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CAREERS *special edition*

Hundreds of tips for job-seekers
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Remembering Ray Charles

'I was born with music inside me.'

See story, Page A3



The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

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Week in The Review

Gasoline Prices Inch Down
Gasoline prices, which soared to over \$2 a gallon before coming down a few cents in recent days "may be turning a corner" and should continue declining this summer, though motorists shouldn't expect dramatic decreases at the pump, the Energy Department said Tuesday.

French Fries Named Vegetable

Batter-coated French fries are a fresh vegetable, according to the Agriculture Department, which has a federal judge's ruling to back it up. But the department said the classification applies only to rules of commerce, not nutrition, and it doesn't consider an order of fries the same as an apple in school lunches.

Powell: Terrorism Report a 'Big Mistake'

A State Department report that incorrectly showed a decline last year in terrorism worldwide was a "big mistake," Secretary of State Colin Powell said. "Very embarrassing. I am not a happy camper over this. We were wrong," the secretary told NBC's "Meet the Press."



Colin Powell

Morning-After Pill Supported

The American Medical Association voiced its support for over-the-counter sales of morning-after birth control, saying the Food and Drug Administration was wrong to reject such sales and urging doctors to write advance prescriptions.

Voters Say War Unmerited

A majority of American registered voters now say conditions in Iraq did not merit war, but most are reluctant to abandon efforts there, according to a new Los Angeles Times poll.

Muslims Urged to Back Iraqi Government

U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan called on the world's Islamic nations to support the new Iraqi government, while Turkey said Muslim leaders must accept that political reform in the Middle East is inevitable.

Contractors Sued Over Prisoner Abuse

An unusual racketeering lawsuit filed by human rights lawyers accuses U.S. civilian contractors at the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq of conspiring to execute, rape and torture prisoners to boost corporate profits from military payments.



Leaders from Sisters in Action build community support for Jefferson High School students by passing out positive messages and gift bags on the last day of school.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

We Believe, You do Achieve

Sisters encourage school pride

As the last bell rang to mark the end of a long, hard school year, members

of Sisters in Action for Power greeted Jefferson High School students with congratulations and encouragement.

Sisters in Action leaders, many of whom are former and current Jefferson students, passed out

snacks and gift bags with messages telling students they have community support for their academic achievements.

With increased pressure and negative images of neighborhood schools,

many students expressed feeling a lack of support for their success. Sisters in Action helped to combat this message with a large banner reading, "We Believe, You do Achieve!"

Minority Business Hangs in the Balance

Local leader struggles to keep business and good name

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI

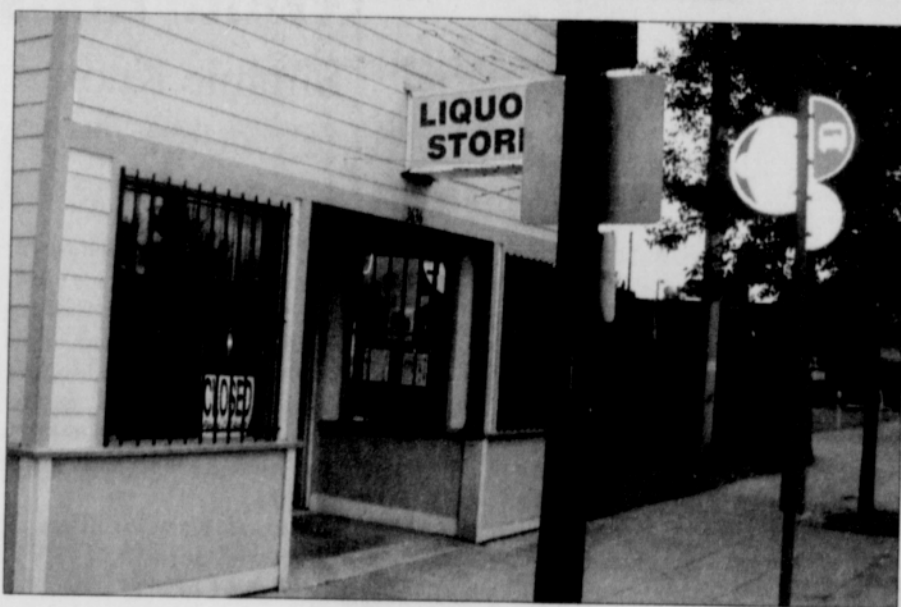
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A local African-American leader faces the loss of his business and reputation as a state agency accuses him of misappropriation of funds.

Robert Larry, president of the NAACP and operator of the King Boulevard Liquor Store, faces possible termination of his liquor license by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, for failure to make daily deposits.

The OLCC notified Larry in a letter that his contract would be terminated on June 22 if he cannot pay \$40,114, the balance of an original debt of \$148,114.

According to Teresa Kaiser,



The King Boulevard Liquor Store is closed as operator Robert Larry and the OLCC resolve disputes about record keeping and money owed.

executive director of the OLCC, this action was taken because Larry failed to make daily deposits of cash receipts between April 28 and June 2 and did not submit timely sales reports as required by his contract.

Larry reportedly held off on making the deposit and filing re-

ports on time until he could resolve a computer problem between his system and the OLCC. He said he kept the records and funds in a trust account.

This is not Larry's first run in with the OLCC. Six months after he purchased the business in 1997, he faced an administrative

hearing for shortages, with a ruling in his favor. He says the shortage was caused by inadequately trained employees' failure to change sticker prices of alcohol. Larry says he received letters of apology in the past from the OLCC for "falsified sting reports" and other inappro-

priate action.

According to Larry, several African-American liquor store operators have been unfairly scrutinized by the OLCC.

"I was targeted because I'm a very outspoken black man," Larry said.

He also speculated that his involvement in a dispute over renewal of a liquor license for the Ainsworth Safeway store spurred this action against him.

Larry closed his business on Thursday, June 10 until the matter is resolved. He plans to fight this latest charge in an administrative hearing, though he believes the OLCC needs to change its practices for good.

"The governor should seriously look at getting rid of the OLCC in its current operating capacity. Our state government is the biggest drug dealer in the State of Oregon and should stop bullying people and acting like the mafia."

Stage Set for Good in the Neighborhood

Multicultural celebration is annual event

BY LEE PERLMAN

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Good in the Neighborhood multicultural festival enters its 12 year next week with a kick-off party, parade and two days of entertainment and special events at King School Park in northeast Portland.

The kickoff party is scheduled at McMenamin's Kennedy School on Northeast 33rd Avenue from 6 to 10 p.m. on Thurs-

day, June 24. The event will feature The Light, Snapdance and Performance Company and the Blacknotes.

Once again, the main event celebrating north and northeast Portland neighborhoods will begin with a parade at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 26 starting at Legacy Emanuel Hospital, proceeding east on Russell Street and north on Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard to King School.

African-American business leader Paul Knauls Jr. is taking over from his father as organizer of the parade.

The park on Northeast Seventh Avenue,

south of Alberta Street will accommodate a full scheduled of music and entertainment both Saturday and Sunday.

The headline acts include Norman Sylvester, Patrick Lamb, Linda Hornbuckle, Chatta Addy, Brothers of the Baladi and gospel music from The Light. Once again the celebration will include a beer and wine garden, an Ethnic Marketplace, information booths, food booths and children's activities.

Detailed information about the festival is available on a new website, goodinthenighborhood.org. Also new this

year, beefed-up security and parking management, courtesy of Humboldt Neighborhood Association volunteer Herb Jenkins.

There is no admission to attend the park celebration. Last year, the festival moved from Holy Redeemer Area School and dropped charging admission to the event.

Organizer Cheryl Roberts said King School Park made it easier for people to come and go as they please. Others thought the site made the festival more of a neighborhood event, like a backyard barbecue.

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