



Two Views on PCC Cascade
*Campus expansion fulfills community dream;
 church faces horrendous move*

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Consumer Confidence Soars

NEW YORK — Consumer confidence surged in March to its highest level in seven months, bolstered by growing economic optimism. The index is closely watched because confidence drives spending, which accounts for about two-thirds of the nation's economic activity.

Death Toll in Afghan Quake Rises

KABUL, Afghanistan — A powerful earthquake rocked Afghanistan and northwestern Pakistan, killing about 1,800 people. Nearly 600 bodies were recovered from villages still shaking from frequent aftershocks. A U.N. spokeswoman said the toll could reach 4,800.

Gas Prices Surge

CAMARILLO, Calif. — Gas prices surged a record 14 cents over the last two weeks as several factors crimped supply and raised demand. Last week's price per gallon was nearly \$1.38, up more than 14.3 cents per gallon.

Tax Probe Targets Offshore Accounts

Two million Americans may be evading U.S. taxes through credit card accounts at offshore banks, the IRS said. The estimate came as government lawyers asked a federal court to compel Visa International to identify Americans who routinely use cards from offshore banking havens.

Two Koreas to Reopen Talks

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea is sending a presidential envoy to North Korea next week to discuss improving relations, the rival nations said. The reconciliation process on the Korean peninsula stalled last year after President Bush's "axis of evil" speech.

Giant Sandstorm Hits China, Japan, Korea

BEIJING — A sandstorm that swept across China's capital last week is so massive that it has affected Japan and South Korea as well — and it could even reach the western USA in a week or two. The storm's intensity has slowed traffic and closed airports.

Pentagon Wants to Send Troops to Indonesia

WASHINGTON — Armed with evidence that al-Qaeda members have fled from Afghanistan to Indonesia, Bush administration officials are pressing to send U.S. forces after them. But the administration faces opposition from an Indonesian government fearful of the political consequences.

Study: Minorities receive lower-quality health care

WASHINGTON — Minorities in the United States receive lower-quality health care than whites the Institute of Medicine reported. Among the findings: Minorities are less likely than whites to receive appropriate heart medicine, undergo bypass surgery or receive kidney dialysis or transplants.

Black Actors Voted Best

Halle Berry and Denzel Washington make Oscar history

(AP) — Until Sunday, just one black actor in 73 years had won an Academy Award in a lead role. Now there are three.

Halle Berry was named best actress for "Monster's Ball" and Denzel Washington took best actor for "Training Day," joining Sidney Poitier in an emotional evening as the only blacks to win those top-tier awards.

By coincidence, Poitier was on hand to receive a lifetime achievement award. He had won his best-actor award for "Lilies of the Field" in 1963.

"Forty years I've been chasing Sidney. They finally give it to me, and they give it to him the same night," Washington said with a smile, raising his statuette in Poitier's direction.

Poitier stood and raised his in a toast to Washington.

Washington also had won the supporting-actor Oscar for 1989's "Glory." Among the nominees he beat Sunday was Will Smith, for "Ali." It was the first time two black actors competed against each other in the category.

Berry, the sixth black actress nominated for an Oscar in a lead role, was the first to win. She broke down in tears, saying she was accepting the award for every black actress who had preceded her, naming Dorothy Dandridge, Lena Horne and Diahann Carroll among them.

Berry won a 1999 Emmy for the title role in "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge," the story of the first black actress nominated for a best-actress Oscar.

This is also "for every nameless, faceless woman of color who now have a chance because tonight a door has been opened," Berry said.



Denzel Washington and Halle Berry win top acting honors at the 74th Annual Academy Awards. Berry is the first black woman to win a best-actress Oscar. She and Washington become only the third blacks to win Academy Awards for leading roles. They follow Sidney Poitier, who received the best-actor Oscar in 1963 and who received a career-achievement award Sunday. (AP photo)

The ceremony's host, Whoopi Goldberg, who won a supporting-actress in for 1990's "Ghost," acknowledged Berry's achievement.

"It has been a very large door and I'm glad she has kicked it down," said Goldberg.

It was only the second time that three black actors were in the running for lead-acting Oscars. The last time was 29 years ago, when Diana Ross was cited for "Lady Sings the Blues" and Cicely Tyson and Paul Winfield were nominated for "Sounder."

Berry and Poitier, black actors had often been relegated to roles as household help or dancing minstrels. The only previous winner had been Hattie McDaniel, who won best supporting actress for 1939's "Gone With the Wind."

Poitier worked with some of the top producers and directors of the 1950s and 1960s.

"I accept this award in memory of all the African-American actors and actresses who went before me in the difficult years, on whose shoulders I was privileged to stand to see where I might go," Poitier said.

He also acknowledged a list of Hollywood producers and directors including Walter Mirisch, Joseph Mankiewicz, Richard Brooks, Ralph Nelson, Darryl Zanuck, Stanley Kramer and Norman Jewison.

"Those filmmakers persevered, speaking through their art to the best in all of us. And I benefited from their efforts. The industry benefited from their efforts. America benefited from their efforts."

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Area Kids Enjoy Easter Tradition



Treats are plentiful at the Moore Street Salvation Army on North Williams Saturday as kids rush to find an assortment of delectables during a traditional Easter Egg Hunt made possible by an anonymous donor. The Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus is this Sunday.

PHOTO BY DAVE GIEZYNG/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

High School Principals Hired

Larry Dashiell returns to Jefferson; Carla Randall leaves for Wilson

Two outstanding educators have been recruited to fill open principal positions at Jefferson and Wilson high schools, interim school superintendent Jim Scherzinger announced last week.

Larry Dashiell, currently a vice principal at Southridge High School in Beaverton, has accepted the position of principal at Jefferson High School in north Portland.

He will replace Jim Carlile, who is acting as the interim principal for this school year. Dashiell previously worked at Jefferson in the capacity of a vice principal. He will assume the role of principal at Jefferson in July.

Carla Randall, currently a vice principal at Jefferson High School, has accepted the position of principal at Wilson

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Librarians on Net Filtering: 'Don't Make Us Thought Police'

BY JOANN LOVINGLIO
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Multnomah County librarians said the government is trying to turn them into "thought police" in testimony at a trial over the constitutionality of a federal law requiring libraries to screen out Internet pornography.

The second day of testimony began Tuesday morning in the trial, which is being heard by a three-judge panel in U.S. District Court in Philadelphia and is expected to last into next week.

Leading the challenge to the Children's

Internet Protection Act of 2000 are the American Library Association and the Multnomah County Public Library. They contend that the law puts unconstitutional restraints on free speech.

They want to offer patrons a choice between filtered and unfiltered Internet access, contending that parents and chil-

There are some 5-year-olds whose parents do not want them to know where babies come from and there are some that do.

—Ginnie Cooper, director of the Multnomah County Library.

dren should be the ones who determine what content they find unacceptable.

"There are some 5-year-olds whose parents do not want them to know where babies come from and there are some that do," testified Ginnie Cooper, director of the

Multnomah County Library. "We don't try to presume the values of parents."

Libraries stock numerous materials, ranging from sex education manuals to Playboy, whose online equivalents would probably not get past filtering software, testified Candace Morgan, a librarian for 37 years currently at the Fort Vancouver, Wash., Regional Library.

The law requires that libraries receiving certain types of federal technology funding use filters to block access to objectionable Web sites. Opponents say

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