

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### Celebrate fitness

You're invited to a community fitness festival May 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Harriet Tubman Middle School, 2231 N. Flint. The American Heart Association event will include blood pressure checks, health information, interactive demonstrations, games, dancing, refreshments and activities for all ages.

### Potters show wares

Over 200 clay artists will participate in the Oregon Ceramic Opening Ceramic Showcase '97, opening Friday at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland. The show will contain the most comprehensive display of claywork in the region. The hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

### Gordly sets town halls

Sen. Avel Gordly and Rep. Randall Edwards convene their next Legislative Town Hall on Saturday at the Southeast Police Precinct Community Room, 4735 E. Burnside from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The lawmakers plan to discuss the latest state budget developments and hear citizens' concerns. Gordly also plans a town hall meeting on June 7 at 10 a.m. at the Fernwood Middle School cafeteria, 1915 N.E. 33rd Ave.

### Blood pressure okay?

What's your risk of a brain attack? Free blood pressure screenings, presented by the Oregon affiliate of the American Heart Association, can help you assess your risk. The check-ups will be May 21 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at The Matt Dishman, Montavilla, Mt. Scott, Peninsula and University community centers. For more information call 233-0100.

### African dancers perform

"A dance must be danced" is an African proverb with special meaning to students at the Woodlawn Early Childhood Education Center, 7200 N.E. 11th. Some 32 Woodlawn students who make up the Kukatonon Dancers plan a benefit performance of African celebration dances Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Scotts Rite Hall, 1512 S.W. Morrison. The dance troupe, founded in 1983, is currently threatened by school budget cuts.

### Volunteers needed

Loaves and Fishes need volunteers to visit and socialize with home-bound, Meals-on-Wheels participants on weekdays and weekends. Training is provided and mileage and meals are tax-deductible. Call Helen at 413-7787.

### Seniors counsel

VIEWES, a peer counseling program for older persons is currently conducting interviews for prospective volunteers interested in joining the next training class that begins on June 2. The program has been nationally recognized as a model for meeting the health needs of older persons in our community. The training takes place on the Good Samaritan Hospital Campus in northwest Portland. Contact Susan Sweeting at 661-5455 for more information.

### Consumer law tips

Do you know your rights if involved in an automobile accident? What insurance coverage do you have? What is bait and switch? What are your rights as a consumer? Join John Tujo, attorney and volunteer with the Senior Law Project to learn more about your rights. A free seminar will be held Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Hollywood Senior Center.

### Ballroom dancing

Get your dancing shoes on for ballroom dancing every Tuesday at 7:00 PM. Live music & square dancing every second and fourth Sunday. Contact Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 NE 40th. Phone 288-8303.

SUBMISSIONS: Community Calendar information will be given priority if dated two weeks before the event date.

## Portland welcomes Logos II

Portland residents are welcoming aboard one of the world's most unique ships LOGOS II, a 360 foot, 4,800 ton ocean-going ship, is open to the public while berthed at Tom McCall Waterfront Park between the Hawthorne and Morrison bridges through June 9th.

With a young crew of 200 volunteers representing 35 countries, LOGOS II is often called a "floating united nations". LOGOS II carries the world's largest floating bookstore and sails the world sharing a message of hope and goodwill.

The bookstore contains 4,000 titles available for purchase including educational books, text books, children's books, novels and Christian literature. While in port, the ship's personnel will be hosting special events for all ages.

The ship has a program designed to promote goodwill and understanding among nations and is manned by an all-volunteer crew of 200 from 35 nations.

For the majority of these people their one or two years on board is an educational experience in developing character and gaining appreciation of various cultures.

Adults, college student, teenagers, and children will be visiting the LOGOS II to learn more about the ship and its international crew.

See related story on Religion page.



LOGOS II crew member shows children why their ship is called "United Nations Bookstore."

## Professor rates Kasparov vs. Deep Blue

Man and machine evenly matched - but not for long, UO expert says

Garry Kasparov may be the last grand champion chess player able to give a computer challenger an even match, according to the University of Oregon's Matthew Ginsberg, an expert in artificial intelligence. Artificial intelligence is the basis of

Due to the ever-greater computational muscle available to programmers, he explains, computer programs in chess and other games have shown steady improvement and are likely to continue to do so.

"Right now," he notes, "we are at a seri-

ous and fleeting place in history where the best players in many games—chess, poker, backgammon, Scrabble, checkers—are almost evenly matched with their computer counterparts."

Making the current parity of human and computer skill all the more interesting and unusual, Ginsberg explains, is that comput-

ers and humans achieve their great level of technical skill using very different kinds of intelligence. It is a case of the machine's brute force versus the human's raw wit and animal cunning he says.

"Our brains are massively parallel machines - a trillion nerve cells working at millisecond time scales; computers are basically serial machines one processor - working at picosecond time scales (a million times faster). We are good at pattern matching, which appears to be a parallel process; machines are good at sifting through vast numbers of possibilities, a serial process whether it is involved in game playing or elsewhere."

For example, a computer would have a difficult time with some seemingly straightforward human mental activities, such as deciding what breakfast to make given the ingredients available in a kitchen. On the other hand, this same computer can make certain kinds of calculations that are far beyond the powers of human intelligence. Designing the most efficient process for assembling an aircraft is an example.

"The curious thing is that their perfor-

mance levels and ours seem so close, in spite of the fact that we're built so differently," the UO expert says. "This bodes well for artificial intelligence at large, since it suggests that machine intelligence will complement ours, as opposed to competing with it."

Ginsberg will capture this unique moment of equality of human and machine capability in an exhibit he is coordinating at this year's gathering of the nation's top artificial intelligence scientists, the Fourteenth International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, on July 27-31 in Providence, RI.

Ginsberg's exhibit, called the Hall of Champions, whose website address is <http://www.cirl.uoregon.edu/ginsberg/champ>, will feature some of the world's top players in such games as backgammon, bridge, checkers, chess, go, poker and Scrabble going head-to-head against computer opponents.

Among the electronic contestants will be Ginsberg's own bridge player, "Goren in a Box" or GIB. Information about GIB can be found at the website address, <http://www.cirl.uoregon.edu/ginsberg/bridge>.

*"Five years ago the computer didn't stand a chance against a grand master...and five years from now even the best human player will rarely, if ever, be able to win," - Matt Ginsberg*

Kasparov's challenger, Deep Blue, and other computer chess programs.

"Five years ago the computer didn't stand a chance against a grand master and five years from now even the best human player will rarely, if ever, be able to win," says Ginsberg, the founder of the university's Computational Intelligence Research Laboratory.

## Concordia plans new student housing

Concordia University is planning a \$6.6 million, 250 bed new student housing project on its campus.

Vice president Dennis Stoecklin told the Concordia Neighborhood Association last week that the three three-story structures will be built on the school's campus on Northeast Holman between 29th and 30th avenues, and 30th Avenue between Holman and Portland Boulevard.

Students will be housed two and four to a room, he said.

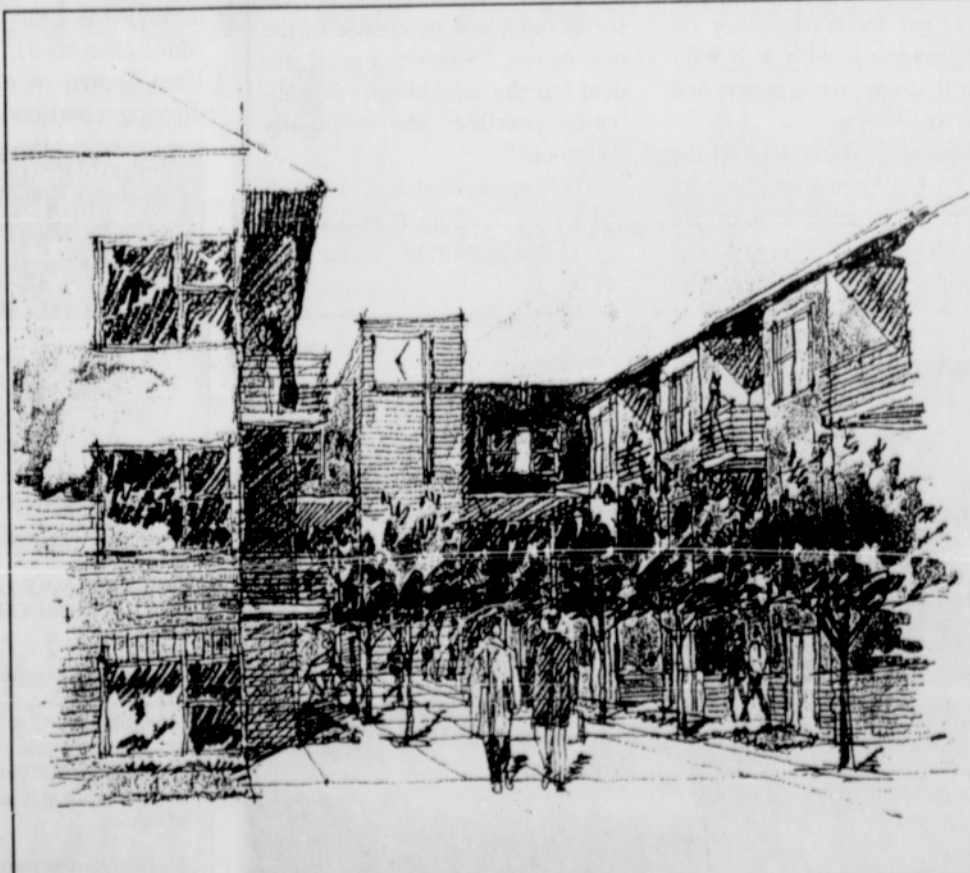
The architecture will be "consistent with the Albina Community Plan guidelines he said. The structures will boost on-campus housing at the 1,045 student university to 360 beds. (An existing 100 bed dormitory, Centennial Hall, will be demolished).

In conjunction with the project, Concordia will also add 85 surface parking spaces.

Concordia has already applied to the Portland Bureau of Planning for review of the project's design and "impact mitigation," Stoecklin said.

A public hearing will be held but has not yet been scheduled.

One nearby resident, Jim Martello of Northeast 30th Avenue, was concerned about the effect of the project on parking and traffic



Artists drawing shows plans for new student housing at Concordia University

on local streets such as his. Because no major street accesses the campus, "There's no way to get there without traveling down local streets," he said.

Stoecklin said that only 30 percent of Concordia students have cars.

Moreover, he said, since the enrollment will not increase, having more students living on campus should decrease vehicle trips to it.

"I disagree," Martello said. "Now they come once a day, park, attend classes and leave. Now they'll be traveling up and down the street all the time and ordering pizza deliveries."

Stoecklin noted that the hearing will discuss the building's design and how concerns such as Martello's should be dealt with, but not whether the buildings should be allowed.

An impact mitigation plan adopted by the city in 1995 gives the school the right to use its campus for institution-related development.

Others who attended the meeting were more supportive of the project. One resident said, "I've lived across the street from the college for 38 years, and they've been a good neighbor to me."