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Special Edition

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transition to college



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# The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

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## Week in The Review

### Boxing Great Remembered

Floyd Patterson, the under-sized heavy-weight who won the title at age 21 and never stopped taking on the giants of his time, is being remembered. Patterson died Thursday at his home in New Paltz, N.Y., at the age of 71. See story, page B6.



### Virus at Vancouver School

A norovirus outbreak is believed to be the reason for a wave of illness at a Vancouver-area grade school. About 120 students and 15 staff members at Ellsworth Elementary School stayed home Monday because of illness.

### 'Survivor' Gets 4 Years

Richard Hatch, who won \$1 million in the debut season of "Survivor," has been sentenced to more than

four years in prison for failing to pay taxes on his reality TV prize and other income. The judge said he believed Hatch had repeatedly committed perjury on the witness stand.

### Third Duke Player Charged

A Duke University lacrosse team captain became the third player indicted in the rape scandal Monday and the first to speak out, blasting the charges against him as "fantastic lies."

### HUD Secretary Apologizes

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson has apologized for telling a Dallas, Texas business group that he had rejected a HUD contract because the contractor had criticized President Bush. Jackson, seeking to avoid a political firestorm, said he made up the story.



### Driving Rains Ease Up

Driving rains that caused the worst flooding in New England since the 1930s finally eased up Tuesday, but washed-out roads and the danger of dam breaks prevented many people from returning to their homes.

### Fighter Jet Sale Possible

Venezuela is considering selling its fleet of U.S.-made F-16 fighter jets to another country, perhaps Iran, in response to a U.S. ban on arms sales to President Hugo Chavez's government, a military official said Tuesday.

Juanita Wynne (center) of Berkley, Calif. is one of the plaintiffs in a class action lawsuit against the Portland-based restaurant chain McCormick & Schmick's. Also pictured, her attorneys Diana Tate, head of the African-American Agenda at the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and Bill Lann Lee, a partner at Lieff Cabraser and a former Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights in the Clinton Justice Department.



## Restaurant Empire Defends Hiring

### Accused of corporate policy favoring whites

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland's upscale restaurant chain of McCormick & Schmick's has been named in a lawsuit alleging the national corporation prefers white employees in hiring and relegates workers of color to lower paid out-of-view jobs. The operator of about 60 upscale seafood restaurants nationwide, including Jake's Famous Crawfish and Harborside Restaurant and Pilsner Room in Portland, was accused of discrimination in a federal court suit in San Francisco Thursday.

A black waitress employed at the company and a black bartender, both from Berkeley, Ca., accuse the company of passing over blacks

for promotions or employment.

A central allegation lawsuit is that McCormick & Schmick's has a nationwide corporate policy and practice of preferring white employees over African American employees for "front-of-the-house" positions. These are the prominent, better-paying jobs, including servers, hostesses, hosts, and bartenders.

The suit said black workers were given lower-paying jobs and shorter or less-desirable shifts than white counterparts.

The lawsuit charges that McCormick & Schmick managers throw away applications from African American job seekers without seriously considering them.

In addition, the complaint alleges that managers have been instructed by corporate headquarters to "clean up the restaurant," meaning to hire fewer African Americans, to keep the African American employees away from front-of-the-house po-

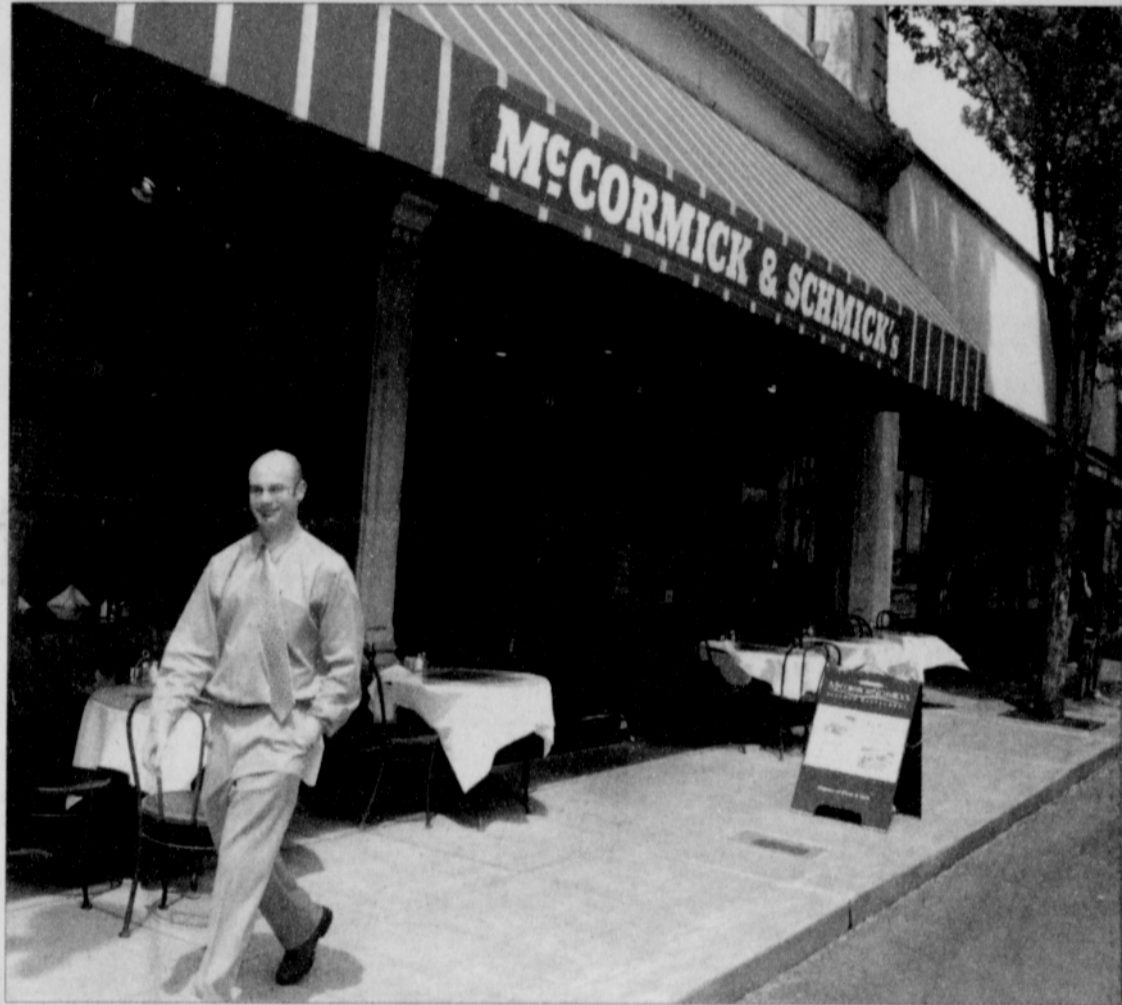


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

McCormick and Schmick's manager Geoff Helzer takes inventory of the sidewalk area outside the upscale seafood restaurant at 235 S.W. First Ave. A lawsuit accuses the national chain of racial discrimination. The Portland restaurant is not named in the legal action.

sitions, and to subject African American employees to harsher discipline.

A spokesman for the restaurant chain said the company does not discriminate.

"We believe these allegations to be completely unfounded," spokesman John Flanagan said.

The founder of McCormick and Schmidt's is a powerful force for Republican Party politics. William

P. McCormick was co-finance chair for President Bush's 2004 campaign, served as finance chair for the election of U.S. Sen. Gordon

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## Annual Alberta Art Hop to Fill Street



PHOTO BY SARAH BLOUNT/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Northeast Alberta Street businesses are expecting large crowds this Saturday and Sunday for the annual Alberta Street Art Hop. Four stages will provide entertainment and two street parades are scheduled for Saturday

### Weekend of 'surprises' coming

Entering its seventh year, the Alberta Street Art Hop celebrates the soul of the Alberta Arts District with street vendors, musicians, and dancers, and patrons hungry for art and international food from local businesses stretching more than a mile from Martin Luther King Boulevard to Northeast 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue.

More than 10,000 people filed along Alberta during the Art Hop last year, and the 2006 version is spread over Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21, with a new, souped up schedule showing that the street is all grown up with serious artistic credibility.

The non-profit organization Art on Alberta has hired their first festival coordinator, packing in the traditional impromptu street performance, fire dancers, tall bikes and vendors with a first-time partnership with the city of Portland and sister festival, the Oregon Country Fair.

This year's theme is "The Art of

Surprise and The Surprise of Art" with a competition displayed at "Art Hop Central" and judged by Junko Iijima and Deb Stoner, artists and educators, and Arthur DeBow, director of the Hoffman Gallery at Oregon College of Art & Craft

Four stages this year give art hoppers the choice between diverse and arty acts on the main stage at Northeast 20<sup>th</sup> and Alberta, "global-loco" international and local flavor at the Backyard Voodoo Lounge, kid stuff at Northeast 14<sup>th</sup> and Alberta and singer-songwriters on the Song Art stage at Northeast 21<sup>st</sup> and Alberta.

A street parade led by March Fourth begins at 3 p.m. Saturday, followed by other marching groups and whoever else jumps in. A new nighttime parade will be led by the Dream Time Marching Band, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Backyard Voodoo Lounge stage between

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