

Woods on good, bad times

Tiger speaks out about racial harassment as he heads into the British Open.



See Sports, page A5.

Impassioned pleas fail to move mayor, commissioners

Embattled store owner faces OLCC without city support.



See Metro, inside

Coaching team USA!

Portland's own shows why he's one of the most qualified wrestling coaches in the country.



See Metro, inside.

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Designer Versace killed

Celebrity fashion designer Gianni Versace was shot to death outside his mansion in Miami Beach, Fla., this morning. A police spokesman said a man about 25 years old is being sought and local media reports say FBI experts on contract killings have been brought in. Versace was shot twice in the head at about 9 a.m. as he unlocked the gate to his home.

Second-hand smoke trial

The tobacco industry got its turn Tuesday in the landmark second-hand smoke trial in Miami. Plaintiffs' lawyer Stanley Rosenblatt delivered his opening statement Monday. He said tobacco companies lied and cheated for decades to protect their profits against medical research linking cigarette smoke with cancer. Rosenblatt represents 60,000 non-smoking flight attendants who allege they were injured by passengers' cigarette smoke. They're suing the tobacco companies for \$5 billion.

Clinton warns Serbs

President Clinton Tuesday warned the Bosnian Serbs not to retaliate for a recent swoop on war crimes suspects. Clinton said retaliation would be a "grave mistake." Last week British troops from the NATO peacekeeping force in Bosnia staged raids in which they captured one war crimes suspect and killed another in a gunfight. Clinton said the Bosnian Serbs had not lived up to the provision of the Dayton peace accord calling on them to turn over war crimes suspects. "They have made no effort to help us bring in these people," he said.

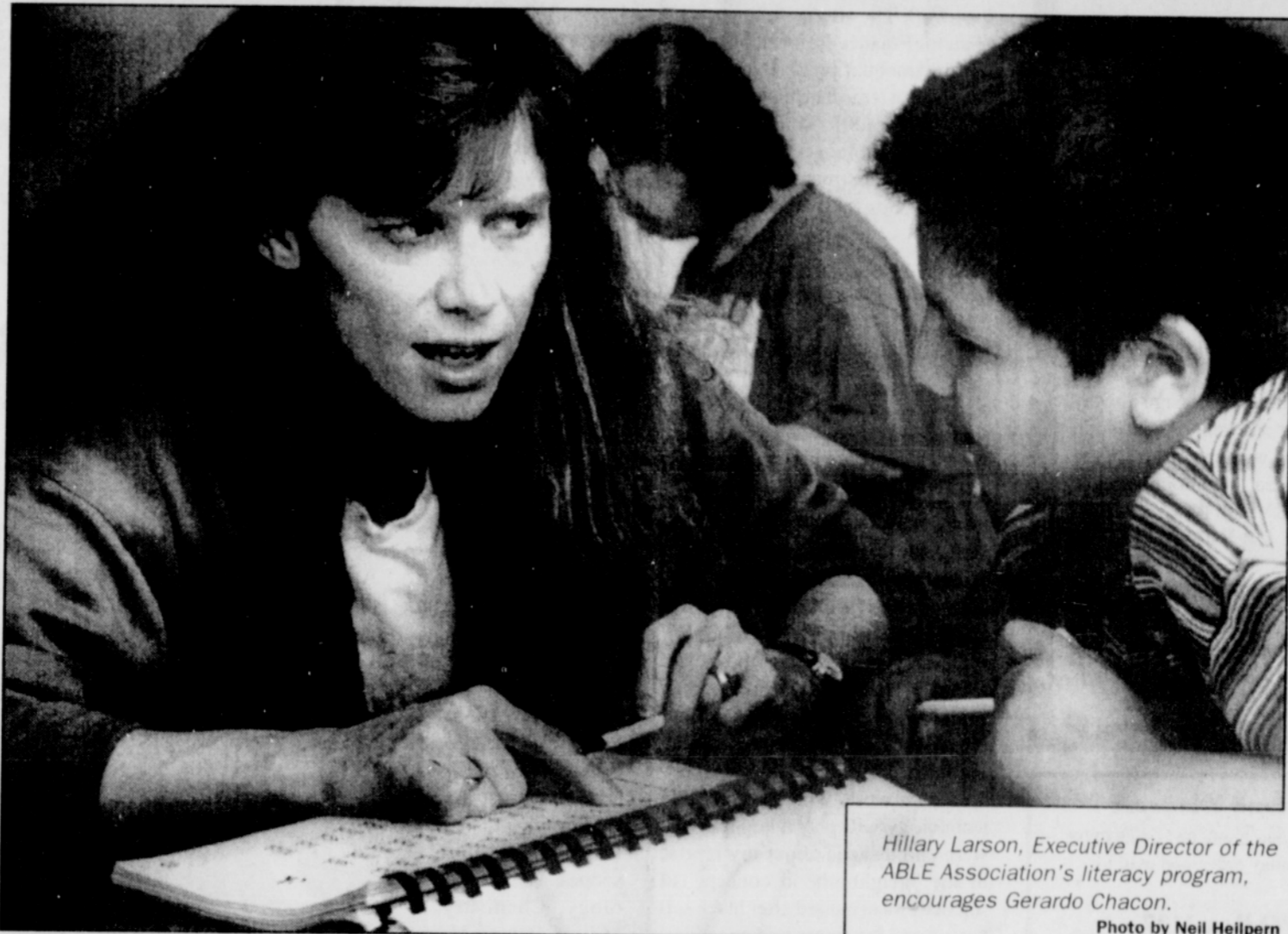
Cosby Testifies in NY Trial

Bill Cosby testified in New York Tuesday in the trial of a woman who is accused of attempting to extort \$40 million from the entertainer. Cosby, 59, testified that he had sex once with the mother of the defendant, Autumn Jackson, 22. Cosby says he met the woman's mother in the early 1970s in a hotel in Los Angeles. Cosby later paid for some of Jackson's college expenses. Often stern in his delivery, Cosby told the jury that he agreed to help the woman and her daughter financially — some \$100,000 since 1994 — but had been constantly pressed for more.

GM, Ford Top World List

General Motors is now the biggest company in the world and Ford is second, according to the list of the top 500 companies compiled by Fortune magazine. GM had revenues of \$168.4 billion last year while Ford had nearly \$147 as they displaced the Japanese trading giants that have led the Fortune Global 500 for the past two years. The United States had the most companies on the list, 162, up from 153 the previous year. Japan was second with 126, a decline from last year's 141.

EDITORIAL.....	A2
BUSINESS.....	A3
POLICE.....	A4
SPORTS.....	A5
METRO.....	B1
ARTS & ENT.....	B2,B3
VANCOUVER.....	B2
FAMILY.....	B4
CLASSIFIEDS.....	B7



Hillary Larson, Executive Director of the ABLE Association's literacy program, encourages Gerardo Chacon.

Photo by Neil Heilpern

Reading solutions hailed

BY NEIL HEILPERN
Hillary Larson and nine-year-old Gerardo Chacon hunkered down to get some serious reading done.

Larson, executive director of Oregon's Association for Better Living and Education (ABLE), stared intently into the boy's eyes as she showed him words and associated them with pictures, to be sure the word represented something real to him.

She kept watching until the moment he didn't relate to a word—"dock"—and noticed his dissociation. He abruptly turned to a portrait of two men on the wall and asked, "Who are they?"

Aware of the boredom that comes when we don't relate, Larson softly answered his question, then steered him back to the word she was challenging him to master.

She drew a picture of a dock and his eyes lit up, able to connect the word and the meaning. "You can tie a boat to the dock," he exclaimed, and was promptly applauded.

Another student expressed appreciation for the use of tiny miniature figures that had "real mass" to make the same connection. These were techniques used by the late L. Ron Hubbard, author of Dianetics and founder of the Church of Scientology.

Larson said her organization is independent of the church and strives to increase

literacy in the communities it serves. ABLE opened in Portland last labor day, with a visit by Isaac Hayes, as part of the World Literacy Crusade. "People get into trouble because they may have memorized words, recognize them, but they really don't know what they mean," Larson told The Portland Observer. "As a result, they lose interest in a subject or it seems confusing to them."

"Kids don't need drugs if they have what people call attention deficit disorder," she noted. "What they need is to learn how to use a dictionary." The program's five trained tutors serve 35 people a week, all ages and races, she said. "The one rule is that everyone gets respect."

Oregon drug problems worsening

Report sounds alarm for drug use by young people, heroin deaths

A new report shows an alarming increase in drug problems, especially for youth in Oregon and the Portland metro area.

The drug impact index by the Regional

Drug Initiative, shows that marijuana use by Oregon 8th graders tripled since 1990, while Oregon juvenile arrests for drug offenses quadrupled since 1991. Overall, drug-related deaths increased to new record levels.

In Multnomah County, drug-related deaths nearly doubled between 1992 and 1994 and increased another 30 percent between 1995 and 1996. Most of these deaths resulted from heroin use.

Changes eyed for NE thoroughfare

Public to consider transportation issues for Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard



Members of a public advisory panel charged with making recommendations on designs for Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard pause during a recent Tri-Met tour of the thoroughfare.

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
Your chance to influence the future look of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard can occur at an upcoming public design workshop.

The city of Portland, along with state and metro transportation officials are sponsoring the July 31 session to share opinions about transportation issues on the street.

Issues include the removal or retention of the concrete median, parking, pedestrian and bicycle safety, street lighting and

community livability.

The goal is to build on past and current efforts to create a boulevard that supports the community as it grows and changes, according to Mary Volm, Portland transportation department spokesperson.

Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard is one of Portland's major traffic streets and a state highway carrying a high volume of auto and truck traffic.

The boulevard serves local needs as a vital link in the community and has seen

many changes.

Vacant lots are being redeveloped along the thoroughfare. More than 300 new apartments have been built and more are on the drawing boards. In addition, more than \$20 million in private and public investments have been made or are planned.

The workshop kicks off a process that will produce alternatives to be reviewed by the public in the fall. It will be held at the King Elementary School cafeteria, 4906 N.E. Sixth Ave. from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Crime fight shuffle

Budget shakes up police personnel assignments

BY LEE PERLMAN

The city has completed the hiring of its neighborhood crime prevention staff, creating a shakeup of personnel in some neighborhood offices.

Neighborhood crime prevention specialists help citizens organize block watches, foot patrols and other crime prevention activities.

Since its inception in 1978 the specialists have been part of the staff of neighborhood coalitions, non-profit organizations that receive funding from the city through the Office of Neighborhood Associations under independent contracts.

During this year's budget deliberations the city proposed to cut the staff, place it under the police bureau and have it operate out of police precincts.

When community groups protested, the city decided instead to keep a slightly reduced staff in the neighborhood offices, but have them report directly to ONA crime prevention director Sharon McCormack.

This is the arrangement that exists in the East and North Portland offices, where neighborhood coalitions fell apart and the city operates the program directly.

Existing staffers were invited to apply for the "new" positions, and most did so.

Following are the crime prevention staff, and their assignments:

- **Central Northeast Neighbors:** Melissa Delaney, formerly based in North Portland, will replace Roger Sinnott and William Warren.
- **East Portland:** Roseanne Lee returns.
- **Northeast Coalition of Neighbors:** Kenneth Edwards and Scott Ellerton return, Marsha Palmer does not. Linda Hunter, assigned to citywide youth violence issues, will work part time in the office.
- **North Portland:** Vada Grimsrud returns. Delaney does not.
- **Neighbors West/Northwest:** Rhett Deason, formerly assigned full time to this coalition, will work part-time in Northwest and North.
- **Southeast Uplift:** Katherine Anderson and Rebecca Currin return. Marsha Palmer replaces Laura Feldman.
- **Southwest:** Paul Dinberg replaces Walter Hudsick, who declined to apply for the new position.

In addition, one position will be assigned to work with the Association for Portland Progress to help the Downtown and Old Town/China Town neighborhoods (Paul Dinberg and Casey Jones formerly performed this job), and Helen Check will work on special projects.

In setting up the program the city asked that neighborhood offices provide space for the crime prevention staff, as they had in the past.

The Southwest and West/Northwest groups declined to do so, and here staff will work out of community policing offices. In Northwest, the office is at 2311 Northwest Johnson.

In Southwest, it is currently located in the Multnomah Arts Center, but is seeking new quarters.