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Nate King Cole
Inspired Generations
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Black History Month

Food and Health Advice for African Americans
See page A10 for details



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Week in The Review

\$2.4 Trillion Budget Submitted

President Bush sent Congress a \$2.4 trillion election-year budget featuring big increases for defense and homeland security and a pledge to cut this year's projected record deficit of \$521 billion in half by 2009.

Intelligence Failure Probe

President Bush, reversing field, said he would order an independent investigation into intelligence failures in Iraq. Trying to quiet mounting election-year criticism from Republicans and Democrats alike, Bush confirmed reports that he would establish such an inquiry. The focus will be not only on the Iraq problem, but also gaps in other areas, such as secretive regimes like Iran and North Korea and stateless groups such as terrorists.



Jackson, Timberlake Apologize for Flash

CBS, MTV, the NFL, Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake all say they're sorry - but none of that is deterring the federal government from looking into the Super Bowl's too-revealing half-time show. See story on page B8, inside.

Super Bowl Brawl

New England Patriots fans turned rowdy after their team's Super Bowl victory, overturning cars and lighting small fires as thousands swarmed the streets. One person was killed in Boston when an alleged drunken driver drove his sport utility vehicle into a crowd.

Second Mars Rover Photo

NASA's Opportunity rover sent back its first 360-degree color panoramic image of the surface of Mars, extending a robotic arm that will touch the planet's surface.

Mayor for Gay Rights

The mayor called on voters to repeal a 1993 city charter amendment that made Cincinnati the only U.S. city to ban enactment or enforcement of gay-rights laws. Mayor Charlie Luken used his annual State of the City speech to argue that times and attitudes have changed and that Cincinnati should rescind the amendment to demonstrate tolerance.

Living History

African-American Senators revel in where they are, how far they've come

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Beyond their wildest dreams, three African-American women are making the tough decisions, managing the budgets and advocating for human dignity in Oregon as state senators.

In a state where less than two percent of residents are African American, these women have created a place for themselves that didn't previously exist in Senate chambers.

State senators Margaret Carter, D-Portland, Avel Gordly, D-Portland and Jackie Winters, R-Salem, know they have made history.

the Oregon Legislative Assembly in 1984, she was the first and only black woman there. She was also the first African-American woman ever to head a major political party in the nation—as state chair of the Oregon Democratic Party.

Carter, one of the most well-known and loved politicians in the state, is deeply committed to her faith and her family of nine children and 26 grandchildren. As yet another way of reaching her community, Carter has sung the National Anthem at Portland Trail Blazers games for Black History Month. She plans to sing again on Thursday, Feb. 12.

I think we have a moral imperative to encourage, to nurture and financially support more young people to get involved in the political process in the state.

—Senator Margaret Carter, D-Portland

They say they lean on each other and support other women in the Senate as well, among an institution that has historically been ruled by white men.

And while they hold common records of achievement as black women in politics, Carter, Gordly and Winters are distinguished by their issues, passions and the direction their careers have taken them.

When Carter talks about the pork chops she cooked for dinner last night, it's easy to forget this is the same woman who has broken color and gender barriers in the state and the nation.

When Carter was elected to

Carter represents residents of north and northeast Portland. Among the major issues affecting her constituency, Carter touches on hunger, affordable housing, community policing and mental health care, yet she can't help but return to education and leaving a legacy for children in every discussion.

"I think we have a moral imperative to encourage, to nurture and financially support more young people to get involved in the political process in the state," said Carter, who spent 27 years as a faculty member at Portland Community College. "It has to be a personal goal that we, as a

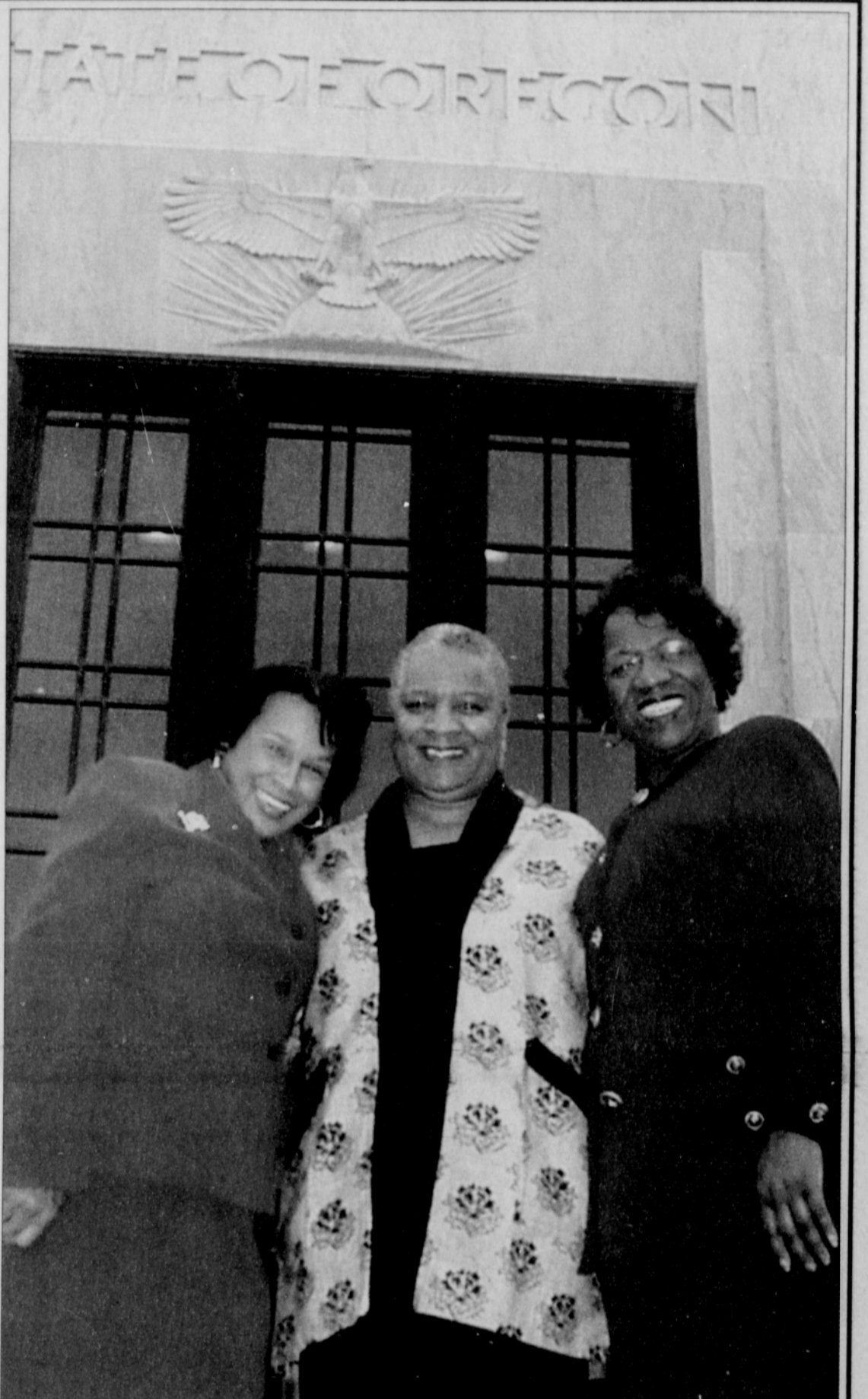


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Oregon state senators Jackie Winters, R-Salem (from left), Avel Gordly, D-Portland, and Margaret Carter, D-Portland, hold common records of achievement as African-American women in state government.

nation of people and African Americans, to raise our own and support our own."

The common thread through Carter's issues is human dignity. In a recent meeting with Gov. Ted Kulongowski, she and Winters asked that a statewide mental health system be established.

"I strongly believe the mentally ill in Oregon suffer from a lack of dignity based upon how the cost of mental health is budgeted in the state. There's not enough money in the system to

take care of mentally ill, so we either jail them or let them walk around on the streets, being homeless. That's unacceptable in a civilized society," she said.

The governor responded by creating a 19-member mental health task force, with Carter and Winters joining caregivers, mental health and law enforcement experts, representatives from the Oregon Health and Sciences University and Sharon Smith, wife of U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Oregon.

Gordly says being a black woman in the senate makes her feel empowered.

"All the members of Congress come with life experiences that are varied and rich. I bring an added value to my role, with a different lens in looking at public policy making," she said.

She adds, "One of the major reasons I'm here is so people

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Community Silence Hinders Rash of Gunfire

Chief asks for help after bloody weekend shooting

Police Chief Derrick Foxworth was frustrated with the lack of community cooperation after a rash of shootings left two men dead, a 14-year old girl in critical condition and resulted in no arrests.

Foxworth discussed the need for witnesses to come forward with information about five shootings this past weekend at his Chief's Forum on Monday.

"This has simply got to stop," Foxworth said. "You have a responsibility in keeping your community safe and in doing so, you have to share information. You have to come forward."

Forum member Richard Brown said the community's silence stems from a lack of

trust with police.

"Police have a bad reputation in a lot of the communities and we need to overcome that," he said.

The chief reassured citizens that Portland is a safe city, but some citizens are worried. Some residents called for new enforcement of curfew laws for young people, better diversity education in schools and more after-school activities. Others blame high unemployment on the spike in youth crimes.

The wounded 14-year-old girl was a "straight A" Jefferson High School student, according to family and friends.

Tyniece McConvey was shot at or near a party at the 1800 block of Northeast



Police Chief Derrick Foxworth

Junior Street at 1 a.m. Sunday.

Police said someone at the party was playing with a gun and they believe the firing was accidental. A juvenile was taken into custody, but no one was immediately charged.

Police said a shooting at 12:40 a.m. Monday on Northeast Sandy Boulevard stemmed from "a love triangle" fueled with alcohol, that resulted in a non-

life threatening wound to a 31-year-old Asian man. The shooter was not identified or taken into custody.

On Saturday night, Winston Morris Moton II, a 29-year-old African-American, was found dead from a gunshot wound near Northwest Fifth Avenue and Couch Street.

In a separate incident, four people were wounded by gunfire Saturday night after a fight involving an estimated 20 people at the Club Vegas parking lot on Northeast 75th Avenue and Killingsworth. The conditions and names of those injured have not yet been released. The victims were reportedly four African-American men.

Earlier Saturday, the body of Jamal Wells, 23, was found on the sidewalk at the intersection of Northeast 18th Avenue and Mason Street. He had been shot several times.

Foxworth said the shootings do not appear to be related.

In urging witnesses to come forward with information, the chief vowed that police would do all they could to protect them. He said it was likely the suspects would commit other crimes if not caught.

Those who know anything that could help the investigation were urged to call 503-823-0457 or 503-823-0451.

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