

Focus

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Focus welcomes freelance
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1999 The Portland Observer

International modeling competition highlights African beauty

CONTRIBUTED STORY
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Now entering its third year, M-Net's Face of Africa competition the continent's premier fashion modeling beauty showcase is a unique entertainment and cultural event that highlights some of Africa's most beautiful women. The brainchild of M-Net, Africa's largest subscription television broadcaster, this year's final competition will be broadcast to over 42 countries throughout the African continent. Scheduled to be held in Capetown,

South Africa on April 15th, the winner of this year's Face of Africa competition receives a \$150,000 contract with Elite Model Management in New York. More important, the winner will be launched into a high-profile international modeling career. Four months after being named the first M-Net Face of Africa and moving to New York, Nigenan-born Oluchi graced the cover of Italian Vogue. Since then, Oluchi has been photographed repeatedly by such world-class photographers as Steven Meisel and Richard Avedon. She also has appeared on The Oprah

Winfrey Show. In a recent survey in American Vogue Oluchi was chosen as one of the top four runway models in America. The winner of the second M-Net Face of Africa competition, Namibian-born Benvinda Mundenge, will be arriving in New York City in mid-January and hopes are high for her to take the modeling world by storm.



Above: M-Net Face of Africa 2000 Southern Africa regional finalist, Suraya Dhalakama. Left: M-Net Face of Africa 1999 finalist and Elite Model Look of the Year finalist, Miriam Odemba.



Happy Birthday
C.C.
You're an even
nifty fifty.
Love
from all of us

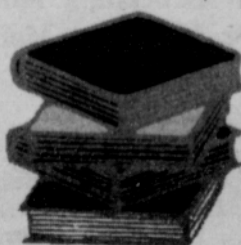
Portland Opera offers
dueling divas

CONTRIBUTED STORY
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

You've heard of "extreme" sports-how about "extreme" singing? Portland Opera and Borders Books and Music make this unusual concept come to life at Anti-Superbowl Party V, a Superbowi alternative January 30~ at 3 p.m. in the music section of Borders, 708 SW 3rd. The event pits singer against singer in a grueling competition for the "Singer of the Universe" title. Judges will include Portland music scene notables Valerie Day, Chris-

tine Meadows and Brennen Guillory. Leading the commentary will be Rodney Menn, Janet Coleman and Diane Syrcie. The vocal talents of Portland Opera Works!, the touring division of Portland Opera, will present highlights from Die Fledermaus, La Boheme, Manon Lescaut, Carmen, Turnandot, Show Boat, Into the Woods, Secret Garden, Pagliacci, and much, much more. The public is invited to share the adrenaline rush. Admission is two or more cans of food for the Oregon Food Bank.

Congratulation
Honor Roll Student
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kmhd for the love of jazz

89.1