



Ray Charles

Ray Charles Tribute Saturday

The music of the legendary Ray Charles lives on in a Tribute to Ray Charles, a benefit for jazz education at the Mt. Hood Community College Theater on the Gresham campus Saturday, Jan. 10. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the show beginning at 8 p.m.

The concert will feature some of Portland's finest musicians, such as Patrick Lamb, Liv Warfield, Duffy Bishop, Andy Stokes, the American Music Program with Thara Memory and the Mt. Hood Community College Jazz Band and Genesis Vocal Ensemble.

"When students perform a musical tribute to a legendary figure such as Ray Charles, they learn a great deal about the life and music of that musician, and they gain historical perspective," said Susie Jones, MHCC Music instructor. "These students will pay tribute to the past, while performing alongside some of Portland's finest living musicians."

Tickets are \$18 online through Tickets Oregon or \$20 at the door. For more information, visit patricklamb.com.

New Congress Takes Oath

Illinois appointee rejected

The Capitol rang loud with vows to fix the crisis-ridden economy Tuesday as Congress opened for business at the dawn of a new Democratic era. "We need action and we need action now," said Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Republicans agreed, and pledged cooperation in Congress as well as with President-elect Barack Obama — to a point.

On a day largely devoted to ceremony, new members of Congress and those newly re-elected swore to defend the Constitution. The Senate galleries were crowded; children and grandchildren of lawmakers squirmed in their seats in the House chamber as the winners in last fall's elections claimed their prizes.

One office-seeker was not among them.

In a scripted bit of political theater, Democrat Roland Burris of Illinois was informed he would not be seated because his paperwork was not in order. He pledged a lawsuit, the latest twist in a



Illinois U.S. Senate Appointee Roland Burris makes a statement Tuesday after departing Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. (AP photo)

political drama that began when he was named to Obama's Senate seat by Gov. Rod Blagojevich, who has been charged with having attempted to sell the appointment.

Parting from many of her Democratic colleagues, Diane Feinstein of California, the chairman of the

Senate Rules Committee, said that the Senate should seat Burris.

However tainted by corruption charges, Blagojevich has the right to appoint someone to President-elect Barack Obama's former seat, Feinstein said.

Feinstein said that blocking Burris would have ramifications

for other governors' appointments.

Obama was across town in a meeting with his economic advisers as the opening gavels fell in the House and Senate at noon. His inauguration as the nation's first black president is two weeks away.

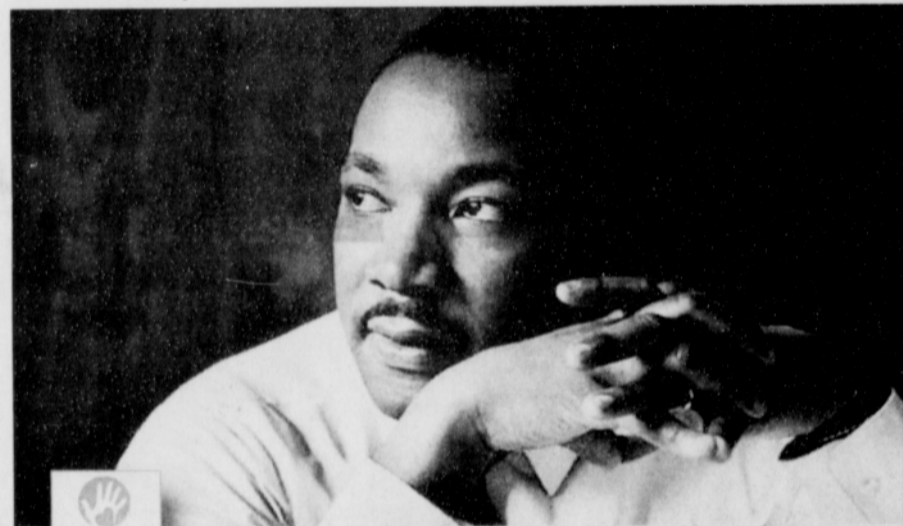
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Waterfront Dock Named for Duckworth

continued ▲ from Front

It's more than appropriate that we name the dock on the Eastbank Esplanade in his honor," said outgoing Portland Mayor Tom Potter. "The dock represents a legacy of hardworking men and women, a culture of community and a love for the water. There could be no more fitting memorial."

Potter and Portland Parks Commissioner Dan Saltzman wished to memorialize Mr. Duckworth's place in Portland's history by naming a prominent fishing spot after him. What better location, they determined, than this popular fishing location in the heart of downtown Portland, in the shadow of the Rose Quarter.

The city leaders submitted a request to the Portland Parks and Recreation Naming Committee that the currently named "Convention Center Dock" be

renamed the Kevin J. Duckworth Memorial Dock.

As stipulated by the Council-approved naming policy, a letter was sent to the Kerns Neighborhood Association. The committee, comprised of citizens and city staff, reviewed the request and approved it.

"Among the many tributes to memorialize Kevin, this might be the honor he would have been the most excited about," Trail Blazers President Larry Miller said. "It celebrates his love of Portland, the Trail Blazers and the outdoors. We are honored that the City of Portland has recognized Kevin with such a perfect tribute."

A member of the Trail Blazers from 1986-93, Duckworth remained in the Portland area after his 11-year NBA career ended. An avid fisherman & outdoorsman, and a skilled carpenter, Duckworth served a Heritage Ambassador for the Trail

Blazers at the time of his death.

"This is a wonderful way to memorialize Kevin and the work he performed on behalf of the Portland Trail Blazers," Saltzman said. "I cheered on Kevin and all the Blazers during the '90s and was saddened, like many Portlanders, at his passing this summer. Naming this popular fishing spot after him is a fitting tribute to a wonderful member of the Portland community."

Duckworth remains the 10th leading scorer (7,188) and rebounder (3,327) in Trail Blazers history, compiling averages of 13.6 points and 6.3 rebounds in 527 games with Portland.

Fans interested in making a tax-deductible donation to the Kevin Duckworth Memorial Scholarship Fund should send their contributions directly to the Oregon Community Foundation, Kevin Duckworth Scholarship Fund, 1221 S.W. Yamhill St., Suite 100, Portland, OR 97205.

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Publisher Charles Washington (right) and the staff of the Portland Observer thank the community for their support.

