

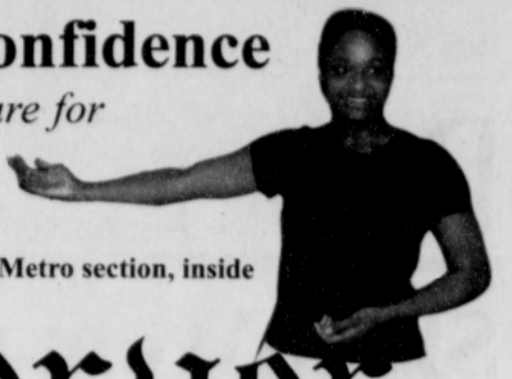


Wellness Exercise

African Americans attack
cardiovascular disease
See story, Metro section, inside

Building Confidence

Young ladies prepare for
Les Femmes and
Debutante Ball



See story, Metro section, inside

The Portland Observer

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Week in The Review

Smuggling Suspect Caught

Investigators believe a 25-year-old Honduran woman was the ringleader of the nation's deadliest smuggling attempt that ended in the deaths of 19 people crammed into a stifling trailer. Prosecutors unsealed an indictment Monday accusing Karla Patricia Chavez and 13 others of organizing or facilitating the trip that ended May 14 when the crowded trailer was found abandoned at a truck stop in Victoria, 100 miles southwest of Houston. Seventeen immigrants died at the scene, and two others died later.

No Calm Before More Storms

Emergency officials braced for more rain following storms that sent torrents of mud and water down already saturated hillsides in central Appalachia, forcing dozens of people to flee their homes and blocking roads. More than 50 homes were heavily damaged or destroyed in the Charleston area of West Virginia and, officials declared a state of emergency. Gov. Bob Wise asked President Bush to designate the county a disaster area.

Boxing Match Death

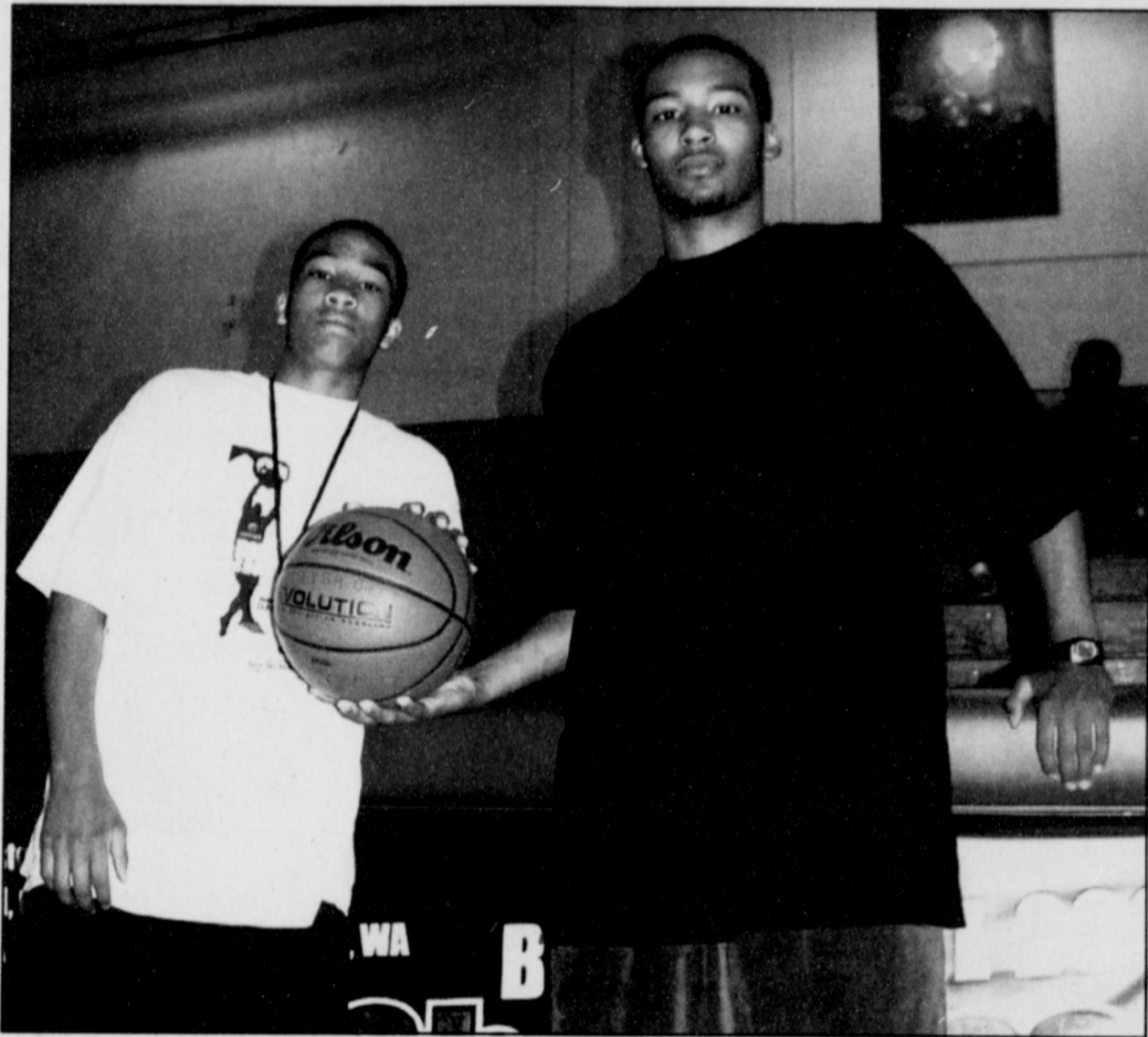
A woman died of head injuries two days after being pummeled in an amateur boxing bout and police opened an investigation Tuesday into the fight. Stacy Young, 30, suffered swelling and bleeding in the brain during Saturday night's bout in Florida. She died Monday night at Bayfront Medical Center in Sarasota, hospital spokesman Bill Hervey said.

Bush Defends Iraq War

President Bush shot back Tuesday at those suggesting his administration inflated prewar intelligence data on Iraq's weapons program. He said the most important fact was that "the people of Iraq are free." "I know there's a lot of revisionist history going on. But he is no longer a threat to the free world," Bush said as he promoted his domestic agenda at a community college in a Washington, D.C. suburb.

Rape and Murder Up from Last Year

Crime resumed its decline overall last year, even though the numbers of murders and rapes increased, the FBI reported. The FBI's preliminary Uniform Crime Report found a 0.2 percent decrease in the number of crimes reported to the police or other law enforcement agencies in 2002, as compared with 2001. That resumed a trend that began in 1991.



Players on the Rise

Cedale Doyle (left) and Kevyn Green of Benson High School were among a large group of high-achieving basketball players from around the country who participated in last weekend's Inner City Players Basketball tournament at Grant High School. The ICP program is noted for developing great athletic skills but also "men of substance" who overcome life's obstacles with good character and academics. See story in Sports, page B6.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Rose Sisters Homecoming

Women from north
Portland school are
coming home

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sisters of the Good Shepherd are celebrating 101 years in Portland with a reunion of staff and students from Villa St. Rose School. The reunion is from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the Rosemont Court Apartments at 597 N. Dekum St.

For the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, former staff and teachers of Villa St. Rose and Rose Industrial School, their girls are coming home.

Villa St. Rose School, formerly Rose Industrial School, was a boarding school in north Portland for teens in trouble in the

1930s. At the time, some students were bashful about where they graduated from, because the school was stigmatized as a place for bad girls, but today, alumni say they are proud of the self-respecting women the sisters taught them to be.

"We were mischievous, and we were mouthy, but most of us came from bad homes. The courts sent us here," said Grace Ruble-Bell, graduating from Villa St. Rose in 1956.

The school eventually closed when the aging sisters and director retired, but the historic site has been renovated, and now serves as an apartment building for the elderly.

In its heyday, however, 7 or 8 nuns were responsible for more than 130 high school girls sent to Villa St. Rose by social workers because of family or truancy problems.

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*This was our home.
We lived together,
slept together, ate
together, fought
together and made
up together.*

— Former Villa St. Rose student
Grace Ruble-Bell



PHOTO BY RON WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Former students Carol Wanner (from left) and Grace Ruble-Bell join their former school directress, Sister Frances Louise, on the grounds of the former Villa St. Rose School at 597 N. Dekum.



PHOTO BY RON WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

While so many throughout the city are unemployed, Manuel Garcia has held onto his job at the Fast Trip on Martin Luther King Boulevard for 7 years.

Hard Times for Jobs

Unemployment
higher for minorities

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

It may not come as a surprise to local residents looking for work that Portland has an exceptionally high jobless rate.

According to statistics released by the Bureau of Labor and state Employment Division, the unemployment rate is 8.2 percent in Portland compared to 7.5 percent for the state and 6.1 percent nationally.

State economist Art Aryer said the Portland area has been "hit very hard" by an economic downturn.

Minority employment is especially grim. Nationally, 10.8 percent of African Americans were unemployed in May. For minorities in Portland, however, the latest data shows 15.8 percent of African Americans and 7.8 percent of Latinos are unemployed. Last week, House Democratic Leader

Nancy Pelosi said the country is facing the worst economic record in almost 50 years, with 3.1 million people losing their jobs since January 2001.

"The Bush administration record is clear: America is nearly \$3 trillion deeper in debt, and has lost more than 3 million jobs.

In last minute negotiations on a \$350 billion tax cut, House Republicans chose not to expand the child tax credit to lower income families, leaving behind 12 million children from working and military families.

Although evidence of recovery for Portland's economy has been shelved, certain industries are doing unseasonably well.

As of May, manufacturing added 1,200 jobs, after shedding 8,500 jobs just a year ago. Leisure and hospitality employment showed strength by adding 3,200 jobs in hotels, restaurants and the tourism industry.

Construction added 1,500 jobs, 400 more than expected in the spring season. Banking and real estate gained 300 jobs, but the rate was slower than the average seasonal gain.

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