



America's Black Patriots

Paying tribute to the heroes who ensure freedom for all.

See Black History Month coverage, pages A5-A8.



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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Welfare on Bush's Agenda

WASHINGTON — President Bush says he wants to increase education and training for welfare recipients, boost employment for participants and encourage marriage for single welfare mothers. Meantime, lawmakers are preparing to revisit a 1996 welfare law.

Drinking Among Youth Stirs Discussion

WASHINGTON — After a Columbia University study released said underage drinkers account for 25% of alcohol consumed in the U.S., a spokesman for the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States called the report "flat-out wrong." The survey also concluded nearly 1/3 of high school students binge drink once a month.

Husband Waits to Defend Yates

HOUSTON — The two-week-old trial of a mother accused of drowning her five children is infused with many raw emotions already. But perhaps the most gripping testimony is yet to come, when Andrea Yates' husband, who has lamented his wife's deep mental illness, takes the stand in her defense.

Georgia Crematory Operator May Get Bail

NOBLE, Ga. — The operator of a Georgia crematory who accepted payment for cremations, then left corpses to rot on the ground, may go free on \$100,000 bail, a judge ruled. Officials have discovered 331 bodies, but must still search more than half the crematory's grounds.

Winter One of Warmest Ever

November 2001 through January 2002 ranked as the USA's warmest such period since 1895, when national record-keeping began. Several cities had their hottest January days, including Richmond, Va., and Raleigh-Durham, N.C. Wisconsin had its warmest January on record.

Spring Hiring Plans Rise

MILWAUKEE — Hiring will improve slightly nationwide this spring, but not enough to mark a recovery from recessionary levels, a new forecast finds. A total of 21% of the firms interviewed said they planned to add jobs in April through June.

Bush Visits China

BEIJING — On the final leg of his Asian trip, President Bush thanked Chinese President Jiang Zemin for lending "strong support" to the U.S.-led war on terrorism. The two countries worked toward striking a deal on controlling the flow of nuclear technology.

Corporations Challenged for Reparations

A powerhouse team of African-American legal and academic stars is getting ready to sue companies it says profited from slavery before 1865. Ultimately, it hopes to gain momentum for a national apology and a massive reparations payout by Congress to African-Americans.

Northeast Neighbors Plant 400 Trees



Matt Shanahan of 4514 N.E. Sixth Ave. gets a helping hand from his neighbor Robin Wisner (from left) and Jim Gersbach of Friends of Trees, during the organization's largest tree planting ever. Volunteers planted almost 400 trees Sunday in the King, Vernon, Eliot, Boise and Sabin neighborhoods of north and northeast Portland. Friends of Trees is dedicated to preserving urban trees in order to strengthen neighborhoods, improve the environment and enhance the quality of urban life.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Assault Suspect Killed at Motel 6

Family claims police shooting was racially motivated, unjustified

BY JOY RAMOS
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland police shot and killed a man early Friday morning inside a room of a Motel 6 at 3104 S.E. Powell Blvd.

Byron Clay Hammick Jr., 26, died of head and chest injuries in the 3:14 a.m. shooting.

Police say they were dispatched to the motel after a 911 call from a motel security guard stating that Hammick was breaking out windows in room 222, had confronted the guard, and might have a handgun.

Once they arrived at the motel, the officers were also told that Hammick was beating a 3-year-old boy.

Police say the assault was in progress when they looked into the suspect's motel room. They claim Hammick was ordered to stop, but when he did not, they fired their weapons.

But so far, police have not presented any evidence that Hammick was indeed armed with a gun.

Some witnesses reported hearing the police commands to stop the assault and that after repeated commands, they heard gunshots.

The child, a son of a friend of Hammick's, suffered bruises, police said. He was transported to Emanuel Legacy Hospital and is currently in protective custody. At the time of this incident, Hammick had a felony warrant for his arrest for distribution and or manufacture of a controlled substance near a school zone.

Hours after the shooting, Hammick's family angrily claimed that the shooting was racially motivated, unprovoked and unjustified. Those close to him described Hammick as being a laid back and calm person who has never been known to hurt children, including his own.

This investigation is continuing. Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Kris Wagner at 503-823-0899 or Detective Steve Ober at 503-823-4033.

Smith Makes YO Center Return Visit

Senator stakes his reputation on winning funds for youth employment center

(AP) - Sen. Gordon Smith vowed Friday that a youth training center on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard that President Bush visited last month will get funding despite an administration proposal to shift the funds to other programs.

"The money will be there," Smith told officials and clients at the Youth Opportunity Center. "I'm staking my reputation on that."

Smith brought Bush to the center during the president's Jan. 5 visit to Portland that was inspired by Oregon's highest-in-the-nation jobless rate.

Bush expressed support for the program to help inner-city youth. But that turned to embarrassment this month when the administration proposed in its new budget to shift most of the funding to other job training efforts.

Smith said Bush was "the victim of some pretty poor staff work on this one" and said Bush had no idea of the planned



U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Ore.

budget cuts at the time of his visit.

The senator said that after talking with White House officials, he was sure the funding for the Portland center would be included in the budget.

The center provides educational and job training help for youths in designated low-income areas of Portland. It is a part of a larger national program.

The federal grant was supposed to last five years, until 2005. The center got \$5 million in federal funds this year and was on track to get \$3.75 million

in each of the next two years.

Peter Angstadt, president of Worksystems Inc., which operates the program, said he was confident of continued federal funding and that he hoped to find other sources of money that would allow the center to operate after the five-year grant expires.

Doctor Helps Area Athletes Get Back in Their Game

Volunteer narrows inner-city gap where sports physicians and trainers are few

Joe Bozickovich, 16, sat hunched over in his chair next to his mother. He looked like an athlete forced to sit on the sidelines during a game, due to an elbow injury.

Kimberly Chacaj, another 16-year-old, walked around the waiting area at Rebound, an orthopedics and sports medicine clinic at the Rose Garden complex. She needed a sports physical.

The two teens were waiting for appointments with Dr. Jim Chesnutt, M.D., assistant professor of family medicine at Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine and board certified in sports medicine.

Chesnutt, a family practice physician at OHSU Family Health Center at Gabriel Park, volunteers at the Rebound clinic every Wednesday afternoon. School of Medicine students also perform part of the family practice rotations at the clinic. Chesnutt also volunteers as team physician for the Wilson High School sports teams and attends all of their home football games.

Chacaj, a sophomore at Benson High School said she heard about this clinic at school. "I need a physical because I'm getting ready for basketball tryouts. I don't know if I'll make the team, but I thought I would

try," she said.

Many of the students he sees every week at the clinic have inadequate or no health insurance. They come to be checked for sports injuries, to get their required sports physical so they can play on a team, or for second opinions regarding an injury.

The Rebound clinic sponsors this sports injury clinic, making it possible to provide the evaluation and any needed x-rays and casting for a reduced cost to the students.

The students Dr. Chesnutt sees are mostly from northeast Portland high schools such as Jefferson, Benson, Madison and Roosevelt.

"I wanted to make sure that student athletes on the northeast side of town had access to physicians for their needs," he said. "There are few, if any, physicians or trainers to help out in these schools."

Chesnutt said he believes that helping these young athletes is important. He played basketball, soccer, baseball, and ran track and cross country in high school.

"For a lot of these kids, playing sports is the one thing that's keeping them in school. We need to make sure these athletes are healthy," he said.



Dr. Jim Chesnutt gives a sports physical to Benson High School Sophomore Kimberly Chacaj at the Rose Garden's Rebound clinic. Chesnutt volunteers his time and expertise in sports medicine to help young athletes get the health care they need to play sports.

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