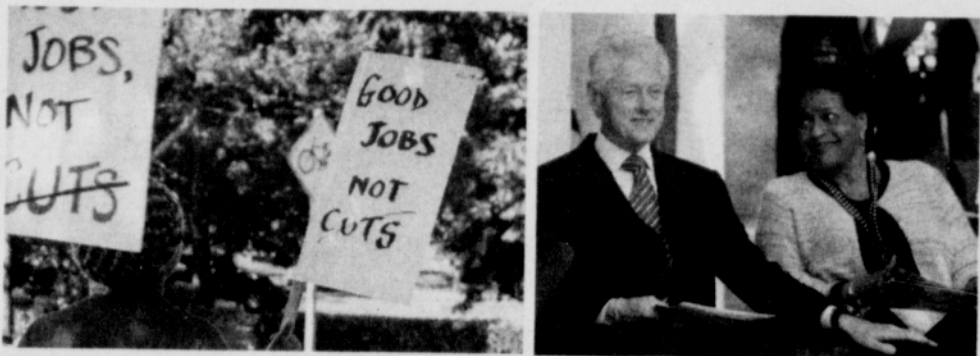


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What's on your list today?®

## LOCAL NEWS

### Reaching Out for Equity

Procurement Services raises profile with minority firms

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Not every facet of Portland's inner workings gets the most attention but every unit has an important role. Portland Procurement Services is one of those units you probably haven't heard of, but you have undoubtedly seen their work. And with a recent shift in focus to stronger relationships with minority and women-owned businesses,



Jacqueline Lawson

Portlanders are prone to see more results

But what is Procurement Services? Whether it is a new police squad car or the seemingly

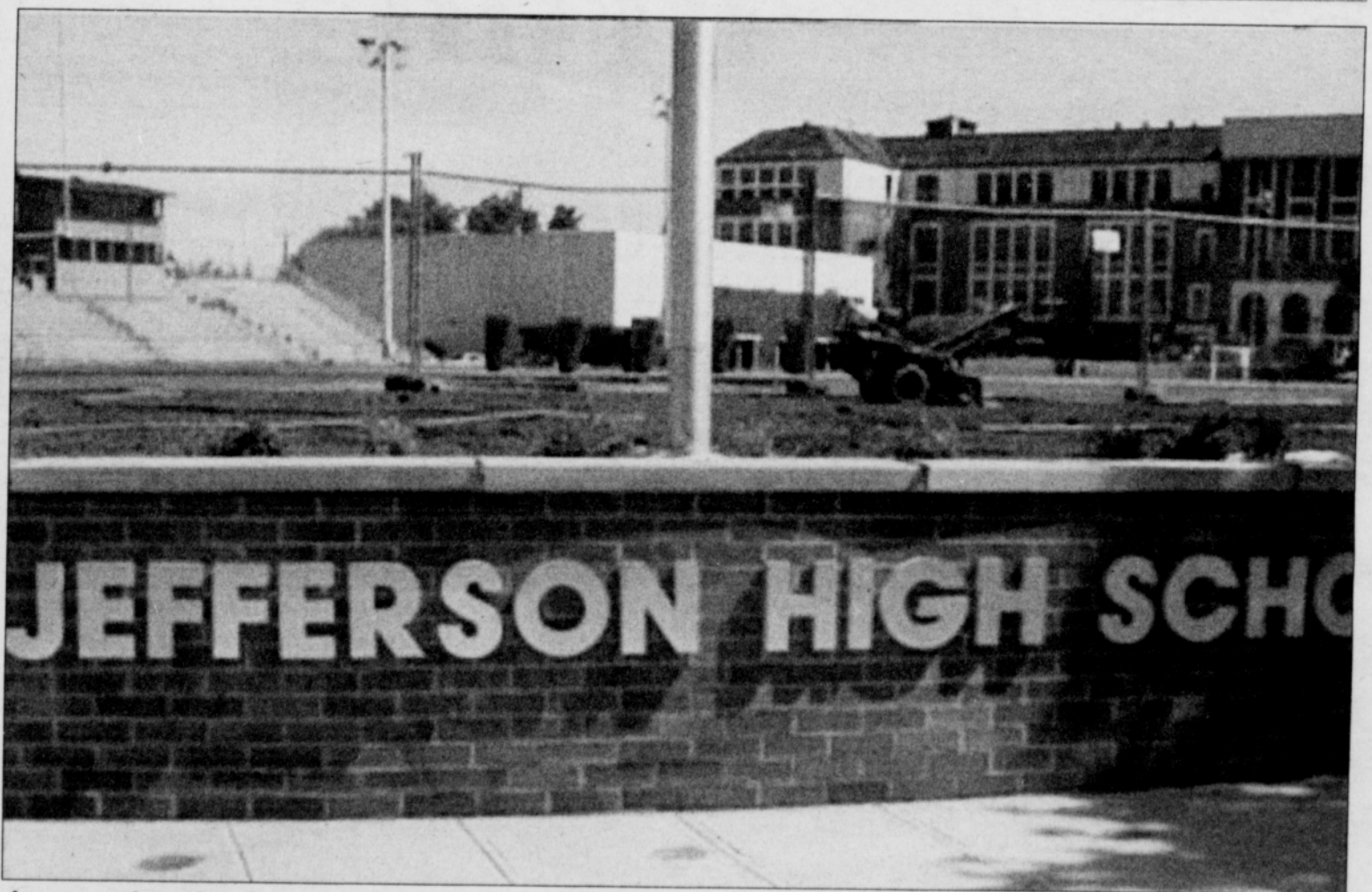
never-ending construction of streets and sewers, it is Procurement Services that makes these purchases and practically all others for the city.

"That's us," says Christine Moody, who is the city's chief procurement Officer.

And in a city where maintenance projects are as frequent as the rain, outside help is generally the only way to get these tasks completed. Usually the first people considered are found in an ever-expanding rolodex of small-business contacts acquired by the city through the years.

Once a business has been selected by Procurement Ser-

*continued* ▼ on page 19



A new welcoming frontage is fashioned at Jefferson High School on North Killingsworth Street thanks to funding from the Portland Development Commission.

### More than a Decade in the Making

The community wanted it and the late Carl Flipper galvanized it.

Flipper was a former president of Portland's NAACP chapter and a Humboldt neighborhood resident who served on the Interstate Corridor Urban Renewal Advisory Committee.

He went to work in 2002 on a project to make the streetscape in front of Jefferson High School more inviting to business-owners, residents, pedestrians, and most importantly students of the 105-year-old school.

His dream has come true with the addition of a completely new

frontage and pedestrian plaza emblazoned with the school's name.

The Portland Development Commission project represents a partnership with Portland Public Schools for increased physical improvements throughout the neighborhood. It cost the PDC about \$600,000 to complete the work.