

My Friend Kimberly Scott

Kimberly Scott is a talented young singer on her way to the top



See Entertainment, page B3.

Metro Washington Park Zoo Has New Director

Tony J. Vecchio is the new director of Oregon's No. 1 paid tourist attraction.



See Metro, inside.



See Popeye's Coupon's Inside!

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Clinton Inspects Florida Damage

President Clinton toured an area in central Florida still reeling from devastating tornadoes. He assessed damage from the storms and offered victims words of comfort and a promise of federal aid. During a walking tour in the Kissimmee area, Clinton said the randomness of the twisters' destruction reminded him of a story a World War II veteran told him of a shell that killed people on either side of him but spared his life. The storms have killed at least 39 people with three more still missing. Clinton said he hoped a "satellite system" could be developed to give people more advanced warning.

Annan Mulls Iraq Team Appointments

Despite U.S. concerns about the role of a new U.N. team in Baghdad, the secretary-general turned his attention to selecting diplomats to accompany inspectors to Iraq's most sensitive sites. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has not said who will serve on the diplomatic team or who will lead it - two key questions Washington wants answered before it gives full backing to Annan's accord with Saddam Hussein. Meanwhile, the United States and Britain are pushing for a council resolution spelling out the consequences if Iraq failed to stick to the agreement.

Pentagon: Computers Were Attacked

A Pentagon official says the military's unclassified computer networks have been subjected to "fairly heavy cyber attacks" in the last two weeks. Deputy Secretary of Defense John Hamre said the incident had "all the appearances of a game" and apparently was perpetrated by "a small number of individuals." Hamre said computers at all branches of the armed forces had been searched and that the attacks were directed at personnel records or payroll matters.

N.Y. Rep. Bill Paxon To Retire

New York Rep. Bill Paxon announced plans to retire from Congress, seven months after he was ousted from the Republican leadership for his role in an aborted coup against Speaker Newt Gingrich. Paxon had been expected to challenge Majority Leader Dick Armey for the leadership post at the end of this year. Paxon is the husband of former Rep. Susan Molinari, now a commentator for CBS.

Court Rules Against Credit Unions

The Supreme Court ruled for bankers in a battle with credit unions, saying the government wrongly let credit unions enroll members who should have been prevented from joining under federal law. The ruling ends a 15-year-old government policy that has let credit unions accept millions of new members from outside traditional membership pools. The Clinton administration says the ruling "threatens nationwide instability and losses in the credit union industry."

Elway's Backup Has Knee Surgery

As Denver quarterback John Elway remains undecided about whether to return to the Broncos next season, heir apparent Jeff Lewis will undergo knee surgery today to repair torn knee ligaments. Lewis tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee last week in Phoenix. Broncos trainer Steve Antonopoulos said Lewis is expected to be sidelined four to six months.

A Historical Look At Our Changing Needs



Current redevelopment of MLK Jr. Blvd. and it's support arteriales for alternative transportation (A look at N/NE Williams and Russell Ave. in 1962), Causes us to reflect on our history in N.E. Portland and our ever emerging change in needs to support our current residents.

Courtesy of the Oregon Historical Society.

Businesses, Organizations Oppose Workers Center

BY LEE PEARLMAN

Every morning a crowd of would-be laborers, most of them Latin Americans, show up at Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and East Burnside Street, hoping to be hired.

It is a bad situation that something should be done about, everyone agrees.

The Workers Organizing Committee (WOC), and commissioner Erik Sten, think they should be moved into a warm, and controlled, indoor environment.

The Central East Side Industrial Council (CEIC) think they should be moved back to Mexico.

Sten's office has identified a "window of opportunity," as aide Serena Cruz puts it, to allocate \$200,000 to WOR, an immigrant workers' advocacy group, to acquire a building in the central east side to be used as a worker's center. Among other things, it would be a warm, heated place where potential employers can look for workers for day-labor jobs. WOR could track, and bar from the building, employers known to cheat workers out of promised pay, as well as drug dealers and other trouble-makers who frequent the corner. Cruz said there were several possible locations, which she did not name.

The idea fell through when CEIC last month voted to oppose use of public funds for such a purpose.

CEIC officials cite a recent raid on the corner by federal Immigration and naturalization agents, in which they found that 50 of 60 people on the corner were undocumented aliens in this country illegally.

Ken Johnson of Good Will Industries, chair of CEIC's Police Community Advisory Committee, describes the situation in relatively positive terms. "This is not a final deal," he says. "We're still interested in working with (WOC). We're looking for a solution, and we're tantalizingly



Latin American workers at Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and East Burnside hoping to be hired. (Photo by M. Washington)

close. We're just saying that we can't endorse them at this time. As business owners we can't selectively obey the law."

Joanne Ferrero, chair of the CEIC's Community Relations and Public Safety Committee, put the matter in stronger terms. At a recent meeting "We said we were amazed that the city would consider spending public funds for people who are in this country illegally. Anyone who hired them would be breaking the law, and could get into serious trouble. I feel sorry for those people, but we can't endorse something that is illegal." She added that CEIC will have no more meetings with WOR.

In a Feb. 17 letter to CEIC, Sten noted that WOR's proposal is modeled on successful pro-

grams in San Francisco and Los Angeles. "There is no simple solution to these difficult issues," he wrote.

Cruz says that under the proposal any work agreements would be private contracts between the employer and worker, and that the city is barred by law from enforcing immigration law. She also disagrees that the proportion of illegal aliens among those seeking work is as high as CEIC says it is.

WOC began working in Portland in 1991, formed an official organization in 1993 and became a non-profit corporation in 1995, Enrico says. They have done organizing work with janitors, parking lot attendants, office workers, the food and hotel industry, and other low-wage workers.

Steven Douglas-Dons Found Dead... Suicide?

Medical Examiners office are conducting an investigation

The Suicide of Mr. Steven Douglas Dons, at approximately 4:30AM on February 25, 1998 Multnomah County Sheriff's Correction's Medical Staff pronounced Steven Douglas Dons dead.

Mr. Don's was found in his medical ward, room at the Multnomah County Detention Center where it appears that he committed suicide.

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office detectives and the Medical Examiners office are conducting an investigation into the matter as is done in all facility deaths.