

High Tech Humboldt

High-tech computers help put north Portland elementary on the cutting edge.

See Education, page A5.



Clowns smile on all

Racial barriers fall when the clowns come out.

See Metro, inside



Call him a very talented musician

Brian McKnight brings the best in music to everyone from Quincy Jones to Boyz II Men.

See Entertainment, page B3.



The Portland Observer 25¢

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Diana Crash Recreated

French investigators have not commented on what they learned from recreating the car wreck that killed Princess Diana, her companion, Dodi Al Fayed and their driver. Sources said that new tests show that the driver, Henri Paul, was a long-time alcoholic. Earlier analyses had shown that Paul had well over the legal limit of alcohol in his system at the time of the crash. More re-enactments of various aspects of the tragedy are expected in the coming weeks.

Racial board convenes

President Clinton has convened a meeting of his advisory board on racial issues. Clinton appointed the board in June to counsel him on his efforts to promote a national dialogue on race. Last week he told a gathering in Little Rock, Ark., that he has been obsessed with racial equality for 40 years, since nine black students under federal escort broke the racial barrier at Little Rock's Central High School.

Fed policymakers meet

Federal Reserve policy makers met Tuesday with little fear that they will raise interest rates because of what analysts call a near-perfect economy.

House okays money bill

The House easily has approved a stop-gap bill that would keep the federal government operating through Oct. 23, preventing a government shutdown as lawmakers scramble to finish work on overdue spending bills. The House also voted to temporarily extend a program, set to expire Wednesday, that allows illegal immigrants to remain in the United States while they try to become legal residents.

Mondale to testify

A Senate panel will hear from two prominent former lawmakers today on the issue of campaign finance reform. Former Republican Senator Nancy Kassebaum Baker and former Vice President Walter Mondale are due to testify before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. Kassebaum Baker said the future of the nation's political system is in danger unless Congress does something to change the way political campaigns are financed.

Cosmonaut prepares walk

A cosmonaut is preparing to take Russia's first step into space while wearing a U.S. spacesuit. Vladimir Titov from the Mir space station and American astronaut Scott Parazynski from the shuttle Atlantis will retrieve some scientific equipment from Mir's exterior during Wednesday's walk. Titov will become the first Russian to enter space in a U.S. space suit.

Netanyahu stands firm

One day after agreeing to reopen peace talks with the Palestinians, Israel is reaffirming its stand on a central issue driving the two sides apart. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu repeated his contention today that Israel would not stop Jewish settlement expansion in Palestinian areas. Middle East peace talks collapsed last March when Israel launched settlement construction on a hill in Arab East Jerusalem.

Marcos papers forged

Two Swiss banks rejected as forgeries the documents that allegedly reveal close to \$13 billion belonging to the estate of the late Philippines leader Ferdinand Marcos.

Bernstine calls for diversity

PSU president vows to build a new campus environment

By NEIL HEILPERN

Daniel O. Bernstine promised to keep building a "diverse campus environment," Wednesday when he delivered his first major speech as president of Portland State University.

Talking to new deans and faculty members in Harrison Hall, Bernstine applauded campus academic and administrative personnel for their efforts in bringing "dramatic changes in this institution" to make

"We need to make a special effort to recruit minority students and then take the necessary steps to ensure that these students succeed," - PSU President Daniel O. Bernstine

PSU a "nationally recognized innovator."

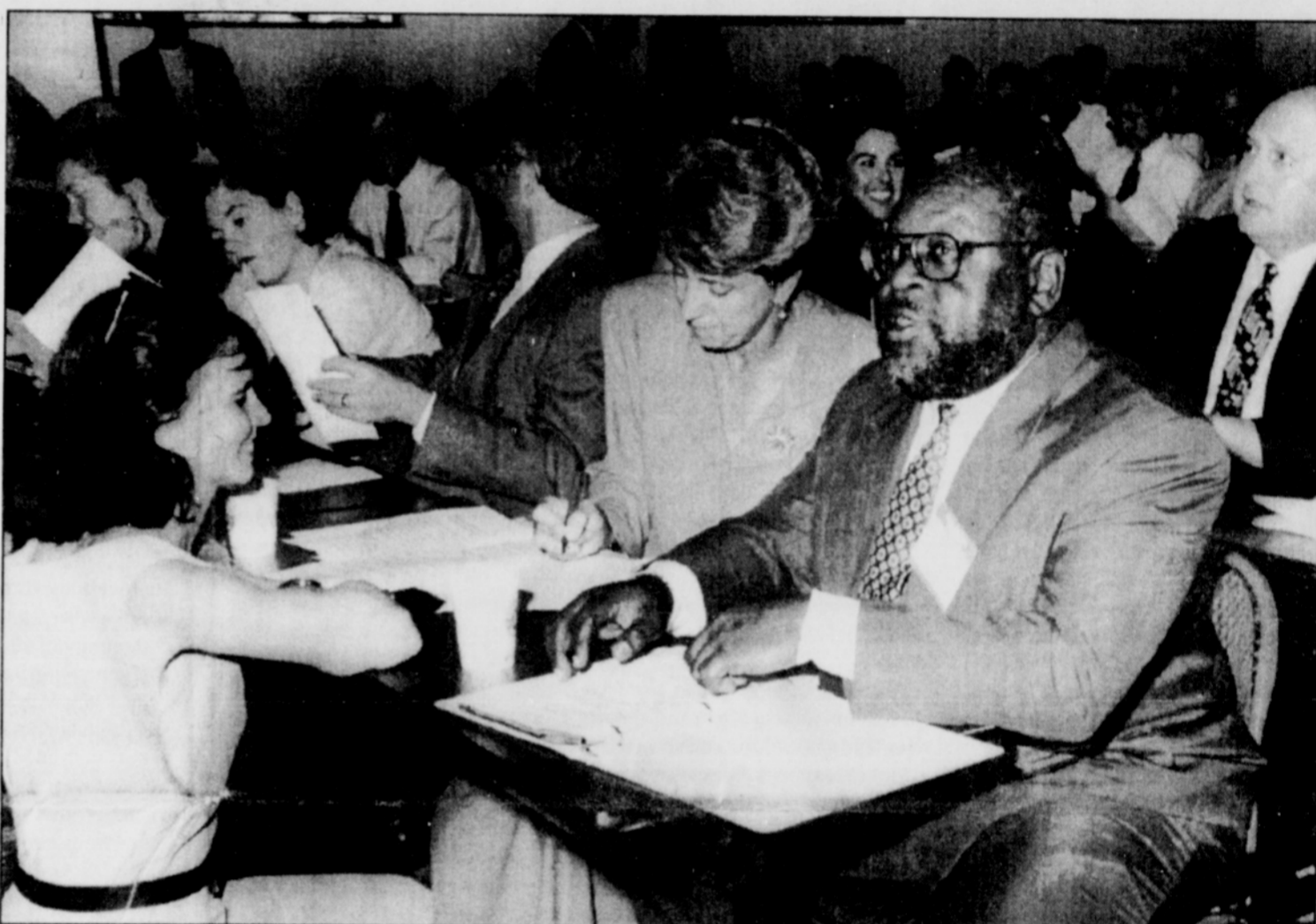
"We need to build on programs such as the Portland Teacher Program, which reaches into the middle schools to identify and begin training minority students who will take their place in classrooms as teachers and role models," he said.

Bernstine called for the continued encouragement of under-represented students to study science and mathematics and to bring at-risk youth to the campus to encourage them to go on to a college experience.

"We need to make a special effort to recruit minority students," he added, "and then take the necessary steps to ensure that these students succeed."

The 49-year-old African-American is the first minority person to head an Oregon University. He will direct PSU's 15,000 students and 400 full-time faculty members.

"It is important for every member of the university community — students, faculty and staff — to have colleagues and role models," he said while calling for more minority members on the PSU faculty and



Daniel O. Bernstine (right) prepares for his first major speech as Portland State University president. (Photo by Neil Heilpern)

staff. Bernstine also promised increased attention to PSU's sponsored research, campus development, fund raising and building community support for athletic and academic efforts.

Promising to "redouble our efforts" to find financial support for PSU's University District Plan, Bernstine also cited the school's need to "press for the realization of other campus plans, such as the elementary school, more student housing and a vital commercial and housing district."

"I need your help and your patience as I continue to learn about PSU, its programs and its people, its strengths and, yes, its

weaknesses, too," he said.

"I expect that we all will keep the student learning experience at the center of everything we do," Bernstine said. "In every decision we make — whether it involves academic programs, new technology, scheduling of events, facilities maintenance or construction, the design of student services ... we must ask how will this affect the student experience?"

He vowed to be a "tireless advocate" for PSU and its "vital role in the state system of higher education."

Bernstine said his administration would be "grounded in principle, an administration that

makes decisions based not on expediency and not from a concern with personal or political popularity, but decisions that are made because they are best for the institution and because they are the right thing to do."

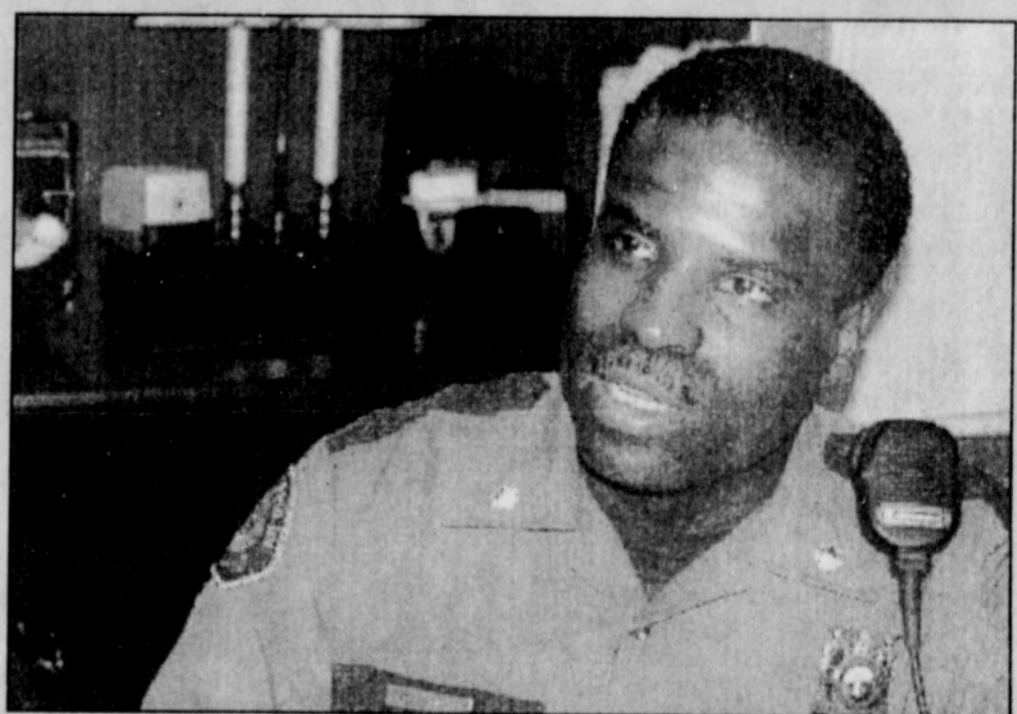
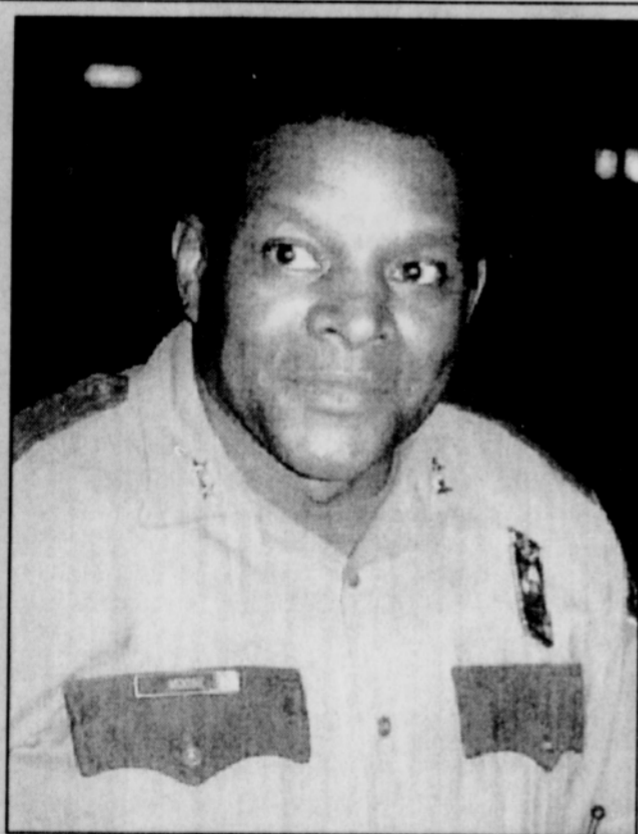
Bernstine most recently served as dean and professor of law at the University of Wisconsin. He has also served as general counsel for Howard University and hospital in Washington, D.C.

He studied political science and sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, with advanced law degrees at Northwestern, Chicago and the University of Wisconsin.

Chief puts Foxworth in NE command

Police Chief Charles Moose (left) stops at the Portland Observer on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. the night after promoting Capt. Derrick Foxworth (right) to assume command of the Northeast Precinct. The action was taken last week in a series of police bureau organizational changes. Former Northeast Commander Alan Orr will assume command of the Drug and Vice Division.

(Photos by M. Washington)



Second man tried for Oklahoma bombing

Defense attorneys tried to distance Terry Nichols from convicted co-defendant Timothy McVeigh as they began questioning prospective jurors in the second Oklahoma City bombing trial.

Nichols' attorneys repeatedly asked potential jurors Monday if they could distinguish between someone who is primarily responsible for a crime and someone who may have had a secondary role.

Prosecutors say Nichols, 42, was a supporting player in the deadliest act of terror-

ism on U.S. soil, acquiring fertilizer and other components, robbing a firearms dealer to finance the attack and helping McVeigh build the bomb. They also say Nichols helped McVeigh stash the getaway car in Oklahoma City three days before the blast.

U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch told each prospective juror Nichols faces the same charges as McVeigh and could be sentenced to die if convicted. But, he added, "This is a different case. ... It begins with a clear page."

Prospective jurors said they understood that Nichols must be judged separately from McVeigh.

But one, an unemployed Fort Collins dairy farmer said: "If he's guilty like McVeigh, I feel he's caused enough damage and should be put to death. What got me the worst was there were so many children in it."

Nineteen children were among the 168 people killed in the blast on April 19, 1995. Hundreds of others were injured.

Nichols stood, bowed stiffly from the

waist and greeted each prospective juror. He smiled and waved to his mother in the front row as he was escorted into the courtroom.

Attorneys questioned six prospective jurors on the trial's opening day. Two jurors were excused for medical reasons. Selecting 12 jurors and six alternates from a pool of 500 is expected to take two weeks to a month.

Nichols is charged with murder, conspiracy and weapons-related counts. McVeigh was convicted of identical charges in June and sentenced to die.