

Doing The Bird

Atlanta Revels in Falcons' First Super Bowl!!!



See Sports page B2.

Take 6

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See Religion, page B3.

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Presidential Address

President Clinton had delivered his State of the Union Address before Congress and the American public. His ambitious agenda is to protect Social Security, increase spending of billions of dollars for new programs in child care, education, crime-fighting, the environment and the Pentagon. He also proposed an increase in the minimum wage by \$1 an hour over two years to \$6.15.

Super Bowl

The Atlanta Falcons, the National Football League's door-mat for a third of a century celebrated their victory over the heavily favored Minnesota Vikings. The Falcons had a record of 182 wins, 293 losses and 5 ties, the worst record in professional football.

Urban America Profile

A recent report revealed that American cities are strong, vibrant centers of industry and culture, improving living conditions for many of its residents. The notable improvements were in economic conditions, police-community relations and recreational opportunities.

Tax On Cigarettes

The Clinton administration proposed a federal tax increase of 55 cents on a pack of cigarettes to finance his new spending programs. The new tax is estimated to raise \$8 billion a year for the next five years. Plans are underway to use the money for after-school programs, support for disabled workers, hiring of new police officers and a tax credit for people requiring long-term medical care.

Brazil

The value of Brazil's currency has dropped to an all-time low, eroding investor confidence worldwide. President Clinton and Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin announced two-months ago set up of a \$41.5 billion aid package for Brazil. It was a precautionary move to help their failing economy and preserve the valuable trading partnership between the countries. Brazil is a huge market for American corporations. The Brazilian government is expected to control their spending with national budget reductions.

Federal Education Spending

In President Clinton's State of the Union Address, he called for major changes in America's school system. He has proposed major revisions to the way the \$20 billion in federal education spending is apportioned, rewarding school districts that adhere to guidelines on training teachers, enforcing classroom discipline, ending promotion of unqualified students and reporting school performance to parents. School districts that do not meet these standards risk losing some or all of their federal assistance.

Opponents Of Measure 11 To File A Ballot Initiative To Repeal The Law

By YEMA MEASHO

On the second Tuesday of every month, Citizens for Measure 11 Reform, a grass root citizens group, meet to discuss their concern about the long-term effects of the measure. On their meeting this month, the group announced the completion of a ballot initiative that asks Oregon voters to reconsider Measure 11. On last election season CFM11R's effort to bring the initiative to the ballots failed short of collecting enough signatures.

Intended to establish mandatory sentence

for certain felony crimes, Measure 11 was passed in 1994 by 66 percent of voters and went into effect in April 1995. Under this law, offenders would not be granted early release, leave or a reduction of sentence for any reason. The measure applies to juveniles 15 years or older including first time offenders.

This week, opponents of the measure, comprised of concerned citizens and fam-

ily and friends of those sentenced under the law, are heading to the state's capital to file the final draft and rally to introduce the group to law makers in order to win their support. If approved the initiative will repeal Measure 11 and will enable those

"So much power is given to District Attorneys and I feel like I am living in a police state. I feel powerless,"

sentenced under Measure 11 to be resentenced if they believe they would get lesser time.

"We are not saying that most everyone will benefit from it," said Mike Kelly, one of the opponents of the law who helped write the initiative. "But if they believe that they can get lesser sentencing without measure 11, they can take advantage of the new initiative."

In order to qualify for the November ballot the group must collect the necessary 77,000 signatures.

According to Michael D. Schrank, Multnomah County District Attorney, the

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Drum Majors For Justice Join Wellness Walk



Photo by M. Washington

On January 18 there was a Wellness Rally, and Walk. The rally started at 10 am at the Matt Dishman Community Center. The participants marched up Martin Luther King Blvd to Alberta, then to Jefferson High for a Martin Luther King Day Celebration. A contingent of "Drum Majors for Justice" joined the annual Martin Luther King Day Wellness Walk this year. Banners and signs of the Rainbow Coalition, New Party, Jobs with Justice, Friends of Geri Washington, and others were in the contingent.

Freeway Sign Changes Planned For Interstate 5

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) plans to implement sign changes on Interstate 5 in north Portland.

Existing freeway signs on I-5 north-bound at Delta Park (Exit 307) was replaced by ODOT crews on Jan. 8, 1999. The new interchange signing will list the following destinations: Delta Park, Rivergate, Marine Drive and M.L. King Jr. Boulevard. The existing signing for the interchange reads Stockyards, Rivergate, Marine Drive and MLK Jr. Blvd.

"The new signing will provide a more accurate description of nearby destinations for drivers using the Delta Park Interchange, especially for the newly modified entrance to Delta Park," said Karla Keller, ODOT regional maintenance manager.

Keller said there was some discussion generated during a recent public meeting that called for relocating the M.L. King Jr. Boulevard sign further south on I-5 to direct traffic to the local business district via Lombard Street or Portland Boulevard.

"However, moving the M.L. King Jr. Blvd. sign at Exit 307 is no longer necessary since the Expo Center has opted not to change their entrance signing," Keller said. "While the general agreement was to leave the sign at Exit 307, the idea can be further studied if the business district supports making additional changes."

James Brown demonstrates that he's still the hardest working man in show business



He's not as fast, but he's still as good and he proved that to all of his faithful fans & curious music lovers last Friday as he performed for two dates at the Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City. The crowd rocked & rolled to such old time favorites as "Try Me", "Please, Please, Please", "Living In America" and many more...A good time was had by all.



Photos by Larry J. Jackson Sr.