



Tears of Joy Puppet Theatre brings 'Shoemaker and the Elves' to the Portland Center for the Performing Arts, Friday Feb. 2 through Feb. 18.

## Family Fun with Puppets

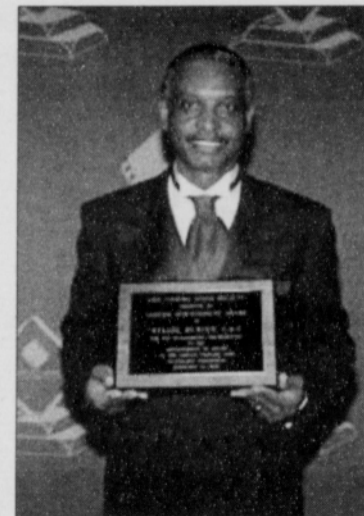
Tears of Joy Puppet Theater presents "Shoemaker and the Elves," a show of hopes and miracles that originated at the Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta, at Brunish Hall in the Portland Center of the Performing Arts, 1111 S.W. Broadway.

Set in 1940's Manhattan, two displaced elves nurse their wounds over a recent job loss at the North Pole. Meanwhile, a despondent shoemaker closes his doors after 40 years of busi-

ness. Humor packs this story with appearances from Groucho Marx, Carmen Miranda, Louis Armstrong and a faithful old time radio.

Shows are Friday, Feb 2 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb 3 at 11 a.m.; Sunday, Feb 4 at 2 & 4 p.m.; Saturday, Feb 10 at 11 a.m.; Sunday, Feb 11 at 2 and 4 p.m.; Saturday, Feb 17 at 11 a.m. and Sunday, Feb 18 at 2 & 4 p.m.

For tickets and information, call 360-695-0477 or 503-248-0557 or visit tojt.com.



Willie Burton

## Sound Tech Gets Record Oscar Nod Got his break from Sidney Poitier

Willie Burton, an African American sound technician in the film industry, was honored with his seventh Academy Award nomination for sound mixing the critically acclaimed theatrical musical, "Dreamgirls."

The honor gives Burton the title of have the most Oscar nominations for an African American. The only person who comes close to his record is Denzel Washington, who has five.

Burton has mixed more than 77 films since 1970, and was honored in 2005 with the Lifetime Career Achievement Award by the Cinema Audio Society.

He was born in Tuscaloosa, Ala. with extremely humble beginnings of picking cotton just to help buy school clothes and a decent pair of shoes. He attended trade school for Electronics before joining the Navy and working in engineering.

Burton was a janitor in an office building before getting his big break to do sound mixing for a movie called, "Let's Do It Again" (1975). Sidney Poitier, a star actor in the film, was the man who made it happen.

"Poitier took a chance on me when no one else would," Burton recalls. "But he looked me in the eyes and said 'you better not let me down.'" Afterwards, Burton and Poitier developed a bond, and Poitier hired him to do sound for all of his subsequent films.

## Harry Potter Finale Coming

(AP) - Harry Potter's fate will be revealed to the world when the seventh and last book instalment -- "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" -- is released on July 21.

Publishers Bloomsbury announced the released date for what they called "this most anticipated of books", which booksellers predicted will set off a new Potter frenzy.

J.K. Rowling, the series' British au-

thor, has said she is poised to kill off two characters in the final installment and many fans fear the boy wizard will be a victim in his last year at Hogwarts school.

The suspense has added to expectations that fans will be waiting outside bookshops for a midnight launch.

British book retailer Waterstone's predicted that half a million copies would fly off the shelves on day one of sales.



Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliff on the set of "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

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