



## Boycott Sidelined

Blazer president makes diversity commitment

See story in Sports, Page B6

## Celebrating

Bishop Hardy honored with family and friends

See story in Religion, Page B4



# The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

Established in 1970

www.portlandobserver.com

Volume XXXIII • Number 31

Committed to Cultural Diversity

Wednesday • July 30, 2003

## Week in The Review

### Death a Suicide, not Lynching

Relatives of a black man, whose hanging divided the rural community of Bella Glade, Fla., learned at an inquest that the noose was probably his grandmother's bed sheet and agreed that his death was likely a suicide and not a lynching.

### Gay High School Opens in NY

New York City is creating the nation's first public high school for gays, bisexuals and transgender students. The Harvey Milk High School will enroll about 100 students and open in a newly renovated building in the fall. It is named after San Francisco's first openly gay city supervisor, who was assassinated in 1978.

### Body Identified As Patrick Dennehy

Investigators would not comment on any new evidence in the case of Baylor basketball player Patrick Dennehy, whose decomposed body was found in a field in Waco, Texas, after he had been missing for more than six weeks.

### Nudists Try to Reclaim Beach

On the typical summer weekend, as many as a couple hundred nude sunbathers gather in the "clothing-optional" section of Portland's Rooster Rock State Park. But despite the continued popularity of Rooster Rock's nude beach, problems during the years with voyeurs and sexual deviants lurking in overgrown brush along trails have changed the area's complexion and driven away families, park officials say. Volunteers are working to clean up the problems and reclaim the beach.

### Clinton Website has Spanish Version

New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, a star fund-raiser for the Democratic Party, is shifting her attention to raising money for her 2006 re-election bid. Friends of Hillary launched its Web site Monday, complete with a Spanish version, voter registration forms and interviews with the senator and her mother, Dorothy Rodham.

### Liberian City Withstands Second Attack

A second rebel group launched an all-out assault on President Charles Taylor's embattled forces in the southeastern port city of Buchanan, opening a new front. Deliberations on a peace mission for the bloodied West African nation showed no sign of progress.

## Utilities Battle Public Power Advocates

Power struggle could hit northeast Portland residents in pocketbook

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Confusion grows for an increasingly hot topic, public power for Multnomah County, as voters are bombarded with mixed messages and opposing viewpoints.

A measure to form a Multnomah County People's Utility District on the Nov. 4 ballot is a special concern for residents and businesses in north and northeast Portland.

Pacific Power, a Portland-based company, supplies power to 68,000 customers from I-5 on the west, I-84 on the south, Northeast 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue on the east and the Columbia River on the north.



Sheila Holden, regional manager for Pacific Power

Company spokespeople say they are in jeopardy of being driven out of the community if the measure passes, despite a reputation of having the lowest rates in the region, a history of reliability and commitment to improving the community.

"There's been a consistent commitment from Pacific Power to empower the communities we serve, for businesses and (individuals) in north and northeast Portland," said Sheila Holden, regional manager for Pacific Power and social service advocate.

"A lot of our effort is spent on being promoters and supporters of redevelopment and continuous commitment to quality of life in north and northeast Portland,"



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Troy Mallos, a Pacific Power lineman (left) and Dylan Shulda, an apprentice lineman, maintain power in north and northeast Portland. Officials with the local utility say a proposal to take over Portland General Electric also threatens Pacific Power.

Holden said. "I don't think you'll have that level of commitment in a PUD (People's Utility District) because they're going to have their hands full trying to run a public utility with no confirmed resources that they can depend upon."

Pacific Power and Enron's Portland General Electric are united against the formation of a PUD, which they say would kick Pacific

Power out of Portland.

"We intend to have a vigorous opposition campaign against a PUD and have a good dialogue with our customers over the next several months to educate them about the bottom line risks to their pocketbook," said Jon Coney, spokesman for Pacific Power.

The Utility Reform Project, sponsors of the PUD measure, say their target is PGE, and

they have no intention of squelching Pacific Power's business.

"A PUD may be our last chance to prevent Enron from using federal bankruptcy to split up PGE's assets and sell them out from under Oregon regulation," said Dan Meeks, a volunteer attorney for the project.

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## Focus on Ron Herndon

Fighting for public education has been his life's work

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

When bumping into Ron Herndon at the Albina Head Start in northeast Portland or hearing him discuss his struggle to save Head Start on the local radio, he does well to hide his inner scrapper.

Herndon, a Portland resident of more than 30 years, has spent his life fighting the uphill battle of public education.

As president of national Head Start, Herndon

has strived to keep the federal government financially responsible for the early childhood education program. His current battle, suing the federal government on behalf of national Head Start, has taken Herndon to Washington, D.C. monthly to testify before Congress.

Herndon came to Portland to study history at Reed College.

While volunteering for the VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) program, he worked on quality-of-life issues such as police protection and affordable housing in East Harlem and an all-black town in New Jersey.

Before becoming the local Head Start director,

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Every administration since Carter has tried to make changes in Head Start that would have been harmful. This one is the worst, absolutely the most anti-Head Start administration.

—Portland education activist and Head Start administrator Ron Herndon

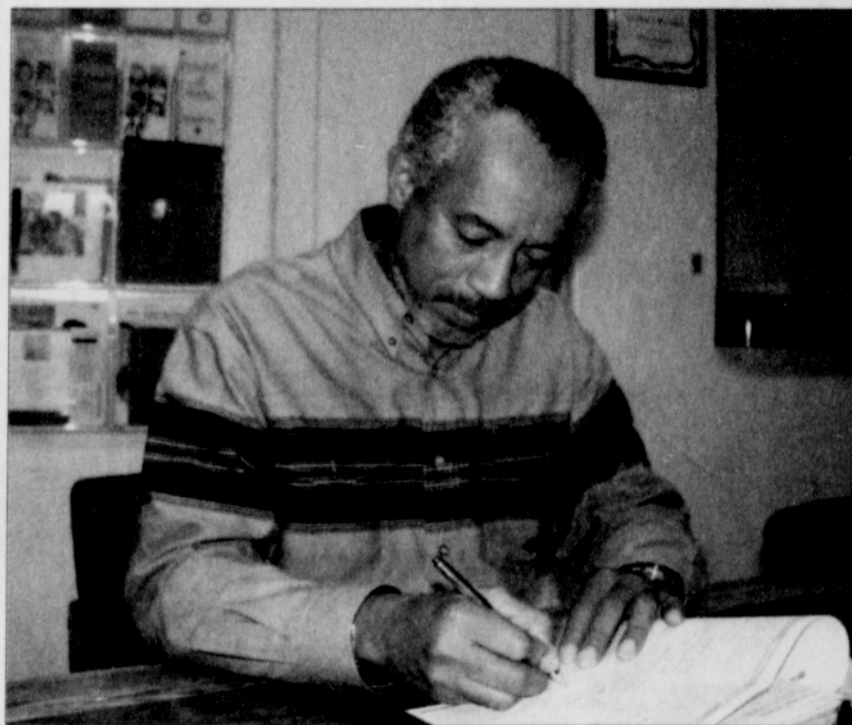


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Ron Herndon, president of national Head Start, fights to keep the program alive through a heap of resistance from the federal government.

## Urban League Warns Against Hidden Racism

Inequalities tied to covert institutional structures, processes

(AP) — The new president of the National Urban League said that the number of blacks with bachelor's degrees is at an all-time high, but warned that success in the classroom is marred by rising incarceration rates and covert racism.

Census figures show that in 2002, 17 percent of blacks ages 25 and older had a bachelor's degree, a record high. But Marc Morial said that achievement is overshadowed

We must not be afraid to say to ourselves that we have much work to do.



—National Urban League President Marc Morial

owed by the number of blacks in jail.

There are 875,000 blacks incarcerated in the United States, Morial said, or one out of every seven black males ages 25 to 29.

"We must not be afraid to say to ourselves that we have much work to do," he said.

Morial, chosen two months ago to lead the venerable civil rights group, made his first national address during the organization's annual conference Sunday.

While discussing racism, he cited a passage from an essay by Robert Hill that was included in the Urban League's annual report. The essay said racism remains, but has taken a new form.

"There has been a strong shift from Jim Crow - the overt manifestation of racial hatred by individuals in white society - to James Crow, Esquire - the maintenance of racial inequality through covert processes of structure and institutions."

Much of the talk among those attending the second day of the convention concerned the differences between Hugh Price, who stepped down as president in May, and Morial.

Price was considered a tireless and cerebral organizer. Morial, a brash and sometimes controversial former mayor of New Orleans, has vowed to raise the group's profile.

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