

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Trick or Treat on Alberta Street

Children and families are invited to attend Trick or Treat on Alberta Street on Halloween. Bring a bag for safe treats and visit stores from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. A costume contest will be held at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Winona at Scary Monster Music by calling 503-282-6608.

Meet A.C. Green at 11th Annual Hallelujah Carnival

Three-time NBA World Champion A.C. Green of the Los Angeles Lakers will be at New Beginnings Christian Center Halloween carnival from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. New Beginnings will offer 'unlimited play' tickets for \$4. Bring a can of food to help feed the hungry and get \$1 off admission price. For more information call, 503-762-6268.

Spooktacular Halloween at Kennedy 'Ghoul' School

The Kennedy School welcomes little goblins and ghouls for trick-or-treating from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Halloween enthusiasts of all ages can stick around for the Willamette Radio Workshop's live radio broadcast of "Dracula" in the renovated gymnasium from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. No cover will be charges.

Bewitching Corn Maze

Celebrate the Halloween season by roaming the twists and turns of the corn maze at Kruger's Farm Market. This year's maze features a witch on a broom along with other spooky surprises. Call for details. Kruger's Farm Market, 17100 S.W. Sauvie Island Road, 1 1/2 miles straight across the Sauvie Island Bridge. Call 503-621-3489.

Catlin Gabel 58th Annual Rummage Sale

In the last 58 years, the annual Catlin Gabel rummage sale has raised more than five million dollars in financial aid for Catlin Gabel students. This year the huge four-day sale will take place at the Portland Expo Center, 2060 N Marine Drive, in Halls A and B. The sale opens Thursday, Oct. 31 from 5 to 9 p.m. with a 25% markup. Regular prices start on Friday, Nov. 1 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 2 and Sunday, Nov. 3. For Directions or information call 503-297-1894 ext. 423.

Thermometer Exchange

Those concerned about the safety of their mercury thermometers can trade them in for new digital ones at a thermometer exchange and immunization clinic sponsored by the Oregon Nurses Association and the Oregon Center for Environmental Health. Community members can learn about the dangers of mercury exposure during the exchange from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Lents Clinic, Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 4244 SE 91st.

Multicultural Meal

The Woodlawn United Methodist Church will host a Fall Festival Multicultural Meal in conjunction with a cactus and succulent plant show on Saturday, Nov. 2 on the corner of NE 15 and Dekum. The plant show begins at 11 a.m., dinner will be served from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$5 in advance by calling 503-289-0284, \$6 at the door plus and extra dollar for desert.

De La Salle North Works

School mixes diversity with internships, college-prep

BY WYNDE DYER

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Is De La Salle North Catholic High School really the school that works?

Just ask Matt Powell, the school's founder and president.

"Yeah, this is a real strange place," Powell said.

By strange he means the year-old school combines rigorous college preparatory work with an innovative corporate internship program that pays for 70 percent of the students' tuition by placing them out into the working world. While most area schools have cut school days and shortened the school year, De La Salle North boasts a lengthened school year to make up for class time lost while its 148 sophomore and freshmen work one full eight-hour day a week at local corporations.

Where else can you find 14-and-15-year-olds working for law firms, doctor's offices, brokerage firms and banks?

Only at one other school in the country, that is until De La Salle North Catholic opened its doors last fall.

For five years, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago worked to bring college-prep education to a low-income area in combination with a unique job-sharing program to cover a majority of the school's operating costs.

Corporate sponsors contracted with the school and the school provided a team of students to fill each clerical position the company had to offer. The school designed a block schedule so students could work one day of the week at the job site without missing classroom time. This enabled students to gain valuable work experience and pay their tuition without sacrificing after school or weekend hours that could be spent on homework or with friends.

Powell wanted to establish a neighborhood high school and thought the same model could be applied in north Portland. He said the demographics and a high drop-out rate in north Portland is strikingly similar that of inner city Chicago.

"This area is traditionally underserved — by the church and the state," Powell said. "We don't want to be labeled as a poor kids school, but here are a lot of families looking for something different in north Portland."



De La Salle North Catholic sophomore Luke Johnson (from left), President Matt Powell, Corporate Internship Program Director Michael Jacobson, sophomore Mary Miller and freshmen Irene Ambrose and Kayla Keagbine wait in front of the old elementary school turned high school on North Delaware Avenue. These students are employed at local banks, brokerage firms, doctors offices, law firms and even international corporations like Nike.



PHOTOS BY WYNDE DYER/ THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

De La Salle North Catholic High students paint banners for a spirit rally. The college preparatory school's 148 freshman and sophomore students spend one day a week working for local businesses to offset tuition costs.

So Powell decided to give them what they were looking for. An old Catholic elementary school and parish on North Delaware Avenue was the perfect location. The school was centrally located in the north and northeast Portland geography he wanted to serve — an area with a drop out rate of around 40 percent. The surrounding Kenton neighborhood was supportive of the school's goals and the building needed relatively

little renovation.

"It was a real turn-key," Powell said. "There aren't a lot of vacant buildings around that would accommodate us like this."

When last year's freshman class filed in the doors, the student body diversity could hardly go unnoticed. De La Salle North Catholic has as many minority students as Caucasian and a close balance of male and female students. Although many students

are admitted from area parochial schools, 55 percent of the high school's students are not Catholic and more than half of them receive financial aid to cover the remaining part of their tuition.

How are those students doing one year later? Ask sophomore Raphael Deem.

When his grandparents told him they

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REACHING FOR RESPECT

Hip Hop Fans Fight for Turf

BY DAVID PLECHL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

After he saw a couple of black-owned clubs shut down and a few more threatened with closure, David Parks thought he had better do something about it.

Parks organized a community forum Sunday night to examine issues surrounding hip-hop clubs and the black community that often frequents them. About 75 people at

clubs down and is blind to the issues of a cultural gap.

"If there are problems, the OLCC figures it is easier to get rid of clubs than to work with the culture connected to the clubs," Parks said.

He said clubs, artists and promoters should have a working dialogue with police and government officials.

"Young black crowds are not savages,"



PHOTOS BY DAVID PLECHL/ THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

'E Bro' defends the culture surrounding hip-hop clubs and music while encouraging club goers to "keep themselves in check" to avoid trouble with authorities and to keep the music going in downtown's clubs.

tended.

Parks says a general lack of cultural understanding dates all the way back to the jazz clubs of the 20s, culminating in undue persecution and targeting of people of color by police and city officials.

"All we're asking for is the right to have a good time," Parks said.

Parks argues that the Oregon Liquor Control Commission is instrumental in closing

Parks said. "Their music should be respected and nurtured like other forms of mainstream music."

Art Hendricks, an African American city official, said people in city government are willing to hear their concerns.

"We're not in the business of putting businesses out of business," he said.

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David Parks listens as other hip-hop artists, dj's and dancers address racism and discrimination in the nightclub scene.