



World Expeditions From a Northeast Shop

Like its Biblical namesake, Sheba and Solomon's merges cultures

See Story, Metro section, inside



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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Bush to Sign Education Legislation

WASHINGTON — President Bush is signing education legislation to require public schools to test students in reading and math in grades three through eight. Supporters say it will give parents and schools information needed to help improve. But critics say it will crowd out subjects not on the tests, cost too much and stifle creativity.

Fla. Teen Sympathized with 9/11

TAMPA — The 15-year-old who crashed a small plane into a skyscraper wrote a note expressing sympathy for Osama bin Laden and support for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Police said Bishop was a loner with few friends, and that the boy wrote that he acted alone.

Israel Says Palestinian Arms Shipment Intercepted

JERUSALEM — A U.S. envoy held truce talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders, as Israel announced the interception of a ship smuggling in 50 tons of Iranian-made weapons to the Palestinians. Israeli troops also raided a West Bank village, killing a Palestinian and arresting two others.

Snow Creates 'Unreal' Air Delays

ATLANTA — A snowstorm that blanketed the South from Mississippi to Virginia on Thursday left some airline passengers stranded on the tarmac here for more than nine hours waiting for jets to be de-iced. The snow led to more than 1,500 accidents in South Carolina and is blamed for at least 10 deaths.

Jobless Claims Increase Sharply

WASHINGTON — New claims for unemployment insurance shot up for the second week in a row, suggesting many workers are still suffering from an economy that is trying to claw its way out of a recession. Claims jumped to the highest level since the beginning of December.

Thousands Flee Firestorm in Australia

SYDNEY, Australia — Thousands of evacuees sheltered on beaches when a fast-moving firestorm isolated two coastal villages after burning as many as 20 houses in a third hamlet. About 7,000 people ran for their lives when the inferno raced into Sussex Inlet.

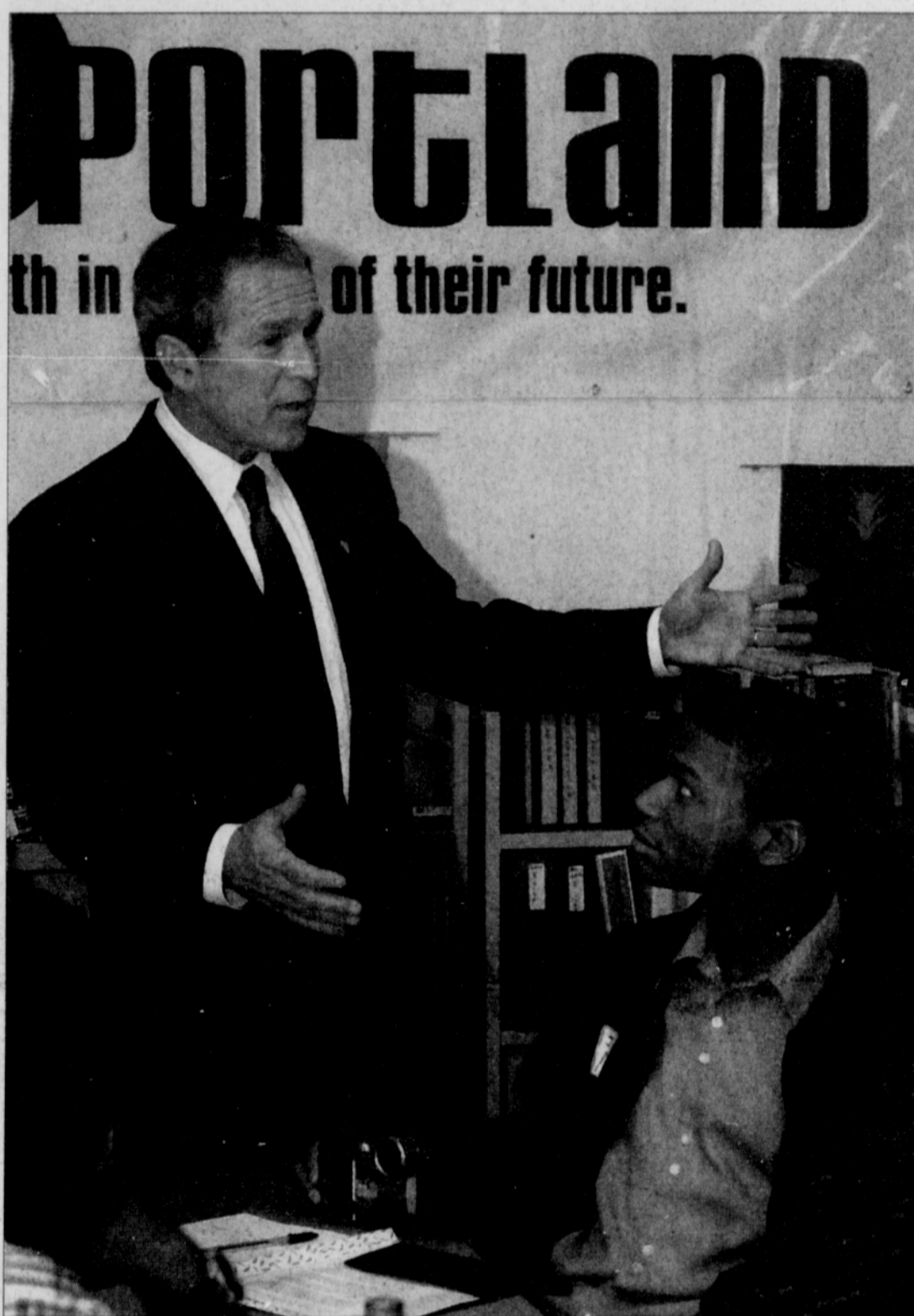
Bloomberg Inaugurated As N.Y. Mayor

NEW YORK — During his inauguration speech, Mayor Michael Bloomberg issued a call for shared sacrifice, but he pledged to avoid tax increases and to work to keep businesses in the city as they struggle in the aftermath of Sept. 11.

Hormone is Best Protection Against Ovarian Cancer

WASHINGTON — The hormone progesterin in contraceptive pills provides the highest level of protection against ovarian cancer, according to a study released by Duke University researchers.

President Visits YO Center



Jessie McDaniel gets a visit of a lifetime Saturday when President George W. Bush meets area residents at the One Stop Career Center and Youth Opportunity Center at 3034 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. The president said he wanted to show support for programs like One Stop and YO that work with community colleges to help people get hired for jobs. Bush also gave a speech on the war against terrorism and his economic priorities during a visit to Parkrose High School.

DON RYAN/
ASSOCIATED PRESS
PHOTOGRAPHER

American Dream of Freedom Celebrated

Annual Martin Luther King Jr. tribute set for Monday, Jan. 21 at University of Portland's Chiles Center

The World Arts Foundation, Inc., will host the 17th annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration at the University of Portland's Chiles Center Monday, Jan. 21.

Seating will begin at 11 a.m., with the program commencing at 12 p.m. with a national bell ringing ceremony, color guard and national anthems.

This year's program, "The American Dream of Freedom: A Tribute to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," will be dedicated to victims of the Sept. 11 tragedy.

This local commemoration and celebration of Dr. King's life and legacy is recognized as one of the finest community-based celebrations in the country.

"The goal of the program is to educate the general public and illuminate the ideas of Dr. King through high quality, diverse and culturally rich presentations," said the program's executive producer Ken Berry.

Invited speakers and artists include civic and religious leaders, educators, school board members, gospel choirs from across the Pacific Northwest, concert bands, Japanese drummers, African dancers, Latin musicians, children performers, Buffalo Soldiers Color Guard and many more.

The entire program, which runs from 12 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., will be simulcast on KBOO Radio (90.7 FM), Portland Public Schools Television (cable channel 28) and Portland Cable Access Television (cable channel 11).

Donations of either \$2 or three cans of non-perishable food to be given to local food banks are suggested. The American Red Cross will hold its annual MLK Blood Drive in lower levels of the Chiles Center.

Tri-Met has two bus lines, the 1-Greeley and 40-Mocks Crest, that directly serve the university with service running at least every 30 minutes.

For trip planning assistance, see www.tri-met.org or call 503-238-RIDE. For more information on the King celebration, call 503-358-6936.

Continued Care for the Community

The staff of the North Portland Health Center start the New Year welcoming clients to their new location at 9000 N. Lombard and New York Avenue in the St. Johns community. The Multnomah County Health Department clinic offers a wide range of health care services with fees discounted based on income. The center formerly was located on North Woolsey Avenue.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Oregon Death underscores Danger in Dietary Supplement

A fatal case of liver failure in a 26-year-old Oregonian has been linked to the dietary supplement Lipokinetix, and public health officials are joining the Food and Drug Administration in urging consumers to stop using it.

"With this tragic death, the potential danger of this product really hits home," said Dr. Mel Kohn, state epidemiologist. "The warning is particularly relevant this time of year because Lipokinetix is a weight loss supplement. Many people gain extra pounds over the holidays and then look for quick solutions for taking them off."

Lipokinetix is marketed by Syntrex Innovations as a weight loss product. It has

been implicated in multiple reports of serious liver problems. These problems occurred in persons between 20 and 32 years old who had used the product between two weeks and three months, according to Kohn.

The Oregon case was reported last August to the Unexplained Critical Illnesses and Deaths Surveillance project in the Dept. of Human Services. Staff worked with the Oregon Health and Science University to identify Lipokinetix as one of the potential factors leading to the death.

Cynthia Younger, M.D., medical toxicologist at OHSU, reported the case to

the FDA's MedWatch project where it was linked with five others in which Lipokinetix was the only apparent cause of liver injury.

"Our surveillance project is primarily geared toward detecting emerging infections. We feel fortunate that we also picked up a case that, while non-infectious, has potential public health importance," Kohn said.

The FDA issued its warning about Lipokinetix on Nov. 20. Consumers are urged to discontinue its use and consult their physician if they experience symptoms associated with this product, particularly nausea, weakness or fatigue, ab-

dominal pain, or any change in skin color.

Lipokinetix contains the ingredients norphedrine, also known as phenylpropanolamine or PPA, caffeine, yohimbine, diiodothyronine and sodium usniate.

Consumers or health care professionals who are aware of adverse effects following the use of this or other dietary supplements can make a report to FDA's MedWatch adverse event and product problem hotline at 1-800-FDA-1088 or via the Web.

More information can be found on the FDA MedWatch site. You may also make a report to the FDA.

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