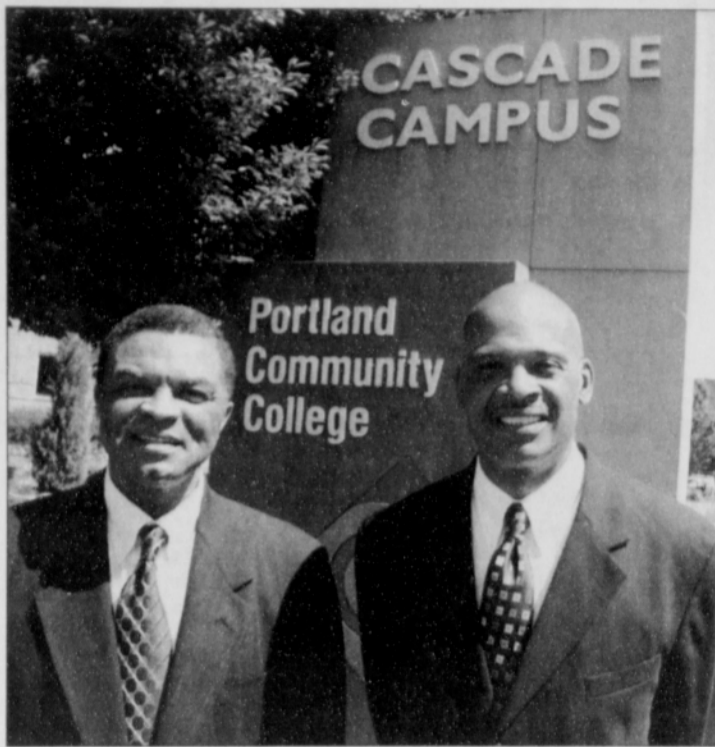


Presidents Lead PCC



continued from Front

The college has awarded a third of contracts to minority- and women-owned businesses, totaling \$8.7 million to date.

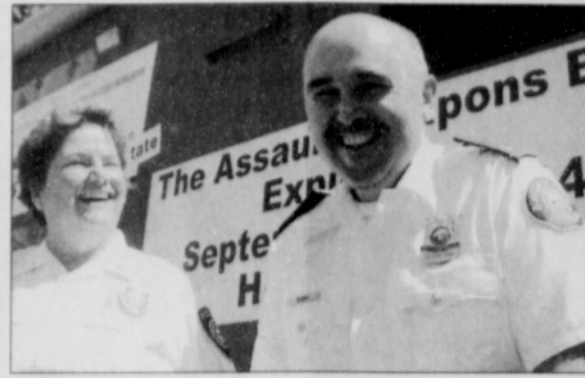
Pulliams also wants to raise scholarship funds for the college by soliciting donations from alumni. "We at PCC have a real need for more scholarship dollars, to meet the financial challenges. It's part of being accessible and affordable," Pulliams said.

For Gatewood, his priorities lie

in targeting high schools such as Jefferson and Roosevelt to make his college a natural bridge to higher education.

"The bottom line is to do what we can to help students be successful in this community. Until we feel that students have goal to be successful after high school, we won't be meeting this goal," he said.

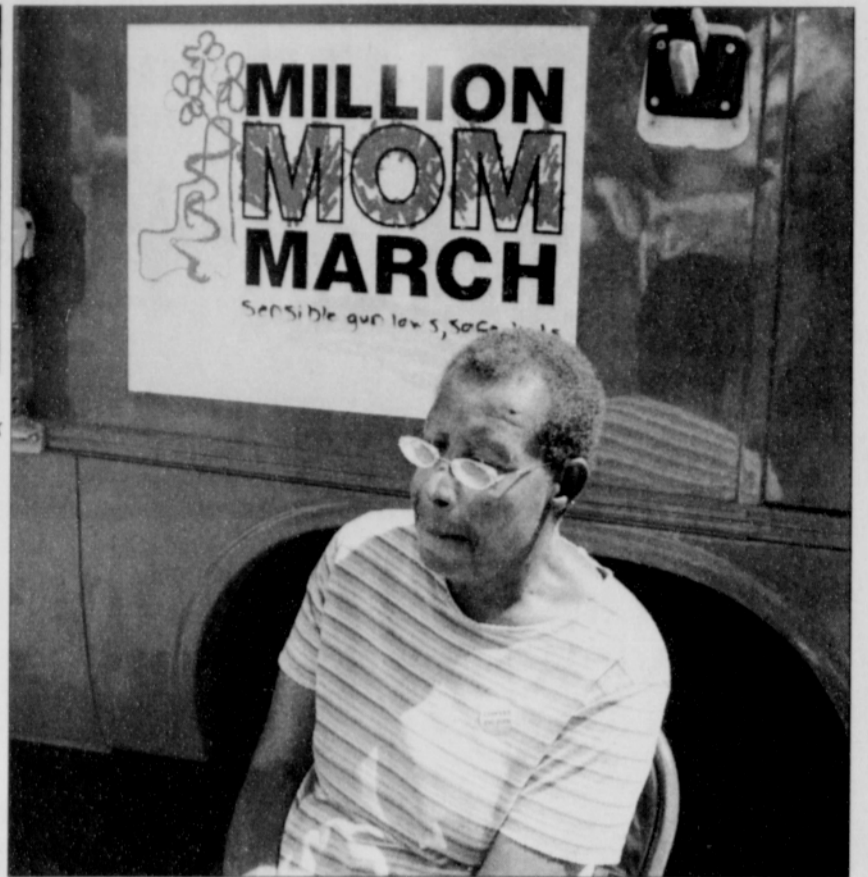
PCC is still accepting new applicant for the fall term. Financial assistance is available. For more information, visit www.pcc.edu or call 503-244-6111.



Gresham Police Chief Carla Piluso and Portland Assistant Police Chief Stanley Grubbs speak out against assault weapons at a demonstration at Pioneer Courthouse Square.

Roxy Dollar of a northeast Portland says she feels guns make a home unsafe for kids. She supports renewing the ban on assault weapons, which expires on Sept. 13.

PHOTOS BY JOHANNA S. KING/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Moms Rally Against Assault Weapons

Police join group supporting ban

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A van packed with moms with a cause parked at Pioneer Courthouse Square with the message to keep assault weapons off the streets.

The Big Pink Rig, a 26-foot recreation vehicle, staffed by members of the Million Mom March,

brought its national tour to Portland last week to bring attention to the expiration of an assault weapons ban.

The federal Assault Weapons Act bans the manufacture and sale of semiautomatic assault weapons, including the AK-47, Uzi and TEC-9. The act expires Sept. 13, unless renewed by Congress.

Gresham Police Chief Carla Piluso, who spoke at the event, said these weapons could escalate a

violent domestic situation.

"Guns and domestic violence, guns in relationship to youth and guns in gang activities is our highest priority in Gresham this summer," Piluso said.

According to data gathered from the FBI, a home with a gun is eight times more likely to have a homicide caused by a firearm.

Piluso expressed a specific concern over military-type assault weapons, saying, "these are the

bullets that will pierce our vests."

A renewal of the assault weapons ban is supported by police chiefs across the nation, said Portland Assistant Police Chief Stanley Grubbs.

"This is not an issue against personal possession of firearms," he said. "This weapon was not designed for hunting or home protection. It's a military weapon designed to kill as many people as quickly as possible."

Voting is Your Right

Any citizen who is 18 years old on Election Day is eligible to vote. Even convicted felons can vote if not currently in custody of the Oregon Dept. of Corrections. If you are in any other part of the criminal justice system, such as a county jail, you have not lost your voting privilege.

OREGON SYMPHONY IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS

Saturday, August 28
GLENWOOD PARK
SE 87th & Claybourne

Matt Catingub, conductor

Afternoon events begin at 3 p.m. Features performances, information booths, activities tables and food booths

Oregon Symphony concert at 7 p.m.

Sponsored by Health Net

Thursday, September 2
TOM McCALL WATERFRONT PARK

Carlos Kalmar, conductor

In downtown Portland, bowl area south of the Hawthorne Bridge

Portland Youth Philharmonic concert at 5 p.m. with Mei-Ann Chen, conductor

Oregon Symphony concert at 7 p.m. Features 1812 Overture with cannons and fireworks

(Rain date: September 3, 2004)

Sponsored by Bank of America

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Decisive Action to Stop Sudan Genocide Wanted

A chorus of civil rights activists and business leaders are expressing concern and calling for swift and more decisive action from the United States to put an end to the genocide in the Darfur region of the Sudan.

In a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, NAACP chairman Julian Bond admonished Powell and the Bush Administration and asked them to remember the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, and

Now the United States Holocaust Museum has agreed with us that the crisis there constitutes a full-fledged genocide emergency.

—NAACP chairman Julian Bond

the U.S.'s failure to act, allowing the murder of thousands.

"At our July National Convention in Philadelphia, NAACP delegates voted unanimously to declare the killings in Darfur acts of genocide," Bonds said. "Now the United States Holocaust Museum has agreed with us that the crisis there constitutes a full-fledged genocide emergency."

The NAACP resolution called upon U.S. and world leaders to respond to the crisis by disarming the militia and allowing humanitarian

workers full access into the country, as well as seeks travel and financial sanctions, and a ban on Sudanese oil, until the current crisis is addressed.

Reminding Powell of the murders in Rwanda, Bond said, "Failure to act in the Sudan will add countless thousands more to the death toll, and will make a mockery of our stated aims of spreading peace and democracy throughout the world."

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Health Disparity Found

Inadequate care for Medicare patients cited

The NAACP is expressing concern over findings of health care disparities in medical care given to elderly African Americans versus whites.

In a report released in the Aug. 5 New England Journal of Medicine, researchers found inadequate healthcare for black Medicare patients.

More than 25 percent of African-American Medicare patients visited physicians who could not consistently deliver high-quality care, compared to less than 20 percent of white patients. The study reported that only 22 percent of all U.S. primary care physicians accounted for 80 percent of all visits by African-American patients.

"While these findings are preliminary, the current state of affairs regarding health disparities is unacceptable," said Kweisi Mfume, NAACP president and chief executive officer. "We urge the leaders of this study to continue their investigation for greater comprehensive and accurate conclusions concerning the disparities between the African-American community and the society at large. All Americans ought to have a reasonable expectation that our nation will be committed to ending such gross differences in the availability of quality health care."

The NAACP Call to Action on Health initiative details disparities in such diseases as cardiovascular, diabetes, HIV/AIDS and cancer. The initiative calls for a reduction in health care disparities by at least 25 percent over the next five years by focusing on health management and prevention efforts on raising awareness of health risks, unbiased research and development, and changes in healthcare policy.

The study also found that African-American elderly patients were more likely than whites to see physicians who could not consistently refer patients to high-quality specialists, diagnostic imaging, and hospital admissions. More than 85 percent of white patients' visits occurred with physicians who are board certified, compared to less than 80 percent of African-American patients.

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