

World Renowned'
Dr. Jane Goodall to
appear with Afrikan
American Ballet



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New York Style'
Engage in poetry
reading and book
signing, with Susan
Wheeler!



See page B6



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Inside!

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

The Clinton Affair

Members of Congress are deciding whether to begin a presidential impeachment process. The House voted to release to the public Kenneth Starr's report that accuses President Clinton of perjury and obstruction of justice in the Monica Lewinsky affair. Independent Counsel, Kenneth Starr submitted 36 boxes of impeachment material to be reviewed by Republican and Democratic leaders. The investigation of Clinton's affair will cost taxpayers \$4.4 million.

Prime Minister Primakov

Yevgeny Primakov was approved as Russia's new prime minister. Russian President Boris Yeltsin nominated Primakov after his nomination of Viktor Chernomyrdin was rejected twice by the Russian Parliament. Primakov, 68 was a foreign policy expert that served well as a special advisor on foreign policy issues with Mikhail Gorbachev.

Keiko In Iceland

Keiko, Hollywood's killer whale had arrived in Iceland to a warm welcome from Icelanders. Keiko was transferred from Newport, Oregon to the remote Westman Islands off Iceland's south coast on a U.S. Air Force C-17. The whale was captured in Icelandic waters in 1979 and has spent two of his 20 years in captivity.

Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico's governor is calling for an election this winter so that citizens can vote on whether their U.S. commonwealth should become America's 51st state. The United States has considered Puerto Rico a U.S. possession for 100 years now and has recognized Puerto Ricans as American citizens.

New Arthritis Drug

A new drug that treats rheumatoid arthritis, called Arava, had just been approved by the Food and Drug Administration. The drug was effective in many clinical cases for providing relief from symptoms and also slows the disease's progression. FDA warns of the side effects like birth defects and liver damage from using the drug.

Westside Light Rail

The new Westside light rail had just opened up to the public. People packed the trains which ran from Gresham on the east side to Hillsboro on the west side. Tri-Met and MAX lines were free for the weekend's opening festivities. It was estimated that 100,000 people attended the special light rail events.

Hood River Casino

The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs are considering the possibility of building a large casino in the Hood River area. One site being considered is about two miles east of Hood River adjacent to the Historic Columbia River Highway. New negotiations over the casino would be required between the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the State of Oregon.

Zoo Renovation

The Great Northwest Exhibit at the Washington Park Zoo is near completion. It will feature Cascade mountain goats, tide pool creatures and other animals native to the Pacific Northwest. A new entrance to the zoo is also being built that is closer to the westside light rail that just began operating.

One Billion Pounds of Toxic Chemicals Dumped Into America's Waters



Columbia River

Willamette River Receives 17th Highest Amount of Direct Pollution of all U.S. Waters: Columbia River Ranks 1st for Cancer Causing Chemicals.

According to a report released today by OSPIRG, industries reported discharging nearly one billion pounds of toxic chemicals into America's waterways between 1992 and 1996. The report, "Troubled Waters" found that industries discharged an additional 141 million pounds into sewer systems over the same period of time.

Oregon ranks 23rd in the nation for toxic chemicals discharged into waterways. Polluters discharged 4,776,513 pounds of toxic chemicals into Oregon's Willamette River, the largest quantity of any river in the state. The Columbia River received more cancer causing chemicals through direct discharges than any other water body in the country. "Troubled Waters" illustrates that polluters continue to use America's waterways as dumping grounds for toxic chemicals," said Tiernan Sittenfeld, OSPIRG Field Director. "Many of the chemicals being discharged into our rivers and streams are known to

cause cancer, birth defects, reproductive disorders and other serious health effects.

OSPIRG analyzed toxic chemical releases to major waterways, as reported by industries to the Community Right to Know Act's Toxics Release Inventory. The Toxics Release Inventory data accounts for only a small percentage of toxic chemical pollution released into the environment.

Due to loopholes in the law, major sources of toxic pollution are shielded from the public view, including data on some of the most hazardous substances known to science, such as dioxins, lead, and mercury.

"Troubled Waters" concludes that an estimate of toxic chemical dumping in our waterways over the last five years may be many times greater than Toxics Release Inventory reports.

"Millions of Americans rely on our waterways for drinking water sources and swimming and fishing destinations. We have the right to clean, toxic-free lakes, rivers, and streams, and we have the right to know when polluters discharge toxic chemicals into our waterways.

Without more complete information on the use and release of toxic chemicals, the public is left in the dark, and we cannot protect ourselves," said Don Francis, Co-Director of the Willamette River Keeper.

OSPIRG recommends the following actions to expand Right to Know as a first step toward reducing toxic pollution to our waterways:

1) Right to Know should be expanded to include information on how toxic chemicals are used in the workplace, transported through communities, and contained in consumer products.

2) Reporting thresholds should be set at zero for highly toxic substances such as lead, dioxin, and mercury, to ensure reporting on the use and release of any quantity of these substances.

3) All significant sources of toxic pollution should report to the Toxics Release Inventory, including sewage treatment plants, medical and solid waste incinerators, and the oil and gas industry.

4) The Clean Water Act should be strengthened to require polluters to eliminate toxic

discharges, prevent polluted run-off, and ensure strict compliance with the law.

"While the polluters continue to dump millions of pound of toxic chemicals into our waterways, the Congress is working to attach dozens of anti-environmental provisions to must-pass spending bills. Instead of working to weaken our environmental laws, we urge Congress to listen to the public's demands for clean water and the right to know about toxic chemical use and pollution," said Sittenfeld.

"We want to thank Representatives Blumenauer, Defazio, Furse, and Hooley for supporting H.R. 1636 and urge Representative Smith to do the same. We further call on Senators Smith and Wyden to support S.769. Both bills would fill in many important Right to Know reporting gaps. President Clinton should also use all existing legal authorities to continue to expand the public's right to know," said Sittenfeld.

OSPIRG is a non-profit, non-partisan environmental and consumer watch dog organization with 25,000 members throughout the state.

260,000 People Celebrate Tri-Met's New Westside Max Light Rail

The 18-mile line helps relieve traffic congestion, keeps air clean & adds another segment to the light rail system

Over the weekend, 260,000 Portland area residents celebrated the opening of Tri-Met's Westside MAX Light Rail line, which travels from downtown Portland, through Beaverton to downtown Hillsboro. Around 160,000 people rode the new 18-mile MAX line, following a dedication featuring Vice President Al Gore, Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater, Governor John Kitzhaber, members of Oregon's Congressional delegation and other local dignitaries.

Riders hopped aboard trains and checked out the 20 new stations along the line -- highlights included the three-mile tunnels and the Washington Park station, situated 260-feet below the surface. Crews bored through 16 million year old rock to create the tunnel and station. Core samples of the rock stretch along the station platforms, along with a timeline of historical events.

Community celebrations in Hillsboro,



Beaverton, Washington Park and Pioneer Courthouse Square offered food, music and fun for all ages. Other celebrations occurred at additional MAX stations, including Orenco, Quatama, Millikan Way, Tuality Hospital and a commuter-rail demonstration at Beaverton Creek. Representatives of the Oregon Zoo said they had three times the usual Saturday attendance - with two-thirds of the visitors arriving on MAX. "This tremendous response demonstrates what a special community we have,"

said Tri-Met General Manager Tom Walsh. "Our citizens believe that light rail - completed on time and within budget - is part of the solution to traffic congestion, and helps keep our air clean. We're building a system, asked for by our citizens. The Westside is an important addition."

Tri-Met expanded transit by 46% in the Westside corridor, which includes light rail and new and improved bus service. The community helped design the bus service, and based on employer input, MAX trains and new employer bus shuttles will run earlier to meet major shift times. MAX will run about 22 hours a day along the entire 33-mile line. Ridership is projected to increase to 50,000 average weekday boardings by the end of the first year of operation.

Light Rail has also been a catalyst for transit-oriented development. Nearly 7,000 housing units are underway and \$500 million invested along the Westside alignment. This complements the \$1.9 billion invested along the existing Eastside MAX line.