

Living
SmartHouses for narrow lots
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DancersAlumni included
in celebration
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Week in
The Review

School Closures Approved

The Portland School Board has voted to close Gregory Heights Middle School and Rose City Park Elementary School in northeast Portland, and Kellogg Middle School in southeast Portland, with more closures possible by Thursday. The axe fell because of budget cuts and declining enrollment. See story, page A3.

Ex-School Janitors Win

The Oregon Supreme Court refused to reconsider an October ruling, stating that the Portland School District violated state labor laws when it fired janitors in 2002 for lower paid contractors. Now the ex-employees may be awarded back wages. See story, page A3.

Top Court Backs Smith

The Supreme Court ruled Monday that one-time stripper and Playboy Playmate Anna Nicole Smith could pursue part of her late husband's oil fortune. The estate of J. Howard Marshall II has been estimated at as much as \$1.6 billion.

New Evacuation Plans

Mayor Ray Nagin unveiled a new evacuation strategy for New Orleans on Tuesday that relies more on buses and trains and eliminates the Superdome and Convention Center as shelters. "There will be no shelter of last resort," Nagin declared.

Wyden Shuts Down Senate

Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden tied up the Senate for more than 4 1/2 hours Thursday as he tried to force a vote on a plan to make energy companies pay royalties on hundreds of leases of federal land. See story, page A2.

Clippers Finally Win

The Los Angeles Clippers were a happy bunch Monday after putting an end to a 30-year drought by beating the Denver Nuggets. The Clippers hadn't won a playoff series since 1976, when the team was playing in Buffalo with Coach Jack Ramsey. See story in Sports, page B6.

Rallying Immigrant Support

Comparisons to
civil rights
struggle madeBY SARAH BLOUNT
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

An estimated 10,000 Latinos and equal rights supporters formed a traffic-crippling march through downtown Portland during a "Day Without Immigrants" rally and parade on May Day.

From the familiar chants of "Si Se Puede" (Yes, We Can) to "Hell No, We Won't Go," Monday's fight for immigration rights demonstrated the spread from a Latino focus to a struggle for all citizens.

The presence of one of the rally's first speakers, Gary Clay, who was invited to speak by the Immigration Rights Coalition, represented a shared purpose.

"As an African American, I can identify," he said to a swelling crowd on the South Park Blocks.

"What they're going through is partially what we went through with the Civil Rights days," he later said.

Many countries around the world recognize the first day of May as International Worker's Day and Portland's May Day crowd was one of the city's most diverse gatherings to date.

The mix of such a boisterous crowd seemed to illustrate the issue's growing importance and



universal relevance:

Nelly Contreras watched the rally, dressed in full regalia representing her dance group, Mexica Teahui, as Jason Scheckler with the Carpenters Union spoke about the downfall of millions of Mexican farmers since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Later, chants in Philippine proclaimed, "United together, we'll never be defeated!"

A young white woman spoke about small farmers in the shadow of large agriculture, and was sometimes taken aback at the eruptions of applause.

It's not clear how our economy was affected by anticipated labor strikes, but many workers who were not striking came to the rally to offer their support.

Alex Mendez, a Latino born of immigrant parents but raised in Oregon, smiled as he marched by, clutching an American flag.

"This is my first rally," he said.

Gary Clay calls for justice, saying he can identify with people struggling for equality at the 'Day Without Immigrants' rally in downtown Portland Monday.

PHOTO BY SARAH BLOUNT/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Latin grooves of Las 3 Divas will delight crowds during Portland's Cinco De Mayo Fiesta.

Waterfront Sizzle
for Cinco De MayoWeekend festival
begins Thursday

New and familiar music, foods and activities will make the downtown Waterfront sizzle with the 22nd Annual Cinco De Mayo Fiesta, opening Thursday and continuing through Sunday at Tom McCall Waterfront Park.

Sponsored by the Portland Guadalajara Sister City Association, the family fun activities, cultural exchanges, and educational opportunities are expected to draw 300,000 people to the event.

As always, the fiesta will feature the popular family carnival through-

out the event and will host its famous Fireworks Spectacular on Friday, May 5 at 10 p.m.

The fiesta takes on a special significance this year, as the Mayor of Guadalajara will visit Portland to renew the 23-year old Portland-Guadalajara Sister City Agreement with Portland Mayor Tom Potter. Also, the festival will welcome the installment its new "Guadalajara Pavilion," dedicated solely to showcase the unique handcrafted works of 38 artisans and jewelers visiting from Portland's Mexican Sister City.

"This year marks a very special Cinco de Mayo Fiesta," said Maria

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Police Shuffle May Stifle Minority Voice

With top brass Foxworth and
Elmore out, progress could stallBY SARAH BLOUNT
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

When Police Chief Derrick Foxworth was placed on paid leave last month, the mayor gave interim chief Rosie Sizer full control of the reigns. As Tom Potter said, she must have complete authority in order to run the 950-member force.

It's a sound idea, but the results of Sizer's shockingly swift reorganization have been alarming. Assistant Chief Dorothy Elmore said Sizer asked her to step aside the day after Sizer's appointment, prompting Elmore to announce her retirement date, June 30. Foxworth appointed Elmore last October as the

first African American woman assistant chief. Elmore told the Oregonian last week that Sizer informed her of her decision the day after she was appointed to acting chief.

No replacement has been named for Elmore, who leads the support services branch in charge of the personnel, records and internal affairs.

A sexual misconduct complaint against Foxworth is currently under independent review, and Potter announced plans to open the chief's job to competition if Foxworth doesn't return, gets demoted or retires three years early.



Derrick Foxworth



Dorothy Elmore

Judging from the new activity and new blood, the recent changes may be permanent.

This happens to the dismay of many African Americans, who've expressed concerns about minor-

ity and police relations—a complicated issue Foxworth was successful in addressing, after former Chief Mark Kroeker left the bureau with a legacy of brutality and senseless police shootings.

Foxworth was a local hero to many Portlanders, given his relationship in his hometown, and his ability to bridge the gap between the police and black community. Sizer's hasty entrance leaves some wondering if Portland is headed backwards in the struggle to have equal representation.

Sizer has pledged to pick up where Foxworth left off reaching out to all minorities, and said officers must not rely solely on arrests, but must build relationships in the neighborhoods they serve.

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