

Extortion trial opens

Woman charged in Cosby paternity case claims to have passed lie detector test

Lawyers for Autumn Jackson, the woman charged with trying to extort millions of dollars from Bill Cosby by claiming to be his out-of-wedlock daughter, clashed with prosecutors Monday over a question that will not go away: Is he her father?

After the first day of jury selection, a defense lawyer for Jackson rose and told Judge Barbara Jones of U.S. District Court that "as of this weekend, Miss Jackson has taken a lie detector test and passed a lie detector test on the issue of whether Bill Cosby is her father."

The lawyer, Robert Baum, made his declaration to try to bolster his defense of Ms. Jackson, who is on trial with two other defendants on charges of conspiracy and extortion. Jones has ruled that the issue of Cosby's paternity is irrelevant in the case, but defense lawyers have indicated that they will show that Jackson believed she was the actor's daughter and that that explains the activity that the government has la-

beled extortion.

The decision to have Ms. Jackson take a polygraph was intended to counter any attempt by prosecutors to use as evidence an earlier refusal by Jackson to submit to a polygraph. The U.S. attorney's office has said that she would not take a polygraph, even though that was a provision of a purported deal she was negotiating with The Globe tabloid newspaper. She later faxed an unsigned copy of the Globe contract to Cosby's lawyer. Prosecutors contend that she was not serious in her dealings with The Globe but used the document as a "prop" in her extortion of Cosby.

Polygraph evidence is highly controversial in courts and generally not admitted, and the judge took the matter under consideration.

The heated clash between the defense lawyers and federal prosecutors brought to an end an otherwise quiet day of jury selection. While the selection process was not completed, the judge said she was

hopeful that both sides might present their opening statements to a jury in the U.S. Courthouse in Manhattan as early as Tuesday afternoon.

As jury selection progressed, Ms. Jackson's mother, Shawn Thompson, defended her daughter in hallway conversations with reporters.

"My daughter was not trying to extort money from her dad," Ms. Thompson said. "This case is ridiculous. She was trying to get what rightfully was hers."

Ms. Thompson, who had accompanied her 22-year-old daughter from California for the trial, was not permitted into the courtroom because she may be called as a witness. The prosecution has said that it has tapes of Ms. Thompson trying — after receiving a phone call from Cosby's lawyer — to telephone her daughter and "dissuade her from persisting in extorting Cosby."

The question of the admissibility of those recordings and others at the trial was also debated Monday.



Wayne Newton performs to a sold-out crowd (above) and tribal elder Ed Ben is dressed in traditional costume (right) as Chinook Winds in Lincoln City celebrates their first year anniversary.

(Photos by Yvonne Lerch)



Unemployment Payments Increase

The amount paid to Oregonians filing for state unemployment insurance has increased slightly.

According to the Oregon Employment Department, the state agency that administers the unemployment program, the maximum weekly payment rose to \$329, while the minimum amount is now \$77. The change affects new unem-

ployment insurance claims filed on or after June 29.

Under Oregon Law, each year the Employment Department recalculates the maximum and minimum amounts paid weekly to those filing for unemployment benefits.

The amounts are set as percentages of the average weekly wage earned by Oregonians. The mini-

mum unemployment figure is 15 percent of average weekly wage, and the maximum amount is 64 percent.

Both dollar amounts are rounded down to the nearest dollar as required by law.

The new payment amounts are up slightly from those paid over the past year.

The maximum payment over the past 12 months had been \$314, with a \$73 minimum payment. Those with existing unemployment claims will continue to receive the same weekly amount.

Coastal tribes celebrate center anniversary

Chinook Winds carries many tribal benefits

They have come a long way. In 1855, a group of Oregon tribes and cultures consolidated on a "coastal reservation" of 1.1 million acres to become the Confederated Tribes of Siletz.

Many challenges came their way. They lost recognition by the government in 1956. But through perseverance secured the Siletz Restoration Act in 1977, won the Reservation Act in 1980 and finally in 1994, put 11 acres in Lincoln City into trust.

And through this perseverance

the Siletz have made great strides. Many programs for tribal members have been created, including efforts in education, child welfare, housing improvement programs, social services, an elders Title 6 program, alcohol and drug programs and natural resources.

The Siletz have created programs and activities to benefit local non-profit and charitable organization. And perhaps, most important, the tribes have integrated mainstream life with their spiritual and cultural values.

Now marks the one year anniversary of Chinook Winds Siletz Tribal Gaming and Convention Center, a 159,000 square-foot facility for gaming, conventions, children's arcade and play area,

gift shop, oceanview restaurant, buffet dining room and show room. The center is especially proud of its professional and friendly staff and fantastic chefs.

Chinook Winds has improved the economic viability of the tribe as well as Lincoln City.

"The strength of the Siletz Tribe lies not only in your vision for the future, but in the value of the past," said Siletz leader Delores Pigsley, adding "The values of your past have given you the inner strength to look with confidence to the future."

Chinook Winds is bringing the Siletz Tribe and Lincoln City on its way to complete political, social, economic and cultural recovery.

Move increases Tri-Met security

To enhance Tri-Met security in Old Town/Chinatown and along the Portland Transit Mall Portland Police Bureau's Tri-Met Transit Division and the Tri-Met Security Department will relocate headquarters to Old Town/Chinatown in July.

Tri-Met will lease space from the

City of Portland at Northwest First & Davis. The move will place officers next to the Old Town/Chinatown MAX Station and near the Portland Transit Mall. The improved location will help officers increase patrols and reduce response time to MAX, the Mall, the Rose Quarter, the Lloyd

District and the Central Business District.

The location near the Mall will also give passengers and the community better access to the transit officers and Tri-Met Security Department. Transit officers will continue to work closely with Central Precinct.

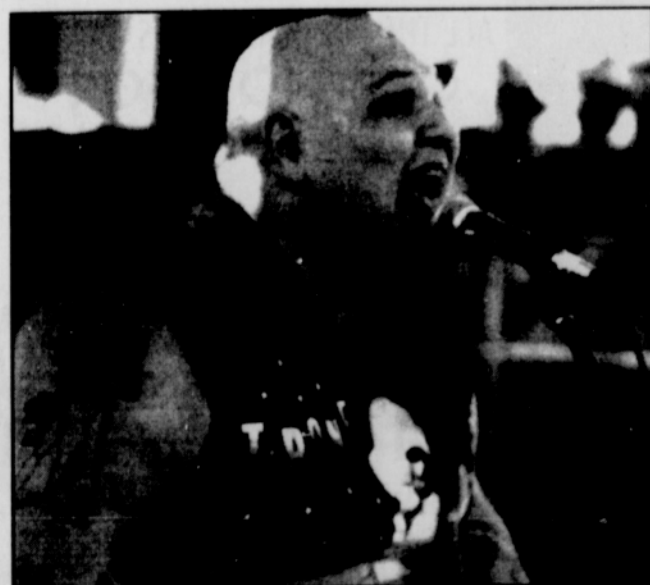
City enjoys a hot July 4th weekend of jazz



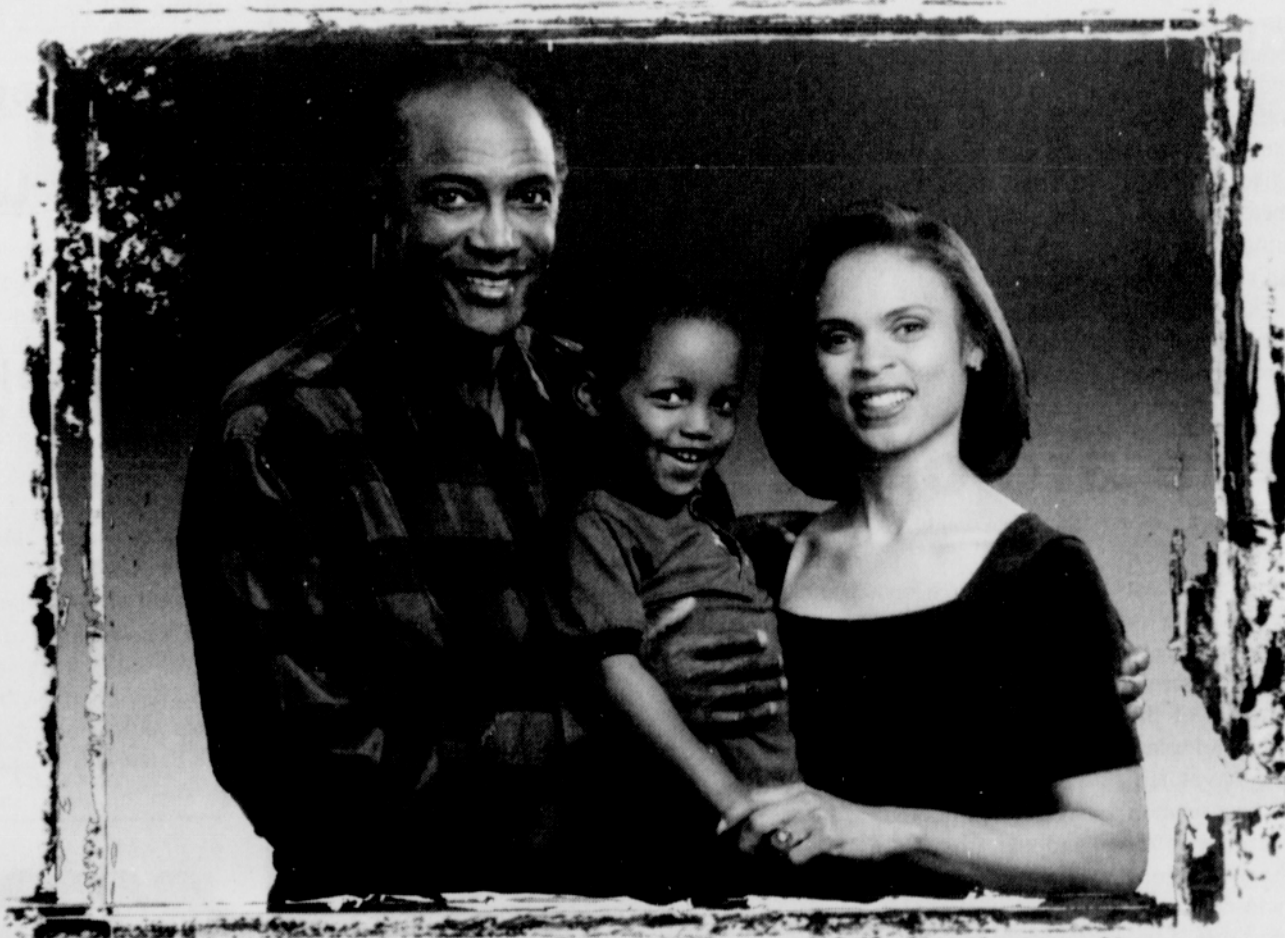
Paul Delay is always a Portland favorite.



The Waterfront Blues stage is alive with great sounds by Angela Strehli, Joe Louis Walker and the Bosstalkers.



Papa Chubby belts out a tune with intensity.



The connection is still strong.

The roots of African Americans in this country are deep. They have toiled for hundreds of years for their rightful place in American society.

Throughout the times of struggle, it was by maintaining family connections that they persevered.

Their endurance was strengthened by the determination inherited from parents, grandparents and great-grandparents and is a testimony to their heritage. They understood injustice and overcame countless

obstacles to build a solid foundation for today's youth.

A link to history is nurtured by a connection to family roots.

At U S WEST®, we recognize the importance of learning and sharing the history of African Americans. We help families share their history by providing the best telecommunications products and services available anywhere.

This way, your family connections are always maintained - across the miles, over the years - throughout history.

