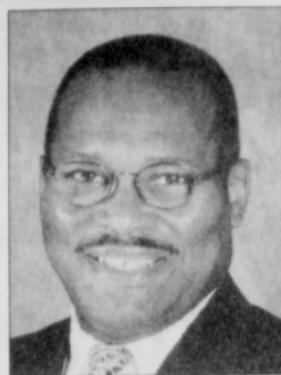


METRO

The Portland Observer

Students Prepared for Careers With 100 Majors

Taking the next step with Clark College
See page B2



35
years of
community service

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Drumming and Dancing

The North Star Ballroom, 635 N. Killingsworth, hosts ongoing classes on Tuesday and Wednesday's. Tuition is either \$15 drop in fee or \$75 for 6 weeks. Ghanaian rhythms will be presented through beginning and advanced drumming and you can also work up a sweat at their African Aerobics class. For more information call 503-283-2080

Bradley-Angle Needs Help

This is an opportunity to help through a diversity of programs from a crisis line to public speaking or administrative assistance to prevent domestic violence. Women of color and bilingual women are encouraged to call. For more information call 503-282-9940.

Women Mentors Wanted

Women in Community Service are seeking volunteer mentors for female offenders at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. Mentors provide support and encouragement to women transitioning from prison back into the community. Mentors must be female, 24 or older. Training is provided. Call 503-570-6614 for more information.

Children's Museum Fun

Portland Children's Museum will hold a variety of art activities for children throughout the month, including mediums using mosaic, African arts and culture and garden stepping-stones. For more information, call 503-223-6500 or visit www.portlandchildrensmuseum.org.

Get Fit, Stay Healthy!

Sankofaa Health Institute offers a free diabetes support group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every third Thursday at Alberta Simmons Plaza, 6707 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. For more information, call 503-285-2484.

AIDS Awareness

Albina Ministerial Alliance sponsors a bi-monthly support and education group for African Americans living with HIV/AIDS at Maranatha Church at 4222 N.E. 12th St. The group will meet every second and fourth Thursday of the month. For more information, call Elnathan Hudson at 503-285-0493 ext. 217.

Women in NAACP

Women in NAACP meets from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Saturday of each month at the American Red Cross Building, 3131 N. Vancouver. For questions, call 503-249-6263.

Birth Ready

Whether you need childbirth preparation classes, or just a refresher, Providence Health Systems has a workshop for you. Prepare for pain, take a weekend seminar or prepare big sisters and brothers-to-be throughout the summer by visiting www.providence.org/classes or call 503-574-6595.

Creative Space For Dance

Aurora Dance Studio, 5433 N.E. 30th (at Killingsworth), offers an array of classes for children, teens and adults at all levels of ability. Call 503-249-0201 or visit online at www.hevanet.com/auroradance for additional information.

Parenting Classes

Newborns don't come with instruction manuals but parents and parents-to-be can attend classes through Providence Health Systems to learn about a variety of topics from pain and childbirth to breastfeeding to infant CPR and much more. For a schedule of events, call 503-574-6595 or visit www.providence.org/classes.

Work Begins on Children's Bill of Rights

Document will help format public policy

BY KATHERINE KOVACICH
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sometimes it's difficult to listen to and understand what a child is really saying when adults are going about their daily lives.

This is why Mayor Tom Potter and Multnomah County Chair Diane Linn recently met in northeast Portland to create a Children's Bill of Rights to serve as a foundation to work toward the visions aimed at keeping youth safe through public policy.

More than 130 people attended the meeting at the Matt Dishman Community Center as a first step in the development of the document. About 50 youth participants from local schools made a commitment to come to future meetings to continue this work.

Small group discussions focused on priorities of children's issues, the priorities of community children, educating the public on the resources and lack thereof for children, motivating people to act, and improving access to children's programs through public and private resources.

"It helps us as a community to focus on the things that we value and the rights of children," said Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, policy manager for Neighborhoods and Education at Potter's office. "It puts us on the same page, it gives us a way to reflect on organizing what we're doing, a way to quantify gaps that may exist. It gives us a way to be strategic about how we work on children's issues, based on what the kids say."

Kennedy-Wong said a lot of what goes into the document has yet to be determined, but that the core value of the work is that in order for youth and the community to own the ideals, they have to create them.

"There were hundreds of ideas," she said. "Children have



Dozens of local youth participate in a session to craft a Children's Bill of Rights. The recent event at the Matt Dishman Community Center in northeast Portland also drew the attendance and support of Mayor Tom Potter

the right to be with safe adults, to have adequate education, to have fun, free time. There was a lot of discussion about education. It ran the gamut from food, housing and clothing to the right to express themselves independently."

Potter proposed the project in his campaign for mayor last year.

"He has consistently said that youth and children in our community are one of the most important things we should be

paying attention to," Kennedy-Wong said. "This is one way that we can look at our responsibilities as adults for them. To see how well we are protecting them and getting them engaged."

For information about getting involved with future sessions, contact Kennedy-Wong at 503-823-4277. Notes from the meetings will be on Potter's webpage at www.portlandonline.com/mayor/



Weekend of Roses

Supports Student Athletes

Celebration, banquet and tournament feature best in golf, basketball

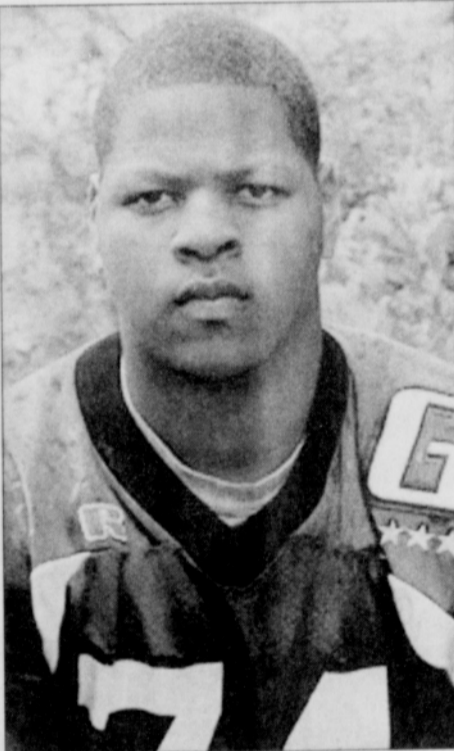
BY NICOLE HOOPER
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A Weekend of Roses, a celebration of golf and basketball that supports local student athletes and draws top-ranked coaches and talent, is marking its fourth year with consistency and pride.

Each year, the Journeys Foundation puts on a golf challenge, a banquet and a basketball tournament to showcase area talent and build support for the non-profit's programs helping kids.

The celebration kicks off Thursday, June 9 with a "Community of Coaches" golf challenge at The Reserve Vineyards and Golf Club that draws some of the top coaches and athletes in the country. An "Inner City Players" banquet at 6 p.m. will follow the 18 holes of golf and conversation.

The banquet will honor Grant High School football star Ndamuhkong "Damo" Suh, who will be attending the University of Nebraska, and Jefferson High School basketball star Brian Morris, who will attend Southern Methodist University.



Ndamuhkong "Damo" Suh

The keynote speaker will be Oregon State University Men's Basketball Coach John Jay. He and 70 other college coaches from around the country will also participate at the golf tournament earlier that day.

On Friday, June 10, eight national Ameri-



Canaan Chatman

can Athletic Union basketball teams will arrive in Portland to compete in a three-day quest for the "2005 Rose City Crown." The field will include 17 of the top 25 players in the country. Select teams will be featured during an opening 5 p.m. "Rose City Showcase" at

Grant High School.

Competition continues on Saturday, June 11 and the championship games are on Sunday June 12 beginning at 6:15 p.m. Undercard games on both days will showcase 20 of the top youth AAU teams in the northwest.

Canaan Chatman, regional director of grass roots basketball for adidas America, and founder of the Journeys Foundation, directs this Rose Festival sanctioned event.

Chatman is a graduate of Benson High School. He said he was fortunate to gain a scholarship for basketball to attend Oregon State University and University of Portland.

"It paid for me to further my academics," said Chatman.

Chatman's goals have also been consistent; the mission of the Journey's Foundation is to provide a foundation for student athletes to succeed personally, academically and athletically. Each recipient has to not only excel in athletics but also maintain a certain grade point average and perform community service.

With so many events at this year's Weekend at Roses, area residents are encouraged to get involved as a spectator and as a participant.

For more information, contact Chatman at 503-281-6310.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Lanita Duke is half the team of Grassroots News Production. She and her daughter Nia Gray have built an award winning media company.

Local Media Producers Earn Success

Mother, daughter team up for film

For more than 20 years, Lanita Duke and her daughter Nia Gray of Grassroots News Productions have successfully combined social and community education and video production. The mother and daughter team was recently awarded the 2005 Creative Summit Award.

Their international award winning video, "No Drama: Having Positive Interaction with the Police," tackles the sometimes problematic confrontations between minority youth and police.

The documentary was created in the aftermath of Portland Police officers in-

volved in fatal shootings of local African American motorists James Perez last year and Kendra James in 2003.

The video raises the question, "Do our young people know what to do when approached by the police on the street or in a car?"

Understanding the difference between the right and wrong way to react to a police encounter can save lives.

"This video is a tool," Gray said. "It is an open door for youth and law enforcement to communicate."

"No Drama: Having Positive Interaction with the Police," was funded by the Department of Juvenile Justice and Oregon Youth Authority and was written and produced by adjudicated youth based on their personal negative and positive

This video is a tool. It is an open door for youth and law enforcement to communicate.

—Nia Gray, Grassroots News

interactions with the police.

The 11th Annual Creative Summit Award competition received 3,000 entries from 23 countries. This unique competition rewards those truly deserving of special recognition. Submissions are evaluated based on the strength of their idea, the quality of execution and their ability to persuade.