

Employees at Powell's City of Books picket for a fair employment contract and affordable health care.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## Holiday Gift Trees Offered

This holiday season you can honor friends, family and the earth by giving them gifts that grow—trees planted in their honor.

Friends of Trees is offering Natural Area Commemorative Trees at \$25 per native tree or \$50 for a grove of six native trees. The cost includes a card acknowledging your gift to the person receiving the gift tree. Both you and the person who receives your gift will also be invited to plant the tree during a special ceremony on Sunday, Feb. 8 at the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge.

Commemorative trees for the yard you choose are also available. The tree can be up to 10 feet tall and comes with a glass sun catcher etched with the name of the person being honored and the date of the planting. Each tree costs \$225 and will be planted on a designated date in the spring.

For more "tree-friendly holiday ideas" visit [www.friendsoftrees.org](http://www.friendsoftrees.org).

# Workers Picket as Contract Stalls

After a one-day Unfair Labor Practice strike last Wednesday, many of Powell's City of Books employees returned to the side-

walk Sunday to picket for a fair contract and affordable health care. Powell's employees have been working without a contract since a

wage and benefits agreement expired on Oct. 2.

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union, Local 5 has filed

several unfair labor practices on behalf of Powell's employees against the store, claiming that management has been using intimi-

dation and harassment against union activists during contract negotiations. Store officials deny those allegations.

## EL OBSERVADOR

### Hispanic Voters Spike in Oregon

(AP) - Nearly 20,000 Hispanic voters cast ballots in the 2002 statewide election, double the number that voted in the 2000 presidential election, according to an analysis by a Democratic National Committee outreach project.

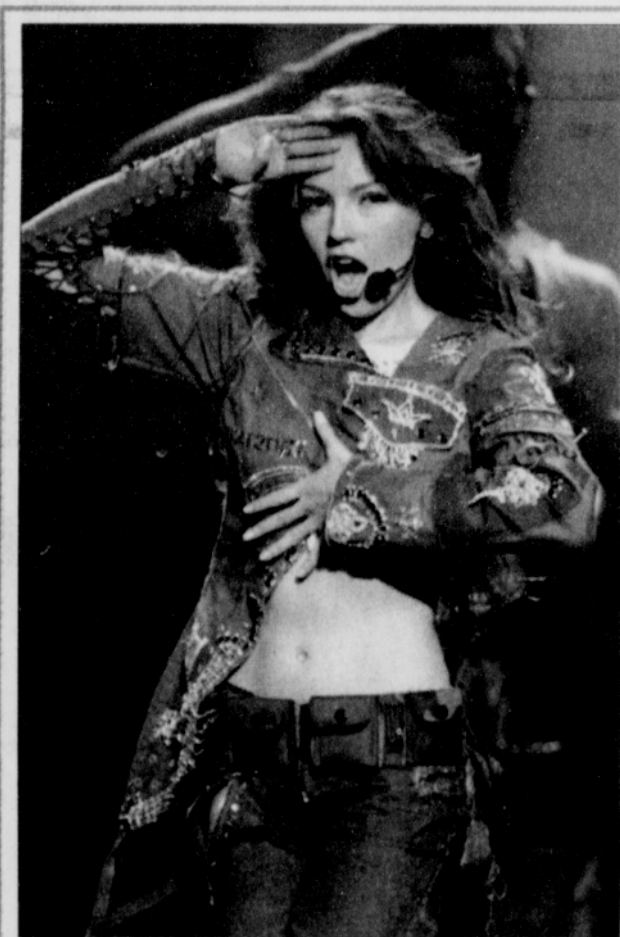
The increase in voter turnout should make the state's Hispanic

population a key target for the 2004 presidential election, said Jason Leon, who compiled the study.

"Nationally, everyone is saying that Latinos in Oregon are a swing vote in a swing state," said Leon, former head of the Democratic committee's Hispanic outreach in

Oregon. He compiled the study to encourage Democratic Party leaders to expand outreach efforts.

Hispanics represent about 8 percent of Oregon's population, but the state has one of the fastest-growing populations in the nation, more than doubling from 1990 to 2000.



### Actress Writing Play on Her Kidnapping

(AP) — Mexican actress Laura Zapata, sister of pop singer Thalía, says she's completing a play based on her kidnapping.

The play is a "type of catharsis" and a way to move forward with her life, Zapata told the newspaper El Universal.

Zapata and her sister, writer Ernestina Sodi, were abducted from their car last year after Zapata appeared in a play. The sisters were released weeks later. Zapata has indicated that her family paid a ransom but hasn't disclosed the amount.

The play doesn't have a title yet, and Zapata said she hoped to finish it by Christmas. It isn't clear when it may be put on the stage.

Laura Zapata

### Hispanic workers have high injury rate

(AP) — A study finds that Hispanic workers accounted for 15 percent of workplace fatalities nationwide last year.

The study also finds that fatalities for Hispanic workers increased in a ten-year period when overall fatalities went down.

And the study finds that workdays lost because of injury and

illness rose 3.2 percent for Hispanics when the overall rate fell 7.6 percent.

The study does not break down data by state.

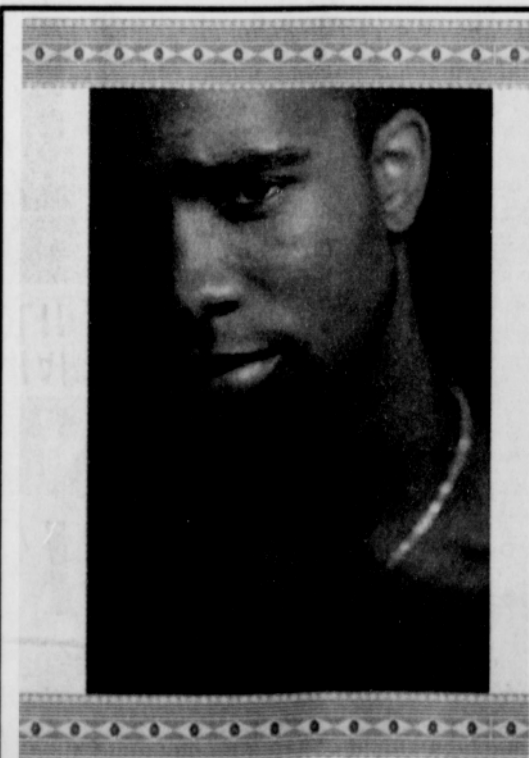
The study's main author is Acacia Aguirre, who is medical director of an international research company, Circadian Technologies, based in Lexington, Massachusetts.

She says language barriers often limit the understanding of safety procedures.

Aguirre also says a high number of Hispanics work in some of the most dangerous industries.

### Hundreds Protest in California

Susanna Arellano promotes an economic strike by Hispanics at Los Angeles' downtown Plaza. She was among several groups and hundreds of individuals protesting the recent repeal of a bill that granted driver licenses to all residents even if they did not arrive in the U.S. under legal means. (AP Photo)





## REACH

Racial & Ethnic Approaches to Community Health  
A program of the African American Health Coalition, Inc.  
Sponsored by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

### Wellness Within REACH Activity Calendar

All classes are free of charge!

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<b>Matt Dishman</b> 77 NE Knott		Stretching/Body Sculpting 7-8am Lois		Stretching/Body Sculpting 7-8am Lois		African Dance 10:00-11:00am Addo
<b>Salvation Army</b> 5325 N Williams.	Salsa 6:30 - 7:30pm Henry	Water Aerobics Contact AAHC 503-413-1850	Tai Chi 6:30 - 7:30pm Lyles	Water Aerobics Contact AAHC 503-413-1850		
<b>Wild Oats Market</b> 3535 NE 15th.		Yoga 7:30-8:30pm O'Rourke		Yoga 7:30-8:30pm O'Rourke		Body Conditioning 9:30-10:30am Nickerson
<b>Peninsula Park</b> 700 N Portland		Walking Group+ 6:00-7:00pm Woods		Walking Group+ 6:00-7:00 pm Woods		Walking Group 12:30pm Woods
<b>Mallory Avenue Christian Church (Gym)</b> 126 NE Alberta	Aerobics 5:30-6:20pm Granville 6:30-7:30pm Nickerson		Aerobics 5:30-6:20pm Granville 6:30-7:30pm Nickerson		Aerobics 5:30 - 6:20pm Granville 6:30-7:30pm Nickerson	
<b>Highland United Church of Christ</b> 4635 NE 9th Ave.	Aerobics 6:00-7:00am Pierce	Aerobics 6:00-7:00pm Keller	Aerobics 6:00-7:00am Pierce	Aerobics 6:00-7:00pm Keller	Aerobics 6:00-7:00am Pierce	
<b>Whitaker Track</b> 42nd & Killingsworth		Wt. Management/Conditioning 9:00 - 10:00am Hasan Walk to Run 6:30pm Thorne	Wt. Management/Conditioning II 6:00 - 7:00am Hasan	Wt. Management/Conditioning 9:00 - 10:00am Hasan Walk to Run 6:30pm Thorne		
<b>Irvington Covenant Church</b> 4008 NE MLK Blvd				Aerobics 7:30 - 8:30pm Keller		Aerobics 8:00 - 9:00am Norris
<b>Daniel's Memorial Church</b> 12th & Killingsworth		Low Impact Aerobics 7:15 - 8:15pm Granville				

\*Must be 21 or older to participate. Please check with AAHC before showing up to the first class 503-413-1850. Please receive approval from your doctor before beginning exercise class.  
+ Walking group meets inside Lloyd Center in front of Sears




**African American Health Coalition, Inc.**  
2800 N. Vancouver Ave., Suite 100 • Portland, OR 97227 • Phone: 503-413-1850  
E-mail: [kdempsey@aahc-portland.org](mailto:kdempsey@aahc-portland.org) • Web: [www.aahc-portland.org](http://www.aahc-portland.org)

## Free HIV Testing in NE Portland

**Tuesday and Thursday Evenings**  
**5:00-8:00 p.m.**  
(last check in at 7:30 p.m.)  
**NE Health Center**  
**MLK Jr. Blvd. And NE Killingsworth**  
(Enter in rear door near Emerson, go to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

**Se habla español los Martes**  
For more information on HIV and testing  
Call the Oregon AIDS Hotline 1-800-777-AIDS



**Multnomah County Health Department**