

Bill Cosby to Present Keynote Address

See Page A3



Galeria Cecily Quintana Presents Agustin Portillo

See Page B6



Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Portland, OR
Permit No. 1610

University of Oregon
Knight Library
Newspaper Section
Eugene OR 97403

The Portland Observer

50¢

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

High School Shooting

Two students of Columbine High School attacked students with guns and explosives in a suicide mission. Twenty five students and teachers may have been killed. The gunmen's intention was to target minorities and athletes. They were found dead of self-inflicted gunshot wounds, with what appeared to be bombs around their bodies.

NATO Attacks

NATO continued to launch attacks across Yugoslavia with U.S. helicopters and troops heading toward Albania. Their mission is to assist in the alliance's attack on Yugoslav ground forces and stop their campaign to rid Kosovo of its ethnic Albanian majority. Their main targets are a dozen select towns and cities.

Church Fires

Jay Scott Ballinger, a 36-year old Indiana satan worshipper was indicted on charges of setting fire to seven churches in Indiana and three in Georgia, including one in which a volunteer firefighter died. The Justice Department has not decided yet on whether Ballinger should seek the death penalty in the Georgia case. He recently admitted to burning 30 to 50 churches in 11 states between 1994 and 1998.

Vitamin C

The new recommended daily allowance by Government researchers is to double or triple the intake of Vitamin C because of its cancer-fighting ability. The National Institute of Health stated that the RDA for vitamin C should be increased from 60 milligrams to between 100 and 200 mg.

Killer Virus

A new virus in Malaysia had already claimed more than 90 lives and recently killed some stray dogs in Malaysia. This rare strain, called Nipah virus is named after the village where its first victim died. Similarly in Japan, a dozen victims have died of Japanese encephalitis.

Rosa Parks

The Senate had voted unanimously to award Rosa Parks with a Congressional Medal for surrendering her bus seat to a white man that sparked the civil rights movement. Her arrest in 1955 led to a year-long bus boycott by blacks spearheaded by the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr.

Celebration of the First Home Under Unique Affordable Housing Initiative



A NE Portland resident Lisa Nason and her 13 year-old son became the first homebuyer to own a home under a new "one of a kind" Community Land Trust announced by U.S. Senator Gordan Smith. The Sabin Community Land Trust enables homebuyers to purchase a home without having to buy the land beneath the home, saving the homebuyer thousands of dollars.

The Nason's new home is located at 13th Street, between NE Wygant St. and NE Going St. in northeast Portland.

Fannie Mae is a congressionally chartered, shareholder-owned company and the

nation's largest source of funds for home mortgages. It has committed to provide \$1 trillion in targeted lending for 10 million homes by the end of the decade. The targeted lending will serve low-and moderate-income families, minorities, new immigrants, residents of central cities and the underserved areas, and people who have housing needs. Over the past 30 years, Fannie Mae has provided \$2.5 trillion in mortgage financing for 32 million families.

The event was celebrated by Fannie Mae's Oregon Partnership Office and Sabin Community Development Corp.

House Passes Carson Bill

The House approved legislation introduced by Rep. Julia Carson, D-Ind., to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Rosa Parks.

"With this action, Congress is on record in overwhelmingly endorsing a Congressional Gold Medal for Rosa Parks," Rep. Carson said. "No one in America deserves this honor more. Her selflessness embraced the spirit expressed by the words: 'My country 'tis of thee - sweet land of liberty.'"

"Rosa Parks is not just an African-American, she is an All-American. What she has achieved is not just for African-Americans, but for all Americans."

"Mrs. Parks sought to validate this pledge of ours: 'One Nation, Under God, With Liberty and Justice for ALL people. Her steadfastness and unmovable decision recalled the words of the great Emancipator Abraham Lincoln in his Gettysburg Address: 'Government of the People, by the People, for the People shall not perish. This honor has been delayed almost 44 years. Now, we are finally giving Rosa Parks the recognition she deserves.'"

The House approved the bill in a 424-1 vote. Rep. Carson introduced the measure Feb. 4, Rosa Parks' 86th birthday. Since then, Rep. Carson has signed on 329 co-sponsors. The Senate approved a similar measure, introduced March 4, Monday by an 86-0 vote. The Senate bill has 75 co-sponsors. House passage now sends the bill to the White House for the President's signature.

Rosa Parks wrote Rep. Carson March 5

thanking her for introducing the bill. "It is very nice and the support appears to be contagious," Mrs. Parks wrote. "I respect you, your commitment to justice, and I look forward to sharing time with you again."

"Rosa Parks is the Mother of America's Civil Rights movement," Rep. Carson said. "Her quiet courage that day in Montgomery, Alabama launched a new American revolution that opened new doors of opportunity and brought equality for all Americans close to a reality."

Rep. Carson's legislation will authorize the President to award Rosa Parks a gold medal on behalf of Congress. It also will authorize the U.S. Mint to strike and sell duplicates to the public.

Rosa Parks touched off the 1955 Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott, when she was arrested for refusing to yield her seat on the bus in the racially segregated bus system in that city. Mrs. Parks states that she "had been pushed as far as she could stand." A bus boycott demanding racial integration of the bus system was initiated as a result of the outrage caused by her arrest.

The bus boycott introduced Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to America as a civil rights leader. The car-pools Dr. King helped organize got African-Americans to their destinations in Montgomery and pushed the bus

system to the brink of financial ruin. After more than a year of running nearly-empty buses, Montgomery was ordered to integrate the system by the U.S. Supreme Court. For the first time bus riders, regardless of race, could sit anywhere they wanted. The movement sparked in Montgomery culminated in the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act and a new affirmation of the equal rights promised to all Americans by the Constitution.

The quiet courage of Rosa Parks changed the

course of American history and come to symbolize the power of non-violent protest. In the 44 years since, the Nation has derived immeasurable benefit from her leadership and that of those she inspired. Rosa Parks continues to dedicate her life to the cause of universal human rights and has become a living icon for freedom in America.

"I am pleased that the 106th congress is recognizing in a bipartisan way Rosa Parks' unique and historic contributions to American society," Rep. Carson said.



Rosa Parks flanked by her attorney and a deputy, on her way to jail.

Photo: United Press International