



## King of Blues

Newcomers and legends  
of R & B honored  
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## Mental Health Advocates

Breaking the barriers that  
impede treatment  
See Metro section, insides



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## Week in The Review

### Greenspan: U.S.

#### Economy in Turnaround

U.S. Federal Reserve Chief Alan Greenspan said Tuesday he sees indications of a "fairly marked turnaround" in the U.S. economy, with May data suggesting it has stabilized. "The acceleration has not yet begun," Greenspan told a conference of top central bankers in Berlin, but he went on to note that recovering stock markets and other indications "are suggestive of a fairly marked turnaround."

### Spacecraft to Orbit Mars

An unmanned European spacecraft - which launched Monday on a Russian rocket - will orbit Mars for nearly two years and search for signs of life on the planet. The Mars Express spacecraft, which cost \$350 million, was initially put into the Earth's orbit and about 90 minutes later it was given a final push to send it on a six-month journey to Mars.

### Bush in Middle East

President Bush was in the Middle East Tuesday, where he'll stop first in Egypt, then in Jordan for talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders. In his first personal foray into Middle East peace talks, President Bush pledged to "put in as much time as necessary" to achieve peace between Israelis and Palestinians and help them live side by side.

### Iraq Arms Hunt Stumps Top Marine

The top commander of U.S. Marines in Iraq said Friday he is surprised that extensive searches have failed so far to discover any of the chemical weapons that American intelligence had indicated were supplied to front line Iraqi forces at the outset of the war. Lt. Gen. James Conway, commander of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, said that he was convinced before and during the war that at least some Republican Guard units had been provided with chemical weapons.

### Mule Clone Created in Idaho

A healthy and energetic mule named Idaho Gem is the first member of the horse family to be cloned, joining the barnyard of cloned animals that now includes sheep, cows, pigs, cats and rodents. Researchers at the University of Idaho cloned the mule using a cell from a mule fetus and an egg from a horse. Idaho Gem is the genetic brother of Taz, a champion racing mule, and the researchers said the clone mule also would be trained to race.

## Remembering Vanport

Bridge dedication  
links yesterday  
to today

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Survivors of the Vanport flood may not have been compensated by the city for their lost homes and possessions, but they did get recognition when TriMet's Interstate Max Long bridge was renamed Vanport Bridge Friday.

The span, which links Kenton to Portland International Raceway, was dedicated on the 55th anniversary of the flood to the men and women who lived, worked and

eventually abandoned Vanport when a dike broke and the Columbia River flooded the town.

City Commissioner Jim Francesconi and U.S. Rep. David Wu, D-Ore., joined TriMet General Manager Fred Hansen and Metro President David Bragdon to discuss what the Vancouver Bridge symbolizes today.

"We're here today to honor and remember the City of Vanport, the residents who died, those who were injured and the thousands that became homeless by the flood," Hansen said. "Vanport was never intended to be a permanent city, but what Vanport gave us was diversity and a contribution to our community that was permanent."

Oregonian Columnist Renee Mitchell dramatically read her poem titled, "Vanport Voices," focusing on Vanport living from an African-American perspective.

Vanport survivor and North Portland resident, Marion Craig shared her memories of Vanport during its peak of cultural diversity, and the prejudice that Vanport refugees faced as they rebuilt their lives in Portland.

In addition to a memorial plaque, the Delta Park/Vanport Transit Center honors the former city with reproductions of vintage paintings depicting the flood, 200 flaming comets as a tribute to the 1950s

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PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Oregonian Columnist S. Renee Mitchell (from left), Vanport survivor Regina Flowers and Jammie Lauderdale view the dedication of the Vanport Bridge in north Portland. Mitchell read from a poem offering an African American's perspective of the city destroyed by floodwaters 55 years ago. See the poem on page A5, inside.

# Soaring the Skies

Northeast  
youth reach for  
their dreams

BY WYNDE DYER

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Students in Portland's Centers for Airway Science may be flying before they're driving thanks to an aviation program designed to build self-esteem, prevent academic failure and break the cycle of economic disadvantage.

"We're not really here to teach kids to fly," said Robert Strickland, the program's founder and director. "We're here to inspire kids to learn."

The focus of the two-year-long program at the Blazer Boys and Girls Club on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard is to give children aged 10 through 12 an early dose of sophisticated mathematical, computer and science technologies that may eventually hook them high-tech and high-salary jobs.

"I have some kids who want to challenge the Federal Aviation Administration private pilot exam," Strickland said. "And they'll probably pass - they're darned good pilots."

The non-profit program was started in 1992 with the help of major corporate contributors, national educators, aviation and engineering industry leaders, and the endorsement of Gen. Colin Powell.

Strickland, who has been a private pilot for more than 10 years, said building and

designing model airplanes was always a part of his childhood. He passed his interest in aviation on to his son, who later joined the Airforce.

"My son and I used to talk about how important the influence of airplanes was on our lives," he said. "One day I stopped talking about building planes and said, I'm going to build this project."

The course starts with a lesson in basic airspace aviation. The first thing children do is color a bird book to give them an appreciation of how the functions of a bird relate to the major components of an airplane.

Then students learn the history of flight before being exposed to plane instruments and flight mechanics. Through computer-based flight simulation in a state of the art aviation science art lab, kids learn first how to handle the plane on the ground and in the air before learning about speeds, how to descend and gain altitude.

After each lesson, students must demonstrate their skills on various computer tests before passing to the next level.

Once students are advanced computer pilots, Strickland and his staff teach them about proper navigation techniques.

"It's pretty complicated stuff," he said. "Driving a plane isn't like driving a car - there are no signs in the air."

Once the students learn navigation, they move into aircraft design and learn engineering concepts before actually taking their first flight. When all the students in a class have passed the whole sequence of lessons, the Columbia Aviation Association sponsors each student with a flight on a private

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PHOTO BY RON WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Centers for Airway Science founder and director Robert Strickland oversees student Damone Lowery, 10, in a flight simulation exercise at the Blazer Boys and Girls Club. Lowery has never been in a real plane but plans to have his own set of wings when he's older. "Instead of driving my car I'm going to fly my plane," he said.

## DePreist Leads Farewell Concert

Conductor  
ends 23 years  
with Oregon  
Symphony

(AP) — James DePreist ended a 23-year career as conductor of the Oregon Symphony on Sunday with a full house and the strains of his favorite composers.

DePreist, 66, will be replaced by Carlos Kalmar, who has conducted Vienna's Tonkuenstlerorchester for the past three years. DePreist will still conduct four guest concerts next season.



James De Preist

DePreist awed a crowd of 2,700 Sunday with a selection of music by composers close to his heart: Hector Berlioz, Franz Schubert, Richard Strauss and Gustav Mahler.

A season-long tribute to DePreist, which started last August with an outdoor concert and a fireworks display, ended after Sunday's concert with a cake and party.

DePreist, who contracted polio at age 27, recently had a kidney transplant and was hospitalized with a neurological condition that caused severe headaches.

## Forum on James Death

Meeting may include  
police, prosecutors  
and the public

City officials will conduct a daylong community forum to discuss the fatal May 5 shooting of Kendra James, who was killed by the single shot of North Precinct Officer Scott McCollister as she tried to drive away from a traffic stop.

While a date has yet to be set for the forum, the Albina Ministerial Alliance, Mayor Vera Katz's office and the Portland Police Bureau expect it to take place mid-June, possibly on Saturday, June 14.

Although details of the forum are still in the planning stage, organizers expect it to

include a panel of law enforcement officials and community representatives to be present. A meeting facilitator will lead the group in discussion and take questions from the audience.

Last month a grand jury failed to indict McCollister on any charges of criminal wrongdoing in the shooting. Community leaders decried the use of a grand jury closed to the public saying such proceedings almost always rule in favor of law enforcement officers in cases with a minority victim.

North and northeast Portland ministers and community leaders along with state senators Avel Gordley and Margaret Carter are also pushing for the state to change its laws governing the use of deadly force by police and to open the grand jury process to public review.

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