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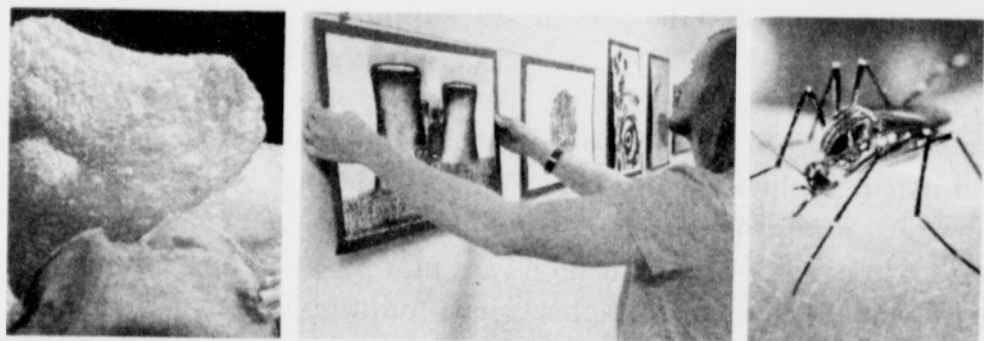
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What's on your list today?.

LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Pop Culture, Portland Style

Cheers go up outside the Rose Garden in Portland on Saturday as a group of American Idol contestants, out of 7,000 people who showed up, make their way near the front of the line to audition. The hit TV show was making its first stop in Portland for new contestants. Meanwhile, last season's American Idol finalists will be in Portland this Saturday, July 9 for a show at the Rose Garden. See Arts & Entertainment, page 16.

Murder Charge Dropped; OLCC Cracks Down on Bar

Murder charges against a Vancouver man in connection with the death of another man outside a northeast Portland bar have been dropped and the business where the violence broke out has been ordered to change the way it deals with its customers.

Portland police said they received new information regarding the death of Leonard James "L. J." Irving and based on the information, asked the Multnomah County District Attorney's office on Tuesday to drop the charges against Isaiah Erick Mandley Jr., 23, who had been arrested for Irving's death just a few

days earlier.

Irving, 34, was killed June 26 after being shot in the parking lot of Seeznin's Bar and Lounge on Northeast 82nd Avenue.

Last week, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, issued seven immediate restrictions on Seeznin's liquor license based on reports from the City of Portland and Police Bureau claiming gang members were permitted to fight inside Seeznin's on the night of the shooting death.

"Businesses need to hold the safety of their customers, employees and the general public paramount. The violence at Seeznin's is

unacceptable," said Rudy Williams, OLCC public safety program director. "These seven restrictions are serious. We will work with Portland Police to hold Seeznin's to these restrictions."

The fight continued to the parking lot where gunfire almost immediately erupted. Three customers of the bar were shot, which caused the death of Irving and left two other individuals with serious injuries that required hospitalization.

Some of the new OLCC requirements for the business, include us-

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Correction:

Fresh Exchange, a local nutrition incentive program, survives on funds from government grants, donations from local businesses and individuals, and is run entirely by community volunteers. A description of the group's financial backers from a story in last week's issue (Farmer's Markets Break Healthy Food Barriers) was wrong and we regret the error.