollars to oppose the new standards.

"They've hired high-priced PR firms to spread disinformation," noted Munzer.

"We hope President Clinton will listen to the real doctors -- not the spin doctors," he added.

A list of co-signers is available, broken down by state. In addition, some co-signers are available for in-depth interviews about their first-hand experience with the harmful health effects of dirty air.

EDITORIAL.....A2
VANCOUVER.....A3
HEALTH.....A4
FAMILY.....A5
ARTS & ENT.....A6
METRO.....B1
SPORTS.....B3
RELIGION.....B4
CLASSIFIEDS.....B5