

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Grass fields occupy some of the 30 acres of land on the west bank of the Willamette River where a \$1.5 billion city-sponsored development of new businesses and housing is proposed. Minority and women construction workers say current plans leave them out of contracting opportunities.

Waterfront Plans Sidestep Disadvantaged

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Contractors.

His comments appeared to spoil City Commissioner Randy Leonard's announcement of an agreement with the Metropolitan Alliance to provide affordable jobs on the project.

"I'm not against this development," Baugh told council. "But we want opportunities to get minorities onto the work force that will receive the wages."

The coalition of minority groups is asking that 35 percent of the workforce be minorities and women, with 20 percent being people of color.

One of Baugh's complaints, long voiced by African-American contractors, is that minorities have difficulty gaining places in union ap-

prenticeship programs.

Leonard, and other city officials, said they sympathize with Baugh's concerns, but aren't inclined to slow up the process to accommo-

One of Leonard's aides chastised Baugh for bringing the matter to council without first approaching her office. Similarly, PDC officials feel the matter should be ad-

and we've had a bag full of those," Baugh complained. "We're spending a lot of public money on this project and who is the beneficiary? Very few of us will be able to afford the housing that will be built here, but at least we can get some benefit from it by helping to build it."

Contractor James Posey has been raising this issue for 20 years.

"This is an attempt to solidify the unions' hold on city contracts," he told the Portland Observer. "Prevailing wages' is a smoke screen. Almost everywhere it has been used, the end result has been that women and minorities have been excluded from work."

Posey said just a handful of minority apprentices have graduated to journeyman in Portland and maybe two of those workers are still in the system.

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—Builder Andre Baugh representing minority contractors

date them.

"We're seeking to have workers get prevailing wages and there are no conditions under which that shouldn't happen," Leonard said.

dressed, but the development agreement should not be altered to reflect it.

"They're offering us promises of something happening in the future

Failing Oregon Schools List Released

continued ▲ from Front

proficiency levels on reading and math tests for a school to avoid being tagged with the "needs improvement" label.

But by 2014, 100 percent of students will be expected to meet the targets.

Statewide, most schools on the list were there because of the performance of students with dis-

abilities and children who don't speak English, said Gene Evans, a spokesman for the Oregon Department of Education.

The list now includes some of the state's best-regarded high schools in its wealthiest enclaves, including Lincoln High in Portland, Lake Oswego High School and Ashland High School.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Coalition Shines Light on Community Health

continued ▲ from Front

both a 4-mile and 1-mile route.

The local health coalition is one of only 44 national REACH (Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health) programs selected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop community-driven strategies to improve minority health.

The Coalition hopes to raise \$30,000 at the walk to sustain wellness programs already in place.

"We're bridging the gap," said Me Keever, who is walking in the event.

To sign up for one of the walks, send a \$15 registration fee to African American Health Coalition, Inc. 2800 N. Vancouver Ave., Suite 100 or call 503-413-1850.

Judge 'Busted' for Misconduct

The Oregon Supreme Court has censured a Multnomah County Circuit Court judge for her conduct in ordering a man whom she had put on probation to leave a bar.

Judge Dorothy Baker supervises a program that closely monitors convicted drunken drivers in an effort to reduce repeat offenses.

The disciplinary case before the high court involved Lawrence Stebbeds, a repeat drunk driver who Baker had earlier ordered not to go to bars.

Baker happened to see

Stebbeds in the bar area of a Beaverton restaurant with two friends. She walked over to him, poked him in the shoulder and said "You're busted" and ordered him to leave the bar, the Supreme Court said.

Stebbeds said he believed he could be in the bar as long as he was only eating and not drinking alcohol.

A waitress said she believed she was witnessing a domestic disturbance.

The court said Baker admitted that her conduct violated several judicial rules.

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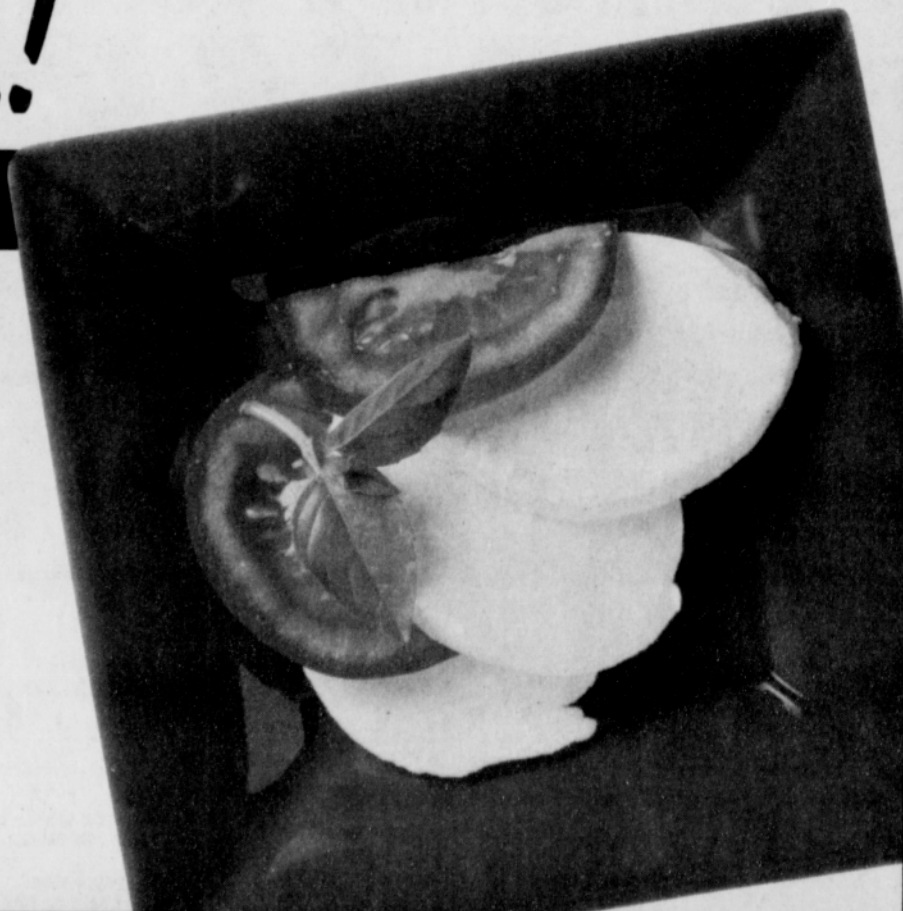
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