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# The Portland Observer

## Democrats take home State Title

## Community activist dies at 59



CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sharon McCormack, community activist turned citywide crime prevention program director, died last week of cancer. She was 59.

Five days before her death, McCormack received the Nathan Thomas Memorial Award for her work in promoting community-based crime prevention activities. Last year she received the Mayor's Spirit of Portland Award as city employee of the year.

Former friends and associates said the mother of four combined excellent professional skills with a human touch, and a commitment to the community she served.

"Sharon was a truly dedicated person, and successful at bridging the gap between the neighborhood and city hall. Very quietly, in her own way, she was truly a Christian person. She let people know she cared about them."

McCormack began her public career as one of the organizers of the Piedmont-Columbia (later Piedmont) Neighborhood Association in the early 1970s, where her former husband Bill was an early president. She also founded and ran a child care center.

In 1979 the position of crime prevention specialist for the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods became vacant. Kathy Glankler a fellow Piedmont activist and head of the program's citywide advisory committee, urged McCormack to apply. "I thought she was perfect for the job," Glankler recalls.

She had to be. At that point in its existence the year-old program was anything but the institution it eventually became.

"The cops were leery of a program that made them share information with civilians, and the citizens didn't want the cops to know their business either," Glankler recalls.

In addition, in a predominantly African-American part of town, some were suspicious of a white staff person.

"I had to shut up and learn to listen," McCormack said in a 1992 (Please see 'Sharon' page B4)

BY BILLY MOORE FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Jefferson High School Democrats did the expected this week; they captured a State Championship. This was a team that carried a number four ranking in the nation throughout the entire season.

Heading into the tournament as the number one seed, Jefferson had its work cut out. They opened the tournament with an easy win over Dallas 94-65. Day two posed different problems for the Demos as they took on Lake Oswego with high scoring Salim Stoudamire, who averaged 23.6, a game.

Coach Haskins Demo's played great defense all season and this game was no different. Michael Lee bottled Salim up all game. The Lakers could not get untracked and appeared to be a little intimidated by the high scoring Demo's Brandon Brooks. Aaron Miles and company controlled the tip and controlled the tempo throughout the contest. Jon Tinnon had a huge game. Jefferson won easily at 68-53. Brandon Brooks put a serious cap on the win with a sensational dunk to finish off the Lakers.

Game three was a rematch of the top two teams in the state. Jefferson at number one, taking on Jesuit ranked number two. This being billed as the championship game, and rightly so. In a preview of this game, Jefferson squeezed out a win over Jesuit in the Les Schwab Holiday Invitational 76-75 in that tournament. Jesuit knocked off then, number one, Rice. The hype that surrounded this game was well preserved. Jesuit is the defending State Champion and knocked off two teams ranked in the top 25. The Coliseum was packed early on. Jefferson took a 4-0 lead. Antoine Jerrell got in foul trouble and went to the bench. Brandon Lincoln came off the bench and hit possibly four of the biggest shots in Jefferson Basketball History. At the end of the first period the score is 20-11 Jefferson. The Jefferson bench was making a

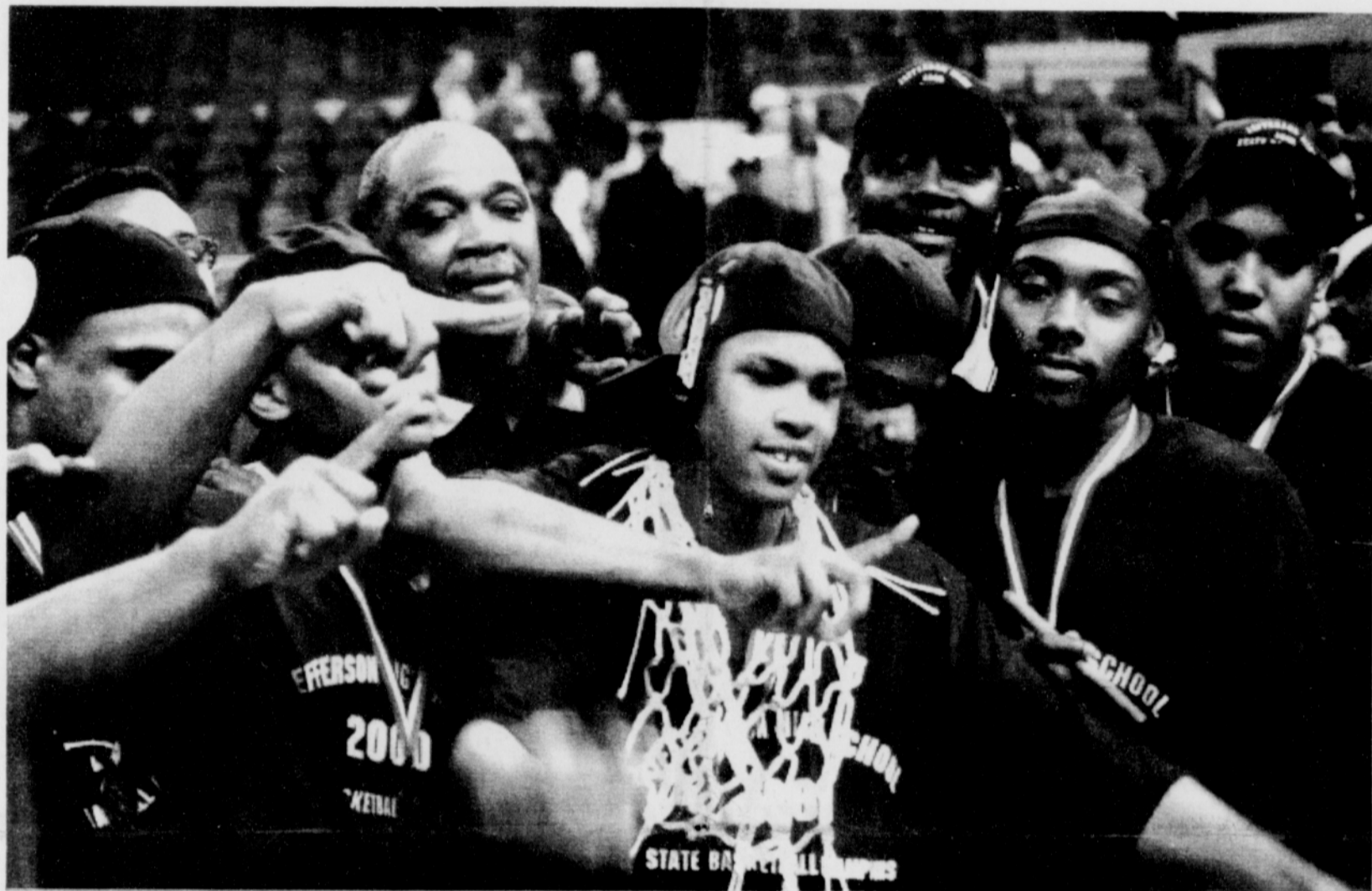


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Jefferson Democrats pose for the press after winning the State Championship with a 58-44 triumph over the Tualatin Timberwolves Saturday.

serious impact on the game. Billy Holt came in and got a big rebound and put back a basket, the pace of the game favors Jefferson. The Jesuit basketball team has the heart of a champion and they stayed within striking distance. In the first half Jesuit stars Mike McGrain and Brian Michaelson are trying to keep it close with the score 34-27 late in the 2nd. Jesuit is making the game a chess match 37-28 at the half. The second half starts with Jon Tinnon picking up his 3rd foul. Coach Haskins decides to keep Jon in, and Jesuit is within

four, 43-39 and in the 3rd when Jesuit Chris Hutcherson hits a rainbow from the corner and then he hits another jumper. 45-42 Jefferson with 2:50 left in the quarter. Brandon Brooks is looking to score and not having a good shooting night. He just needs to settle down and run the club, he's making great passes. 49-46 Jefferson 7:32 left in the last quarter, great move by Brandon Brooks at the 6:47 mark and he scores, also Brandon blows kisses to the crowd with the score at 54-50. Big Jon Tinnon is too big for Jesuit

and continues to hurt the Crusaders. To win at the State Tournament teams have to overcome obstacles, fouls, and officials. This team does a good job of that 56-52 Jefferson. A four point game and living up to the hype at the 2:17 mark with 1:06 left Jefferson has a chance to wrap this up at the line, and they did, 66-61 is the final score. Brandon Brooks had a double-double 10 points and 10 assists and Jon Tinnon had a huge game with 21 points and 9 rebounds. After the game coach Haskins said, "Brandon, he's the man." Somewhere

ghosts of Jefferson past great basketball stars are saying, Oh Yeah. Saturday came with the crowning of a New State Champion as Jefferson beat Tualatin in the final 58-44. Brandon Brooks lead with 21 points. Jefferson wins; amazing team an amazing story. They tried to hurt our feelings by not letting us storm the court but, oh well. Jefferson ranked number four in the Nation, and are also State Champions.

With Most outstanding player award going to Jon Tinnon. Michael Lee and Aaron Miles made 2nd Team.

## Former police chief of Portland receives award

Former Police Chief of Portland Receives Award for His Commitment to Diversity

Former Police Chief of Portland, and now current Police Chief of Montgomery County Maryland, Dr. Charles Moose received an award for his commitment to diversity and leadership in the design and implementation of community policing. Willie Brown chair of the North East Coalition of Neighborhoods and community activist also received an award for his countless hours of volunteerism on behalf of children and families. Kelvin Hall Director of Pathways To Academic Achievement, Inc. states "these two men are certainly community heroes and although our views may differ on some issues at times, I certainly salute their commitment to making our state, County, City and Neighborhoods a better place for today and tomorrow.



(Left to Right) Willie Brown, Dr. Charles Moose, receiving the Oregon Leadership Committee Award, presented by Chair Kelvin Hall.

### Weather

#### Through the weekend

Today Partly Cloudy



58°F/14°C 42°F/5°C

Saturday Rain



57°F/13°C 40°F/4°C

Thursday Showers late



57°F/13°C 38°F/3°C

Sunday Showers



54°F/12°C 38°F/3°C

Friday Showers late



54°F/12°C 40°F/4°C

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### This Week in History

On March 16, 1968, during the Vietnam War, the My Lai Massacre was carried out by U.S. troops under the command of Lt. William L. Calley Jr. On March 18, 1965, the first spacewalk took place as Soviet cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov left his Voskhod 2 capsule and remained outside the spacecraft for 20 minutes, secured by a tether. On March 21, in 1965, more than 3,000 civil rights demonstrators led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. began their march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala.