

Planned Parenthood Clinic Advances

Abortion issue fails to persuade

BY SARAH BLOUNT
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Abortion, while only a small part of Planned Parenthood services, overshadowed an intense debate on April 11 that ended with the Portland Development Commission approving the women's health clinic on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

With the proposed site in the heart of the African American community, more than 100 people attended the urban renewal agency's final meeting to share either support or objections, arguing the financial benefits, religious morality and racial disparity.

Some, who presented passionate cases against the clinic, even cried black genocide.

But in the end, the PDC gave the okay for Planned Parenthood to move its local headquarters from southeast Portland to the corner of MLK and Beech Street.

Proponents say the clinic will serve a diverse population and bring 140 jobs. The three-story building also will include nearly 15,000 square feet of retail space that is expected to bring in another 40 jobs over the next few years.

The PDC approval is final and cannot be appealed, according to Sara King, an urban renewal manager for the agency. Barring any complications between the clinic and the developer, Beech Street Partners LLC, construction should be complete by the end of 2008.

Death Caused by Beating

Not related to car crash incident

A woman found dead in northeast Portland over the weekend is said to be a murder victim, Portland police say.



Sharvetia Brown

A screaming fight and a car crashing into a power pole were originally thought to be connected to the death of Sharvetia Monique Brown, 37, whose body was found on Northeast 18th Avenue and Lombard Street around 4 a.m. on Saturday.

But an autopsy at the Multnomah County Medical Examiner's office ruled that Brown died from "blunt force trauma," not injuries related to a car accident.

About 10 minutes before Brown's body was found, police responded to a report of sounds of a fight and a woman screaming in the 1000 block of Northeast Stafford Street. The caller said the sounds were moving and that a vehicle might be involved.

Police do not know whether there is a connection between the call and Brown's death. The two sites are about 10 blocks apart.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Lynn Courtney or Detective Jon Rhodes at 503-823-0400.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BILL MURRAY

Adams Demolition Near Complete

A midsection of the John Adams-Whitaker school site in northeast Portland is all that's left standing as demolition crews slowly pile rubble all around the property. Pictured is the north end of the building which housed a long hallway and overlooked Fernhill Park. The school started coming down in January, six years after the Portland Public School District closed the site due to mold and radon hazards.

Local Soldier Dies in Humvee

(AP) -- A graduate of Grant High School and soldier from Portland died when an improvised explosive device struck the Humvee he was driving in Baghdad.

Army Pfc. Brett A. Walton, 37,

died April 9, less than a month after he was deployed to the Middle East.

Army officials said he signed up for the war last September because he wanted "to do something to be part of the solution, to

make a difference to the people of Iraq."

Walton was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division out of Ft. Carson, Colo.



Army Pfc. Brett Walton

Ask Deanna!



Real People,
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Dear Deanna!

I'm a newlywed and now I realize that I don't want to be married. I dated my boyfriend for 6 months and things were great. Now that we live together, I see things I don't like. He's not nice anymore and I feel stressed out. I wish things could be the same as when we were dating. Our intimacy is suffering and I don't know what to do. How can I figure out what has happened and why this new marriage is so bad? --Married But Miserable; Memphis, Tenn.

Dear Miserable:

The marriage is fine other than the fact you got caught up after a short time and married someone you didn't know well enough. The drama, stress and responsibility begin the day after the wedding. You now have to look at the good, the bills and the ugly which comes with the territory. Have a talk with your husband and share your fears and feelings. As a couple he's there to help sort through things

and get better adjusted to this new marriage.

Dear Deanna!

I broke up with my boyfriend for another guy and now I realize this was a mistake. I had a good man and I should've listened to my family and friends as they told me I should've stayed with him. I was seeking thrills and excitement. This caused me to be abused, cheated on and we broke up anyway. I want to get my boyfriend back and I'm not sure what to do. I've apologized but nothing seems to work. --Heartbroken and Torn; San Diego, Calif.

Dear Heartbroken:

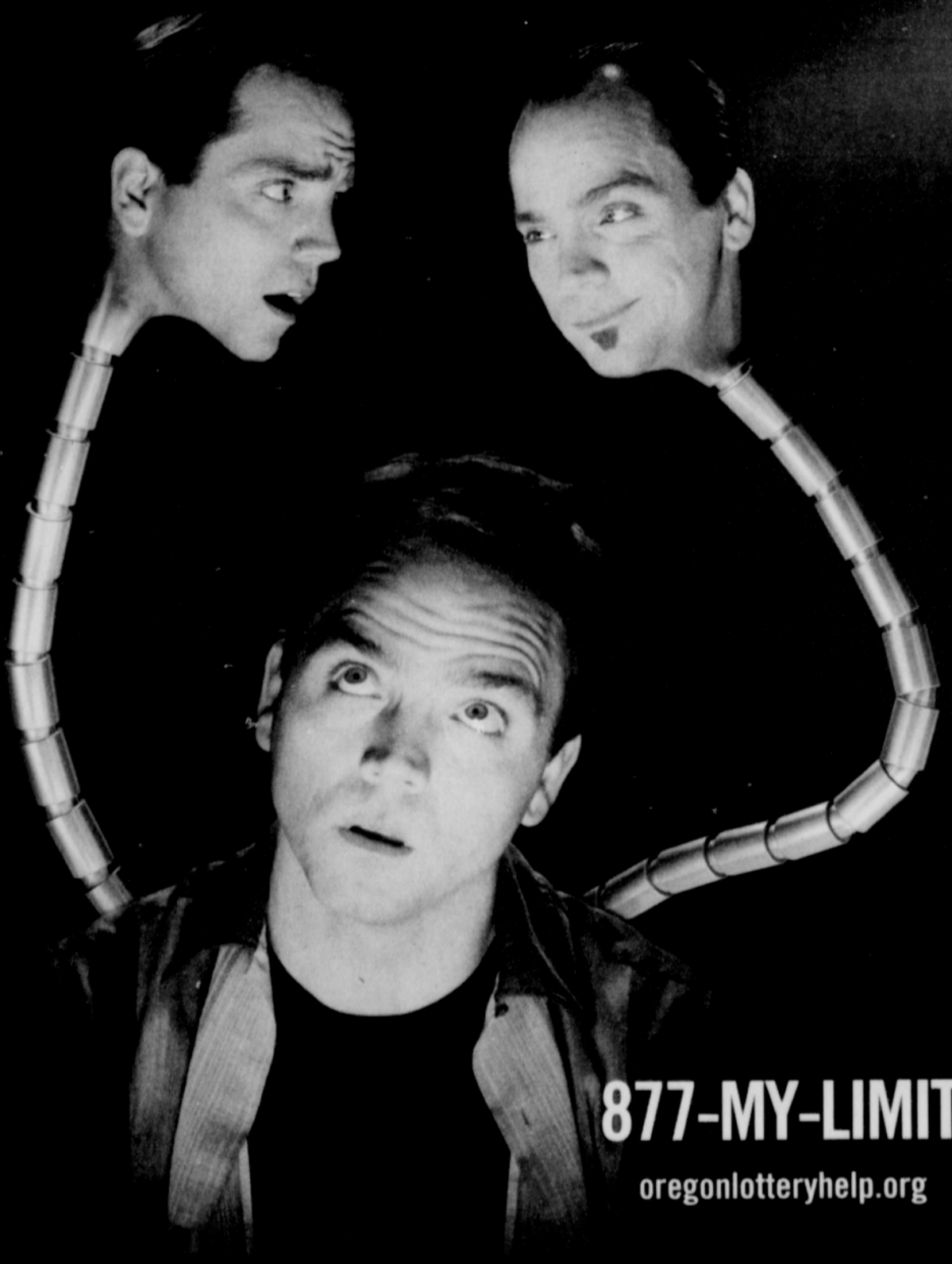
The story never changes when one thinks the grass is greener on the other side. However, in your case, you had a crew telling you what to do but you chose not to listen. It serves you right and your ex-boyfriend shouldn't have anything else to do with you. Your apology is nice but look at it from his side as you expect him to return after being with another man. Get over it, learn from your mistakes and if he comes back, fine and if not, keep it moving.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

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