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Fashions from the Soul



Outfits for the African-American plus-sized woman
Focus, page B3



LeBron James wins NBA Rookie of the Year
Sports, page B6

The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

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Week in The Review

Ambassadors to usher in the...

Europe Rejects Bin Laden Truce

A man identifying himself as Osama bin Laden offered a "truce" to European countries that do not attack Muslims, saying it would begin when their soldiers leave Islamic nations, according to a recording broadcast Thursday on Arab satellite networks. Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain quickly spurned what appeared to be an attempt to drive a wedge between Europe and America.

School Security Declines

As the five-year anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre approaches, experts warn that the focus on school security has declined. Even in Colorado, where the deadliest school shooting in U.S. history occurred, some schools have not followed up on recommendations and the use of prevention programs has diminished.

Coke Goes Low-Cal

Coke is launching a mid-calorie cola that promises half the sugar, carbohydrates and calories of its regular version. The Atlanta-based company said Monday that Coca-Cola C2 will debut first in Japan and then the United States this summer. The company has been researching the idea for a year.

U.S. Military Negotiates with Fallujah Leaders

Fallujah's civic leaders joined American officials in calling for insurgents battling Marines here to surrender their heavy weapons in return for a promise not to resume the U.S. offensive against the city, according to a U.S. spokesman. The commitments appeared to be the first fruits of direct negotiations between U.S. officials and a group of civic leaders and professionals representing Fallujah residents.

Iraq Tour Extended for Thousands of Troops

The Pentagon said Thursday it is extending by three months the tours of some 20,000 American troops in Iraq, giving commanders the extra firepower they believe necessary to confront an insurgency that is taking a mounting toll on the U.S.-led coalition....

Sharon Gets Firm Support from U.S.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon now can count on unprecedented U.S. backing for his plan to hold on to parts of the West Bank, a policy shift by President Bush that strengthens Sharon politically just weeks ahead of a vote in his Likud Party on a proposed Gaza Strip pullout....



Nicole Zoeller, Parkrose



PHOTOS BY PRINTS CHARMING PHOTOGRAPHY



Angela Richard, Benson Polytechnic



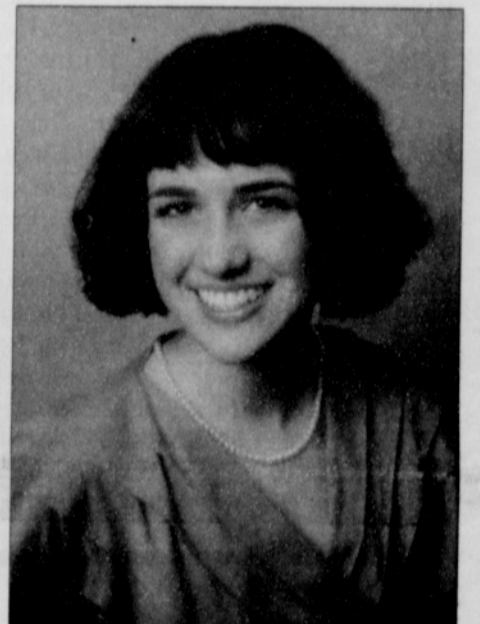
Elydia Ramirez, Roosevelt



Heather Mackris, David Douglas



Katie Koping, Madison



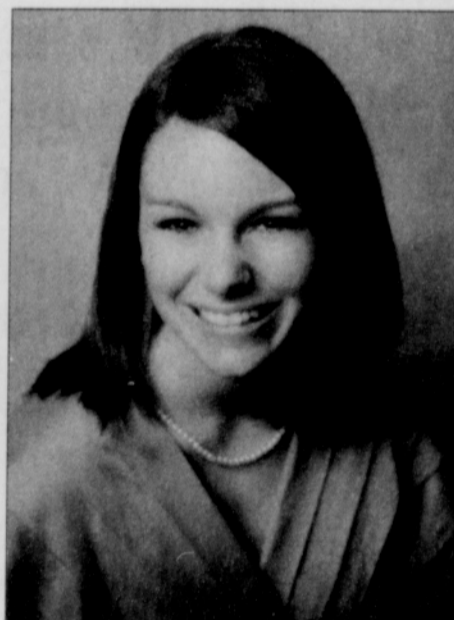
Erinna McCarthy, Lincoln



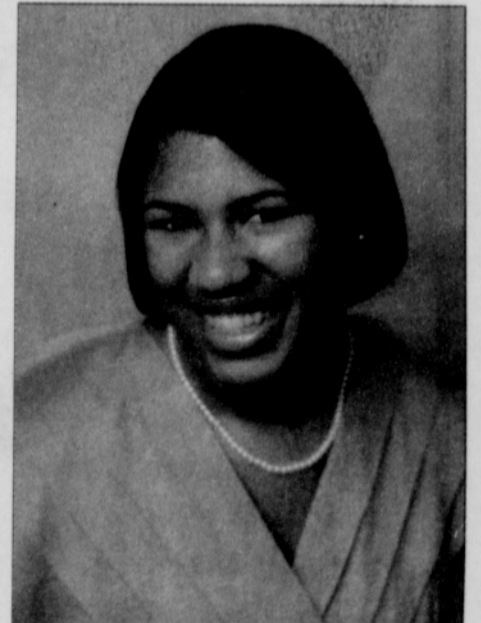
Tara Beatty, Wilson



Tiffany Steinmann, Cleveland



Megan Sinnott, Central Catholic



Erica Jones, St. Mary's Academy



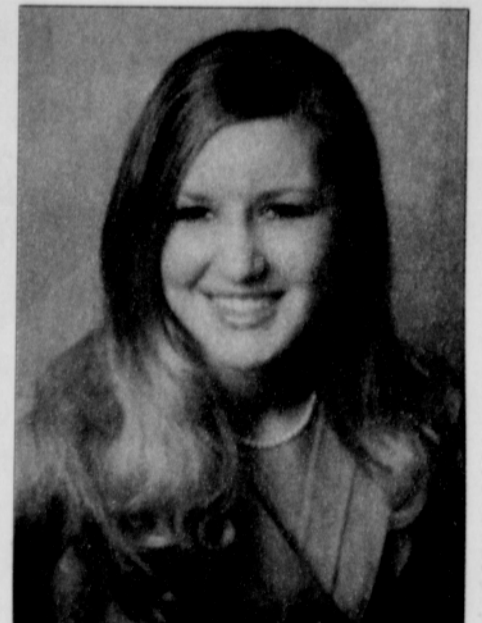
Kapri Pennington, Jefferson



Breanna Probasco-Canda, Grant



Nicole Crebillo, Marshall



Amanda Peterson, Franklin

Ambassadors from 14 Portland high schools are now in place for activities leading up to the 97th Portland Rose Festival. The high school seniors will kick off the world-acclaimed celebration with the theme "Dis-

cover the Wonders" during the Fred Meyer Queen's Coronation presented by Portland's WB at 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 3 on cable channel 3, over the air on channels 32 and 4.

The Portland Rose Festival bursts into

bloom each June to celebrate the City of Roses with special events, excitement and entertainment for all ages.

The festival's Southwest Airlines Grand Floral Parade is the second-largest all-floral parade in the nation and

just one of three colorful parades. Add to the mix an 11-day Waterfront Festival, the high-speed thrills of a Champ Car World Series Race, and a Fine Arts and Crafts Festival, and you have just the tip of the rosebud.

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