



See Metro
Cletus Moore
stands out
in his
community

Celebrating
30
Years
Of Service to Our City



See Focus
Portland Art
Museum to
entertain

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

University of Oregon
Knight Library
Newspaper Section
Eugene OR 97403

The Portland Observer

Volume XXX.
Number 28

www.portlandobserver.com

Committed to Cultural Diversity
Established in 1970

Wednesday
July 12, 2000

50¢

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Scientists Uncover

Archimedes' Lost Words

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Scientists at Rochester Institute of Technology are restoring a 10th century manuscript — the only known copy of the writings of Greek mathematician Archimedes. The text was erased by a monk 200 years after it was written, was purchased anonymously at a 1998 auction for \$2 million. The manuscript is the only copy in the original Greek of Archimedes' theory of flotation of bodies.

Barak Vows to March Ahead On Peace Talks

JERUSALEM — His coalition in tatters hours before his departure for the Camp David summit, a defiant Prime Minister Ehud Barak said that he carries the will of the people with him as he works for peace with the Palestinians. "I am not going alone. With me are almost 2 million voters," Barak said. The prime minister was constantly heckled by right-wing on two no-confidence motions brought by parties aimed at toppling him.

12 Dead in Zimbabwe Soccer Stampede

HAPARE, Zimbabwe — Police fired tear gas at unruly fans during a World Cup qualifying soccer game between Zimbabwe and South Africa, setting off a stampede that killed 12 people. At Parirenyatwa hospital, a spokesman said four stampede victims were in critical condition, and "many" were injured.

Coup Leader, Military Sign Agreement

SUVA, Fiji — Coup leader George Speight and military commander Commodore Frank Bainimarama signed an agreement to end Fiji's seven-week hostage crisis. Under the deal, 27 hostages, including deposed Prime Minister Mahendra Chaudhry, will be released before a meeting of tribal chiefs. Rebels will also turn in their weapons.

Floods Maroon Thousands in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Bangladesh — Torrential rains triggered flash floods in northern Bangladesh, marooning 34,000 people, authorities said. The monsoon rain also demolished at least 135 mud and thatched houses, leaving nearly 680 people homeless in Kurigram district, 150 miles north of Dhaka, the Bangladeshi capital. The state-run Water Development Board said all major rivers were overflowing in the northern district and were expected to submerge more areas.

G-7 to Discuss Japan's Recovery

FUKUOKA, Japan — As finance chiefs from the world's richest nations arrived for summit talks, Japan's Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa called for greater efforts to stabilize international capital flow and currency fluctuations. Reforming the international financial system is one of the top items on the agenda of the finance ministers from the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations.

Fijian Rebels Want Government Resignation

SUVA, Fiji — Rebels holding 27 hostages in Fiji's Parliament said they would release the captives in return for the resignation of the new civilian government. The rebels also demanded that the military hand over power to tribal chiefs — something the army has refused to do. Rebel leader, George Speight and military leader Commodore Frank Bainimarama failed to take place but lower-level delegations discussed the latest rebel demands.

Portland receives gift reminiscent of China's Ming dynasty



BY LORRAINE-MICHELLE FAUST
OF THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A portal nearing the end of construction in downtown Portland will soon transport you into 500-year-old Ming Dynasty art and culture. Guarded by traditional lion gates and dragon figures on the rooftops, this portal will be called Lan Su Yuan. In English, its translation is the Garden of Awakening Orchid, more commonly known as the new Portland Classical Chinese Garden.

On September 14, Mayor Vera Katz will cut the ribbon in the grand opening ceremonies, opening the largest urban Suzhou-style garden outside of China. The garden, which sprang up out of our sister city relationship with Suzhou, China, is being assembled by several partnerships of American and Chinese designers, architects and artisans.

"Once you enter into the garden you [will] transport yourself way back in time, at least

500 years and really feel like you are part of something that happened a long time ago," said Ben Ngan, landscape architect and member of the Board of the Classical Chinese Garden Society.

The garden will inhabit an entire city block between Second and Third avenues and Everett and Flanders streets. The garden's design uniquely maximizes space. It is sectioned off into various courtyards each designed in its own distinct way. Cheryl Tonkin, Executive Director of the Classical Chinese Garden, called each section "a new experience."

"I think the most important [aspect] is the spatial experience," said Project Coordinator Jin Chen. Chen explained that there are five key components to a Suzhou-style garden: architecture, landscaping, rocks, water and cultural elements.

Most of the architecture is the compilation of eight pavilions. Each pavilion is built in the

Ming tradition and carries its own theme. Painted Boat in Misty Rain, one of the largest pavilions, looks like a boat on the lake. It symbolizes the friendship between Suzhou and Portland. Weeping willows near the boat correspond to the Chinese tradition of offering a willow branch to a friend for planting at their new destination.

"No other gardens have such an emphasis on rocks, and the appreciation of rocks," said Chen. The garden is filled with wrinkled, holey Lake Tai rocks, some weighing seven tons. Symbolic of mountains, these rocks are considered beautiful and have an important place in Chinese tradition. Emperors surrounded their palaces with them. In 1997, Suzhou Mayor, Zhang Xinheng, gave Vera Katz a Lake Tai rock, which is now adjacent to city hall on Terry D. Schunk Plaza.

Water is another important component in classical Chinese gardens. Water engulfs 30

(Please see 'Gardens' page 6)

Wyden speaks out on prescription drugs, assisted suicide and gas prices

BY LEE PERLEMAN
OF THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Ron Wyden had a word or two about assisted suicide, prescription drug benefits and gas prices for the Lloyd District Community Association on a stopover last week.

The senator addressed the neighborhood group's monthly luncheon meeting for 45 minutes before taking off for a similar appearance in Hood River. The frantic pace is necessary, he said, to keep a pledge from his first campaign: to hold at least one open town hall meeting a year in every municipality in Oregon. At one such function a constituent once told him, "I thought I'd have to pay \$1,000 for a chance to speak to a U.S. senator."

Three issues are currently occupying his time, Wyden said. The disproportionately high price of gas in Oregon is caused by the fact that "the big oil companies have been systematically stripping the state of competition through mergers and pressure on independents." This is a state where "folks drive a lot," with rural areas where cars are the only available transportation and a sizable senior population, and high gas prices "take a great toll on the quality of life," he said. A second issue is public assistance for purchase of prescription drugs by the elderly, a step we "can't afford not to take," he said. It has reached the point where low-income seniors have had to check into hospitals to



receive needed drugs because the former are covered by medical assistance and the latter are not, he said. A third issue is Oregon's assisted suicide law, and the attempts by congressional Republicans to weaken or kill it. While saying that he personally voted against the law, Wyden said, "The people of Oregon have spoken. This goes beyond assisted suicide. It's a matter of whether a small state can be

bullied by lawmakers 3,000 miles away based on their personal beliefs. If they can throw out this law, people will say, 'What's the point of voting.'"

To combat the effort, Wyden said, "I'm taking kidney strengthening exercises. I may talk for a long, long, long time."

In answer to a question, Wyden said he was concerned about proposed electrical utility deregulation and the termination of the Bonneville Power Administration. "There are lots of folks back east who would love to collapse our system into a national power grid, where their bills would go down and ours would go right into the stratosphere," he said. He favors initiatives to increase international trade, including the deepening of the Columbia River channel. "We do a lot of things well in this state, but what we do best is grow things," Wyden said. "The China market could be really lucrative for us. Dredging the channel could be an opportunity to accomplish this and also sponsor "world class environmental protection initiatives."

He is currently trying to increase the federal appropriation for the proposed Interstate Light Rail line, which congress recently reduced from \$40 million to \$5 million. To take the next step and extend the line to Vancouver, he said, "There is no substitute for grass roots support." To achieve it in Washington, he said, "We need to show we're driving down the per-mile cost."

Mugabe says agitators behind soccer stampede in Zimbabwe

ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Robert Mugabe accused political opponents of provoking the stampede that left 13 soccer fans dead in the nation's worst sports tragedy.

Mugabe said Monday that agitators had been planted at National Sports Stadium to shout slogans and display opposition party symbols before throwing bottles and other things on the field, Zimbabwe's official news agency reported.

"Sport should never turn into warfare," Mugabe said.

Welshman Ncube, the third ranking official in the main opposition party, assailed Mugabe for attempting to defend "criminal overreaction" by police on Sunday.

"Even if people shouted slogans, it was spontaneous and this was clearly unjustifiable action by the police," he said.

Police fired tear gas at unruly soccer fans during a World Cup qualifying game between Zimbabwe and South Africa, triggering a stadium stampede.

Tear gas was fired "not at just where the trouble was, but everywhere," said Obert Muranga, a spectator.

Twelve fans were killed Sunday and another died the following day, hospital authorities said. Players from both teams choked and writhed on the field as tear gas spread.

British soccer star John Fashanu, a commentator at the game and a U.N. goodwill ambassador, will advise the police in its investigation.

"Let the nation be assured nothing is going to be swept under the carpet," police spokesman Wayne Bvudzijena said Monday.

FIFA, soccer governing body, also said it would look into the violence, which began when fans tossed bottles following South Africa's second goal late in the game.

The game was stopped 10 minutes early, and South Africa's 2-0 lead was declared official.

FIFA expressed its "sincere condolences to the bereaved families."

The Zimbabwe Football Association will report on the tragedy to FIFA on Tuesday. The Zimbabwe group is led by Mugabe's nephew, Leo Mugabe.

Witnesses said many of the 50,000 in the crowd made the opposition party's salute during the national anthem and throughout the game. The Movement for Democratic Change slogan "chinja," or "change," was heard throughout the stadium.

Fans say police first fired tear gas at those in the crowd who raised the open-hand salute.

The opposition party made sweeping gains in parliamentary elections in June, posing the biggest challenge to Mugabe's hold on power since he led the nation to independence in 1980.

During campaigning, the opposition used soccer-style slogans in criticizing Mugabe. Violence during the campaign left at least 31 people dead, most of them opposition supporters.

Witnesses said fans' taunts Sunday were directed against Leo Mugabe. Fans demanded change in the association and the management of the national team, which has repeatedly failed to qualify for recent international and African soccer tournaments.

The association has been accused of mismanagement and graft under Leo Mugabe. Similar accusations have plagued his uncle's government.