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The Hortland Observer

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Five Years of War

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a resolution against the war.

The municipal government has committed resources for engaging citizens of various neighborhoods and backgrounds with national policy. Efforts have focused particularly on groups that have been historically underrepresented in advocacy work.

"It's really exciting to have that convergence of voices," says Pam Phan, who was an organizer with local minority activist group United Voices for seven years. "Because the press is really towards military recruitment in this particular (presidential) administration, youth are starting to see that their options are limited."

The byproducts of war for many at the planning meeting highlighted the weakening of support especially affecting minority and other disadvantaged populations.

"Youth of color don't get a voice in so many issues," says Vy Nguyen of the American Friends Service Committee. "The war affects more families of color who don't get the access to enough representation."

Saturday's March 15 protest will feature workshops, activities and exhibits in the South Park Blocks near Portland State University, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Starting at 2 p.m., a series of about 10 speakers will rally the crowd for a march through the city.

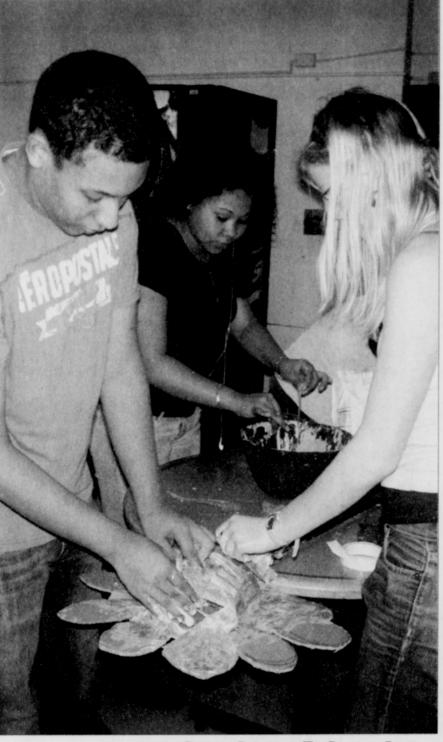


PHOTO BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Madison High School freshman Terell Wilson (left) helps build a papier-mâché flower in Portland Community College's Cascade Campus cafeteria to prepare for Saturday's Iraq War protest.

Mathis to Visit Portland

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NAACP Alaska-Oregon-Washington State Area Conference said "The NAACP has made reducing the incarceration rate of this segment of our population its prime initiative." Portland NAACP Branch President Charlene McGee is responding to the issues by hosting the convention. Attendees can participate in training and forums addressing educational advocacy, racism and disparate treatment, fairness in police stops, court sentences and incarceration. The keynote speaker at the convention banquet Saturday night is Oregon State Sen. Margaret Carter. The convention workshops are open to the public; however, if you wish to attend either the luncheon or banquet, contact Todd Allen at 541-757-2390 for reservations.

Lady Demos Win First Championship

Jefferson 67, Hermiston 58

(AP) -- Top-ranked Jefferson overcame a 13-point deficit in the second half and defeated No. 4 Hermiston 67-58 in the finals of the OSAA Class 5A state championships Saturday.

Nyesha Sims scored 16 points and had nine rebounds to lead the Lady Democrats (27-0) to their first state championship in school history.

"I'm so proud of these girls," Jefferson coach Michael Bontemps said. "We showed a lot of poise and represented the city of Portland well."

It was the first state championship appearance for both teams.

The Lady Democrats, the top seed from the Portland Interscholastic League, had to overcome another strong performance by Hermiston's Shoni Schimmel. The 5-foot-9 sophomore finished with 16 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists, but also committed 12 turnovers.

"We just went man-to-man and I put my best defender on her," Bontemps said. After a strong first half, Schimmel was held to two points on 1 of 11 shooting in the second half.

Denaya Brazzle added 15 points and eight rebounds for the Lady Democrats.

The Bulldogs jumped out 17-13 lead after the first period. Schimmel was a crowd-pleaser in the first quarter scoring nine points, including a threepointer from seven feet beyond the arc.

Hermiston (24-5) slowly began to pull away in the second quarter, shooting 8-for-16 from the field in the period. The Bulldogs, who were the top seed from the Intermountain Conference, built their lead to 35-23 on a Schimmel coastto-coast layup with 18 seconds to go in the half.

The Lady Democrats struggled shooting in the first half, going 10-for-35, while the Bulldogs made 15 of 30.

"We just weren't there mentally," Bontemps says.

The Bulldogs extended their lead to 39-26 early in the third but the Lady Democrats finally gained some momentum. Jefferson chipped away, and took a 48-47 lead going into the final quarter when a Janita Badon 15-footer bounced in at the buzzer.

Sims scored nine points in the third quarter for the Lady Democrats, who held Schimmel was held scoreless in the period.

The lead changed three times in the first minute of the fourth quarter. After the Bulldogs took a 58-55 advantage, the Lady Democrats went on a 8-0run, capped by a pair of free throws by Dequise Hammick with 1:27 left in the game. The Bulldogs were forced to foul and the Lady Democrats sealed the game at the free-throw line.

Schimmel was the fan favorite of the tournament — with her betweenthe-legs dribbling, behind-the-back passes and several deep three-pointers. The 5-foot-9 sophomore ended the tournament averaging 20.3 points, 7.7 rebounds and seven assists and was a unanimous selection to the alltournament team.

"She's a great talent," Bontemps said. Sammantha McCloud scored 17 points for the Bulldogs.

Jefferson beat Hermiston three times last season, including 79-72 in the state quarterfinals.

Grant, Jefferson Boys Advance

Grant beat Westview on Saturday 73-57 to advance in the boys 6A basketball tournament. The Generals will face Tualatin in Eugene on Thursday. In the boys 5A tourney, Jefferson will take on North Eugene on Wednesday, also in Eugene, following its 69-51 win over Wilsonville last Friday.

Three other Portland teams were eliminated in the 5A playoffs; On Friday, Roosevelt lost to Century 60-43, and Madison lost to Thurston 53-50, and on Saturday, Central Catholic eliminated Benson 58-55.

Lottery funds give 28 threatened species a home on Zumwalt Prairie.





This represents some of the species that inhabit Zumwalt Prairie. For more information visit www.itdoesgoodthings.org. Lottery games are based on chance and should be played for entertainment only.