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Duke Wins NCAA Thriller

Surviving everything Butler could muster in front of a hometown crowd in one of the closest, most exhilarating



national championship basketball games in history, Duke hung on Monday night for a 61-59 victory that gave coach Mike Krzyzewski his fourth national title.



Cogen Appointed Chair

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners approved a resolution

Thursday to appoint County Commissioner Jeff Cogen, a former assistant to Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman, to the position of county chair to fill out the remainder of former Chair Ted Wheeler's term.

County Settles Lawsuit

A northeast Portland woman who alleged she was beaten by jail guards after her arrest on reckless driving and DUII charges will be paid \$27,500 to settle a lawsuit, the terms of a settlement reached Thursday by the Multnomah County Commission. Tina Phillips, 38, had sought unspecified damages for civil



The Fortland Observer

rights abuses and assault.

Top Model Casting Call

Do you have what it takes to work it on the runway? Supermodel hopefuls in the Portland area were bracing for the arrival of TV producers of the hit show America's Next Top Model who have scheduled a casting call at Lloyd Center Mall on Saturday, April 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Man Charged in Threats

Federal prosecutors have charged a 64year-old Selah, Wash. man, Charles Alan Wilson, with re-

peatedly making threatening calls to U.S. Sen. Patty Murray's Seattle office, threatening to kill her because of her support for the health care bill.

Heroin Deaths Increase

New statistics from the Oregon Medical Examiner show an increase in heroin-related deaths

with 127 people killed by the drug in 2009, an increase from 119 deaths in 2008. Methampetamine use was the second highest drug killer with 87 deaths.

Kennedy School Quirkiest

McMenamin's Kennedy School in northeast Portland has been rated the quirkiest place in the nation to stay by TripAdvisor, a national travel company. The converted grade school features over 30 former classrooms converted to comfortable lodging, but the chalkboards and other schoolhouse charm remains.

A Voice for Kids, Seniors and Jobs

Candidate outlines her priorities

Loretta Smith has worked for Ron free and Wyden, Oregon's senior Demohungry cratic senator for nearly 20 years as champi a field representative. The granddaughter of shipyard worker from who ca Vanport, Smith now wants to represent north and northeast Portland jobs by on the Multnomah County Commission. Wha

What are your priorities?

We can do a better job of serving our youth. The school day is not enough, so I want to extend afterschool programs similar at the Boys and Girls Club and Self Enhancement, Inc. My son participated in programs like that, and I'm convinced that if he hadn't had those programs he wouldn't be a sophomore at the University of Washington today.

Since we are moving a lot of our low-income folks out to Mid and East County we need to deliver services for those folks. There are more free and reduced lunch kids who are hungry out there. I want to be a champion for those issues so we don't have hungry kids or seniors who can't afford their energy bills. And at the same time we can create jobs by doing energy audits of those homes.

What are some other challenges in East County?

I think the county has done a great job getting a new health center in Rockwood. Because of gentrification a lot of folks have moved east because they can afford the rent, but we can't ignore the folks that are still in north and northeast Portland. So we need to do a



Loretta Smith

good coordination of services to make sure everyone is served.

You have quite a few endorsements. Is there any you're after?

State Senator Chips Shields is endorsing me. Commissioner Diane McKeel is endorsing me, so that's great. I look up to both, and I know them. I've worked with Commissioner McKeel on human trafficking issues, so she has a pretty good idea of where I stand on issues that I care about so I think it's great.

A lot of people don't understand what the county is or what is does. What do you do about that?

I think you have to go out to where the people are, whether it be neighborhood associations, senior centers or community events so that people understand what the county does. Even though we operate the sheriff's office, we're often confused with the city of Portland police. We're the social service agency that kind of intersects delivery of mental health services, so I think we could be a better partner with law enforcement and the city of Portland to make sure that our neighborhoods are more safe and secure and figure out how to do something different so we can have more positive outcomes.

How about the issue of law enforcement being first responders for people experiencing crisis?

One of the things we need to do is identify that we need culturally specific mental health services. I think we really need to identify what those best practices are and have a better coordination of services. Once we do that, we'd have a little bit better positive outcomes that some of these kind of deadly situations.

What experience from your work with Senator Wyden's office would you bring to the county?

One of the things I bring is 20 years of experience. I've worked with vulnerable populations most of my career. So I'm very, very familiar with social service programs. I'm familiar with being able to identify federal resources to bring into the county

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Building a community through diversity

James Faison, owner of Faison Construction

Faison Construction

In 2000, James Faison retired from the Port of Portland and opened Faison Construction, providing masonry and concrete services. He's never looked back.

Faison's first construction job for TriMet was as a subcontractor to Stacy and Witbeck, one of the nation's leading light rail general contractors. Through Stacy and Witbeck's mentoring program, Faison perfected his craft, was able to build his business and hire 6 full-time employees. He has worked on TriMet's Interstate MAX, I-205/Portland Mall Light Rail Project and the WES Commuter Rail.

Faison Construction is part of TriMet's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program that creates opportunities and builds the capacity of state-certified DBEs as prime and subcontractors on TriMet's commuter and light rail projects.



