

In the Neighborhood

If the military draft was reinstated, do you think women should be included?

Women don't need to go to war; they are the producers not the destructors. Sending women to fight is a modern form of genocide.
Jamaal Lane



Women are a part of this country and they have to share fighting for its freedom.
Paula Sangster

Women have equal rights. We can't keep them out of the military just cause they are women.
Billy Gonzalez



The draft should include women; they should get the same opportunities as a man if they want to join the military. Also women should get the same rank and privileges.
Sherra Neal

Leaving out women is a form of sexual discrimination. Everyone should do what he or she can for his or her country if there's a war.
Thuan Nguyen



Black Caucus Taps Winters

The National Black Caucus of State Legislators has appointed Sen. Jackie Winters to serve as vice-chair for its International Affairs Committee. The former Portland resident and current Republican lawmaker from Salem said she plans use the post to help bring jobs to Oregon.

"With so much of Oregon's economy dependant on foreign trade, I hope to use this position to strengthen our state's international standing," Winters said. The caucus's primary mission is to develop, conduct and promote education and training programs designed to enhance the effectiveness of its mem-



Sen. Jackie Winters

bers. The group also advocates for legislators and their constituents at the federal level. "It is an honor for me to accept this appointment," said Winters. "This group has played an integral part in the exchange of ideas among African American legislators and their staffs."

Non-Partisan Legislature Wanted

Local senator helps bill advance

In an historic vote, the Oregon Senate Friday approved a bill that would make all legislative seats non-partisan. It also would make all statewide offices, including governor, secretary of state, and attorney general, non-partisan.

If Senate Bill 161 becomes law, Oregon will be the first state in the nation with non-partisan statewide offices. Nebraska is currently the only state with a non-partisan Legislature.

State Sen. Avel Gordly, an

African American lawmaker who represents northeast and southeast Portland, spoke on the senate floor in favor of the bill.

Gordly said a non-partisan Legislature would put emphasis on consensus-building and minimize the opportunity for legislative gridlock.

"Partisanship keeps us from looking at what is the best public policy that will move our state forward," she said. "This is an historic opportunity to change this process for the better."

"Not long ago I changed my



Sen. Avel Gordly

party registration from Democrat to Independent. It was a moment when I was through with the party politics that impede the progress that benefits all of Oregon.

"I changed my registration

back to Democrat, but I have held on to that registration card and look at it from time to time as a reminder of my roots and a reminder what goes wrong in this process, which is so tainted by partisan politics," Gordly said.

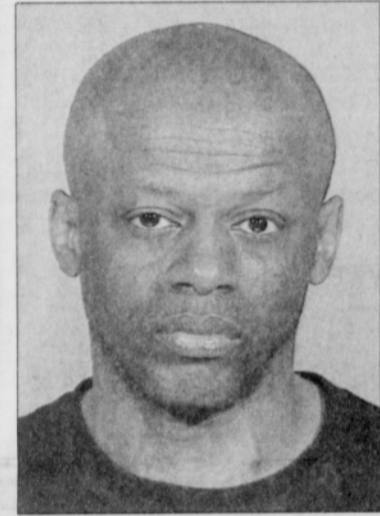
Under SB 161, each primary election will be open to as many candidates meet the filing requirements. The top two vote-getters will then advance to the general election regardless of party affiliation.

The reforms would not affect any federal offices, such as U.S. Senator or Congressman.

Homeless Man Killed Confronting Police

An African-American man described as homeless and recently released from a Washington State prison got into a confrontation with police and was shot and killed in Portland's old town Thursday morning.

Vernon Clifford Allen, also known as Duane Dave Allen, 48, brandished a knife and began to swing it toward an officer before police opened up their weapons. Police and witnesses said the incident occurred shortly af-



Vernon Clifford Allen

ter officers were called to the area regarding an agitated man with a knife.

Police said the first officer arrived and saw Allen standing on the sidewalk and attempted to talk to him and then take hold of him. Based on witness statements, officers repeatedly told him to drop his knife just before he lunged directly at the officers.

Three officers along with the original responding officer fired a total of six

rounds at the suspect who died at the scene.

"With every deadly force incident the community has many questions about the use of deadly force," said Chief Derrick Foxworth. "In this incident, a person fought with one officer and then upon the arrival of other officers, refused instructions to drop his knife and charged officers. The suspect's actions forced the officers into making a decision which no officer wants to make."

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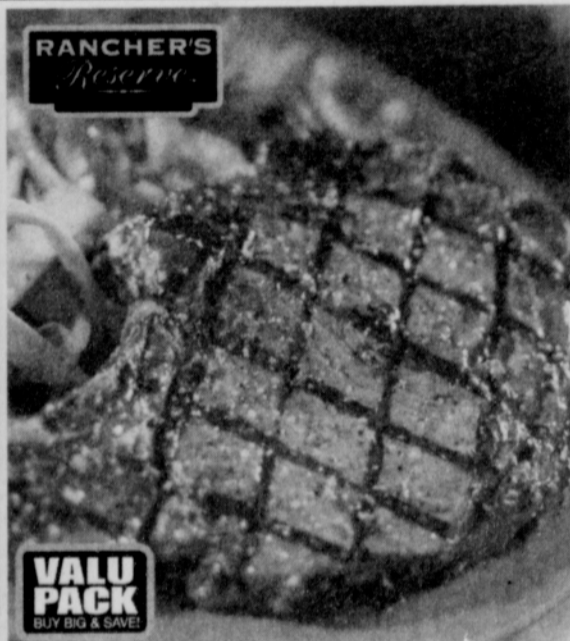
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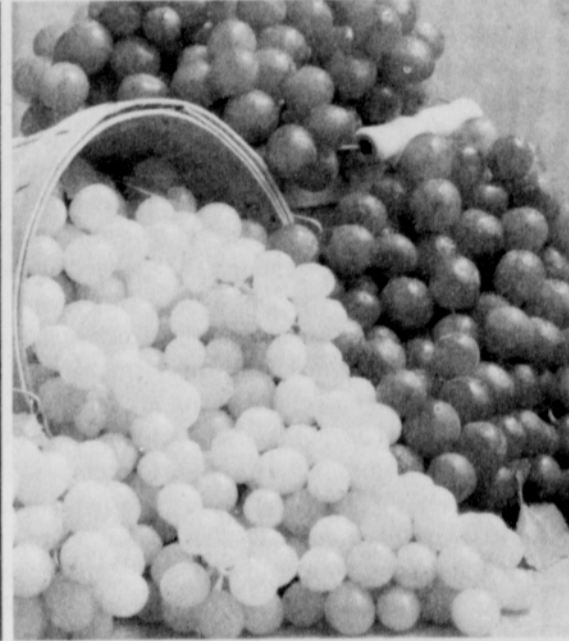


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