



Mariners-Padres Play in Portland Major League Baseball finally came to fans in the Rose City when the

Seattle Mariners played the San Diego Padres. See Sports, page B3 inside.

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Shuttle Countdown Begins Amid Heightened Security

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. - NASA began its launch countdown for space shuttle Atlantis, following new security guidelines intended to thwart a terrorist attack. Under the new policy, NASA won't announce the start of a countdown until after the fact and won't announce a shuttle's launch time until 24 hours in advance.

Israell Offensive **Intensifies in West Bank**

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Israeli forces shelled a heavily fortified Palestinian security headquarters in an allnight assault to flush out top fugitives. Fighting raged outside Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity as Israel's prime minister proposed exile for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Late Snow Storm Snarls Midwest

April began with a dose of winter across the upper Midwest as snow caused hundreds of traffic accidents. More light snow fell across the region, adding to the 3 to 6 inches that fell Monday in Minnesota and Iowa and the more than 2 inches that fell in parts of Wisconsin.

Queen Mother Honored

LONDON - While the body of the Queen Mother Elizabeth rested at Windsor Castle, British troops fired 41un salutes in honor of King George VI's widow, who died Saturday at 101. The royal family has also been mourning Princess Margaret, Queen Elizabeth's sister who died in February.

Billy Wilder Dies at 95

LOS ANGELES - Oscar-winning filmmaker Billy Wilder, the Austrian-born cynic whose gifts for writing and directing led to such classics as Sunset Boulevard, Some Like it Hot and Double Indemnity, has died. He was 95.

Arab Leaders Endorse Saudi Peace Plan

BEIRUT - Arab leaders endorsed a Saudi peace plan offering Israel "normal relations" in exchange for withdrawal from all occupied Arab land. The plan also demanded a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital and the right of return for Palestinian refugees.

Government Seeks Death Penalty for Moussaoul

WASHINGTON - The Justice Department told a court it will seek the death penalty against Zacarias Moussaoui, the only person to be charged in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks against New York and Washington.

Milton Berle Dies at 93

LOS ANGELES - Milton Berle, the acerbic, vaudevillian who embraced a new medium and became "Mr. Television" in the dawn of the video age, died. He was 93. Berle was the king of Tuesday nights. His program spurred sales of televisions and helped make TV a mass medium.

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Marchers Support New Christian Center



Hundreds gathered for the Miracle March in north Portland last Saturday morning to help raise money for the completion of the Life Change Christian Center that's located at 106 N. Beech St. One million dollars is needed for the first phase of the renovation plan. Many got a chance to see the work that's already completed on the new facility.

Since 1996, the center has provided food and clothing for the needy. It will continue to be a place for anyone in the community seeking spiritual direction and support.

Pastor Mark Strong leads the way in the Miracle March for the creation of the new Life Change Christian Center to benefit north Portland.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Black Public Administrators Conference Welcomed

The National Forum for Black Public Administrators will hold their national conference for the first time in Portland, starting Saturday, April 6 through 10 at the Oregon Convention Center. The theme for Forum 2002 is "Sustainability: Leadership That Makes a Difference" and will feature workshops and special events to highlight the best that Portland has to offer.

The Forum 2002 conference is designed to provide training and information on issues affecting administrators serving in executive and managerial positions in federal, state and local governments. Public administrators are allowed to explore solutions to key challenges facing the African-American community and local governments, and support the career development of the next generation of public administrators.

Featured speakers include Shirley Franklin, the first woman mayor of Atlanta; Kevin Powell, former senior writer for "Vibe" magazine and regular contributor to the "New York Times" and "Essence" and "Rolling Stone" magazines; Ossie Davis, distinguished writer, director and actor; Rev. Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, former Secretary of State of New Jersey and pastor of First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, one of the largest Black churches in New Jersey.

The conference's keynote

speaker is public service icon Maynard Jackson, the former threeterm mayor of Atlanta and civil rights activist. He is now chairman of Jackson Securities, Inc., a national institutional investment bank.

In addition to the variety of topics presented by the noted speakers, workshops include: The City of Houston: A Case Study in Energy Deregulation; The Fire Next Time: Emergency Preparations in Challenging Times; Smart Tools to Manage Community Growth; and Creating Social Equity: The Public Health Challenges of the New Era.

The NFBPA is hosting its annual golf tournament on Wednesday, April 10 at Eastmoreland Golf Course in southeast Portland. The tournament is open to local players, including those who are not attending the conference. Local golfers will have a chance to play with others from around the nation and the world as well as enjoy networking opportunities with many community leaders.

Proceeds from the tournament benefit the NFBPA Endowment Fund. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. Signup to play closes at noon on Friday, April 5. To register, contact Jamae Hilliard Creecy at 503-823-5524.

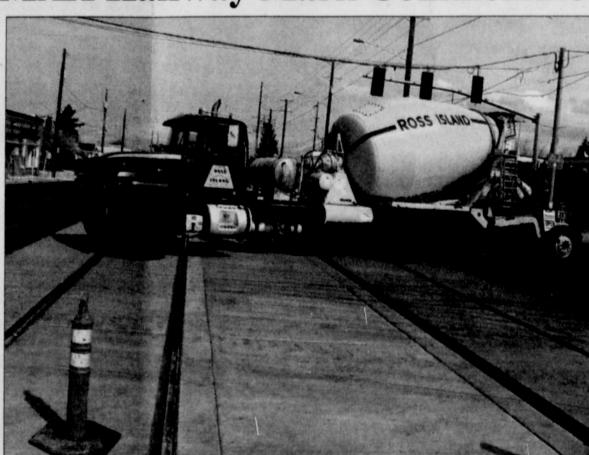
For more information about the conference, call Deena Pierott at 503-823-7757 or visit www.nfbpa.org.

Interstate MAX Halfway Mark Commemmorated

Commemorating the fifty percent completion of the Interstate MAX line on Tuesday, public officials Senator Gordon Smith, Senator Ron Wyden and others from Oregon placed a marker in wet cement and signed them with their

Federal Transit Administrator Jenna Dorn was also on hand to present a \$64 million check for this year's Interstate MAX appropria-

Construction on the Interstate MAX project began in Oct. 2000. Completion of the line involves adding 10 MAX stations between the Expo Center and the Rose Garden, and will operate through downtown Portland.



A truck passes the midway point of the Interstate MAX line that's complete up to the intersection of N. Portland Blvd. and Interstate Ave.

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