

**Grand Jury Clears Police**

No wrongdoing is found in the death of a man who died in police custody

See story, page A2

Hispanic Heritage Celebrated

Alberta Street's Onda Arte Latina opens photo exhibit

See story, page A6



The Portland Observer

Established in 1970
Committed to Cultural Diversity

www.portlandobserver.com
Wednesday • October 18, 2006

Week in The Review

2nd Nuclear Test Possible

Satellite images indicate North Korea appears to be getting ready for a second nuclear test, officials said Tuesday, as the defiant communist regime held huge rallies and proclaimed that U.N. sanctions for its first nuclear test amount to a declaration of war.

Schnitzer Admits Bribery

Schnitzer Steel Industries Inc. of Portland has agreed to pay \$15.2 million over charges that its Asian subsidiary bribed steel mill managers in China and South Korea, the company said Monday. The company reached the settlement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Snipes Accused of Tax Fraud

Actor Wesley Snipes was indicted Tuesday on eight counts of tax fraud, accused of trying to cheat the government out of nearly \$12 million in false refund claims and not filing returns for six years. Prosecutors said Snipes fraudulently claimed refunds totaling nearly \$12 million in 1996 and 1997.

Democracy Push Backfires

The United States has quietly retreated from its high-profile push for democracy in the Muslim world, since the Hamas election stunned the Bush administration by bringing a violent militant group to power. Experts say U.S. policy-makers saw the Hamas victory as a potentially dangerous trend.

Madonna Adopts African Tot

Pop superstar Madonna's adopted child has arrived in Britain after a private jet flew the tot out of South Africa, overnight. Malawi-born David Banda traveled with the singer's bodyguard and personal assistant, and was met by a press frenzy when he arrived at Madonna's London home.

Hawaii Cleanup Begins

Hawaiian residents were inspecting their foundations and cleaning up damage in their homes after a 6.7 magnitude earthquake on Sunday on the Big Island. Preliminary damage was estimated at \$46 million.

Lidle Gets Fond Farewell

Yankees pitcher Cory Lidle was remembered as "a loving husband and an awesome father" Tuesday at a memorial service. An inexperienced pilot, Lidle died after his plane crashed into a New York City high-rise.

Campaign for Credibility

Frederick, Cogen work to regain trust in county election

BY SARAH BLOUNT
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Jeff Cogen and Lew Frederick have a tall order in their race for an open seat on the Multnomah County Commission.

Both candidates are working to gain back the trust of county residents who feel betrayed by a county board that has raised public spats to highly negative and sensationalized personal attacks.

As the Nov. 7 General Election draws near, Frederick, a local African American leader and former broadcaster, and Cogen, chief of staff to City Commissioner Dan Saltzman, both promise to bring some cohesion to the board.

"Until we restore the credibility on the county board, it will be difficult to address other issues," Cogen said.

Frederick agrees: "The County needs to do a significantly better job, and I hope to provide a face and contact point for the community, for what the county actually does," he said.

So far both candidates have practiced what they preach in keeping the race clean, except for a recent bicker regarding polling techniques.

Neither Frederick nor Cogen have sought a political office before, but both have adequate and relevant experience - Frederick has long-standing ties with his community and county, with an astonishingly diverse resume dating back 30 years, including gigs as a television reporter, Portland school district spokesman and current PhD candidate at Portland State University.

Cogen adds to his city government background with experience running a small pre-tzel company and organizing a grass roots organization to increase public investment to children.

Both candidates recognize similar county and philosophical issues.

For instance, both pledge to foster the diversity of the District 2 county commis-

sion district they are running in, which envelops north and northeast Portland, the county's most diverse population.

Frederick said he would be an advocate for minority contractors who struggle for business.

"A lot of black contractors didn't know about the possibility of the South Waterfront project until it was too late," Frederick

said. "Public officials assumed everyone would have the same access. There isn't a county board member who spends time with the Portland Development Commission on a regular basis, and that is important because it has a direct impact on businesses in north and northeast Portland."

If elected, Cogen wants the county to do a better job working with minority, women and emerging businesses. Ten years ago he created a business outreach program with PSU, which allowed business students to consult with aspiring minority business owners in north and northeast. He says the program created jobs at a fraction of the cost of federal job programs.

"We used resources we already had, and that's a huge lesson for government," Cogen said.

Both candidates are interested in reinstating Portland's Youth Gang Outreach Program, which has been nearly dismantled with just one staffer.

continued on page A3



Lew Frederick (left) and Jeff Cogen, candidates for county commissioner for north and northeast Portland, meet during a public forum at Rigler Elementary in northeast Portland. Kathy Turner moderated the debate for Portland Impact.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

"A lot of black contractors didn't know about the possibility of the South Waterfront project until it was too late."

— Lew Frederick

Former Chief Cites Emotional Distress, Harm

Foxworth seeks to right a wrong

BY WILLIAM MCCALL

Sexually explicit e-mail cost former police Chief Derrick Foxworth his job after Mayor Tom Potter said the man he helped move up through ranks had to be held to a "higher standard."

Now Foxworth is threatening to sue the city, claiming he was unfairly demoted to captain and reprimanded because he's a black man who was involved in a relationship with a white woman.

Potter responded with a brief statement: "I regret that Derrick Foxworth has indicated he may pursue a legal action against the city. If he proceeds with a lawsuit, then the city is prepared to vigorously defend itself against any allegation that he was treated unfairly or inappropriately. Until then, I cannot comment on specifics."

It was a response, ironically, from a mayor who was seen as a civil rights activist when he was police chief in the early 1990s, marching in gay pride parades and promoting and recruiting minorities and women at the Portland Police Bureau, where his daughter, Katie, was among the first openly gay officers to serve.

In another irony, the second woman to serve as Portland police chief, Rosie Sizer, who is white, immediately promoted Foxworth to commander after Potter named her to replace Foxworth.

The Foxworth demotion came after a city investigation into allegations by a desk clerk, Angela Oswald, who had a relationship with Foxworth when he was her precinct commander earlier in his career.

Her lawyer, Victor Calzaretta, released excerpts of sexually explicit e-mails from Foxworth when he filed legal notices with the city after going directly to the mayor with allegations that Foxworth had abused his authority. Portions of the emails were broadcast and the entire versions were published on TV websites.



Derrick Foxworth

But the city cleared Foxworth of seven of eight allegations Oswald made against him, leaving only a minor complaint about sharing his personal opinion by email with his then-girlfriend about an unrelated inquiry into alleged sexual harassment by police.

In his statement to announce the Foxworth demotion last June, Potter noted that both Oswald and Foxworth agreed "their relationship was a consensual one."

Potter also noted a 40-page city report "concludes that investigators found nothing to substantiate allegations of sexual harassment."

Foxworth, through his attorney, Lawrence Matasar, emphasized the fact that the city already knew about the relationship before Foxworth was promoted to chief.

In an Oct. 4 letter from Matasar to the city notifying it that Foxworth intends to sue, Matasar claims Foxworth did nothing wrong because there is no city rule that prohibits personal relationships with co-workers.

Matasar also said other senior officials have had romantic relationships with co-workers and were never disciplined.

"The reason given for his removal was that he did not meet the 'high standards' expected of a Chief of Police," Matasar wrote. "However we do not believe that the reason given was the actual reason for removal."

But Yvonne Deckard, the city's human resources director - who also is black - defended the mayor's decision, saying she thought the demotion was "appropriate."

The former chief is seeking \$1 million in damages for emotional distress and harm to his reputation and career, along with about \$250,000 to cover his reduced pay and pension, and \$60,000 for attorney fees so far.

William McCall is a reporter for the Associated Press in Portland.

"Other senior officials have had romantic relationships with co-workers and were never disciplined."

— Lawrence Matasar, attorney for Portland Police Commander Derrick Foxworth

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, OR
PERMIT
NO. 1610



University of Oregon
Knight Library
1299 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1205