

Honoring Fight for Civil Rights

(AP) — The National Civil Rights Museum has chosen Julian Bond, chairman of the NAACP, and Rigoberta Menchu, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, for its annual Freedom Awards.

The museum, built on the site where Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, gives the awards to "individuals who have made significant contributions in civil rights."

The new honorees will receive their awards Oct. 23 at a banquet at The Peabody Hotel in downtown Memphis.

Menchu, 43, of Guatemala, received the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize for her work in seeking equal rights for Indian peasants in her country.

Bond, 62, joined the U.S. civil rights struggle while still in college. He's been chairman of the National Association for the



Julian Bond

Advancement of Colored People since 1998.

Past award recipients include Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, Nelson Mandela and Colin Powell.

King Memorial Wins Sponsors

A proposed memorial in Washington, D.C. to honor slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is gaining support.

The Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation has announced that The Advertising Council will create a national public service advertising campaign to support the development of the memorial.

"We share the firm belief that a national public service campaign can help realize the important goal of erecting a monument to Dr.

King on the Mall in our nation's capital," said Peggy Conlon, president and chief executive officer of the Advertising Council.

Harry Johnson, president of the foundation, said the new partnership puts the group one step closer to the goal of breaking ground on the memorial by November 2003.

The Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial will be the first on the National Mall to honor an African American individual.

The site has been approved by

the National Capital Planning Commission, and will be located along the Tidal Basin, near monuments to Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson.

The design, which has won initial approval from the Fine Arts Commission, was selected through a competition that elicited more than 900 designs from 52 countries. The Foundation has until November 2003 to raise the necessary funds that will enable the building of this national memorial.

Group Offers Memorial Yard Trees

The Portland non-profit group "Friends of Trees" is offering a new way to honor loved ones.

In addition to the traditional commemorative and memorial trees that can be purchased as gifts to be planted in an urban natural area, people can now buy a tree and have it planted in their yard, where they can watch it grow over the years.

The trees are delivered to the home, where trained crew leaders plant it for or with the person receiving it. Special dedication markers are also provided.

Tree purchasers can choose from ten types of trees: Pacific sunset maple, evergreen magnolia, western red cedar, Pacific dogwood, scarlet oak, Chinese evergreen oak, blue spruce, crape myrtle, casaca, and katsura.

For more information, please call 503-282-8846, extension 16, or visit www.friendsoftrees.org.

Friends of Trees builds community partnerships to plant, care for, and educate about urban trees in order to strengthen neighborhoods, improve the environment, and enhance the quality of urban life.

Trial Set in Vancouver Sex Slave Case

(AP) — Two men have pleaded innocent in Vancouver to charges they kept a transient as a sex slave in their middle-class home.

Trial was set for Oct. 28 for 45-year-old Michael Aaron Wilson and 22-year-old William Joseph Fritsch, both of Brush Prairie, who appeared in Clark County Superior Court to face charges of rape, kidnapping and assault. Defense lawyers say they will request separate trials.

Prosecutors say the two met a 47-

year-old Seattle transient online, offered him a bus ticket to Vancouver, then imprisoned and raped him repeatedly for eight days.

The man ran to a neighbor's house for help Thursday evening with his legs and hands shackled.

His lawyer says Wilson, who maintains a website for devotees of sadomasochistic sex, claims the sex was consensual. On the website, Wilson said he specializes in bondage, torture and prison punishments.

Input Wanted for Street Plans

Area residents are encouraged to review options under consideration in the proposed upgrade of Russell Street in north Portland. The city of Portland transportation plans will be considered during a public meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 24, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Immaculate Heart Church Parish Hall, 2926 N. Williams (enter from Northeast Stanton Street).

Over 300 community members have already given suggestions through surveys, focus groups, a

community walk and design work. Some of the ideas include better road crossings, curb ramps, trees, art, traffic signs, bicycle parking, trash containers, and bus service.

Another public session on the topic will include a drop-in open house on Oct. 22, also at Immaculate Heart.

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