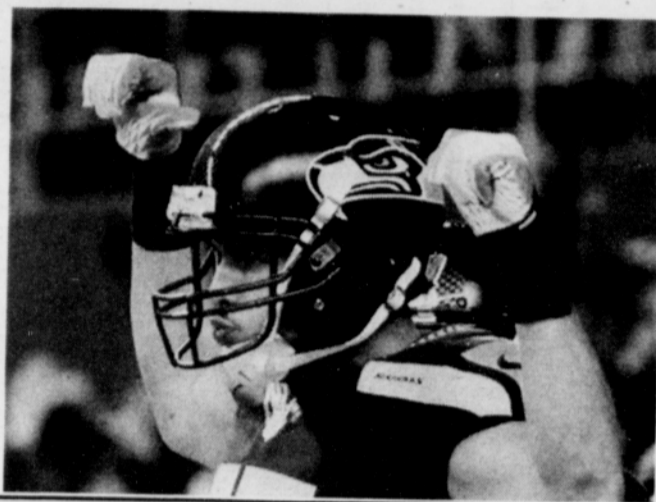


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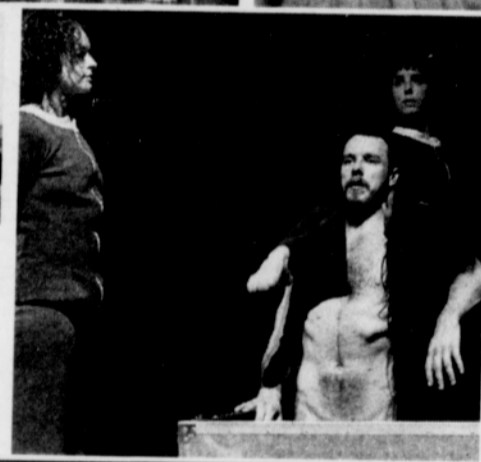
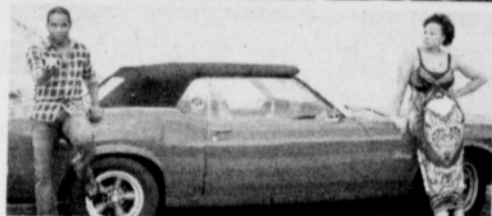
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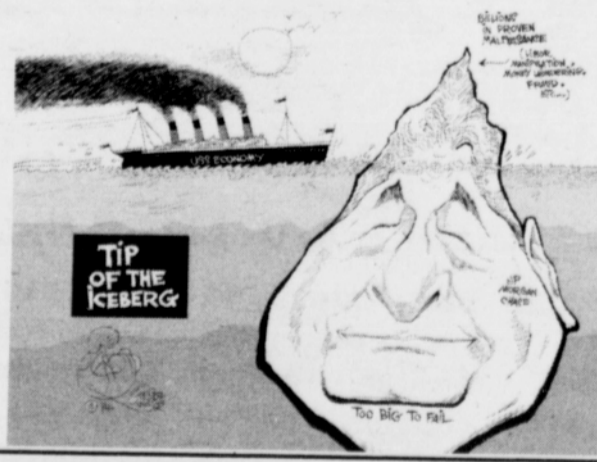


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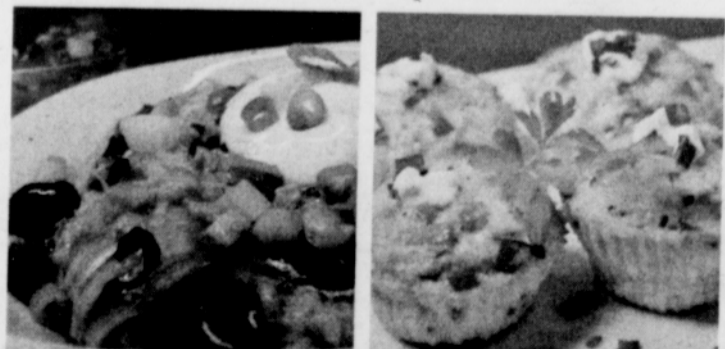
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What's on your list today?

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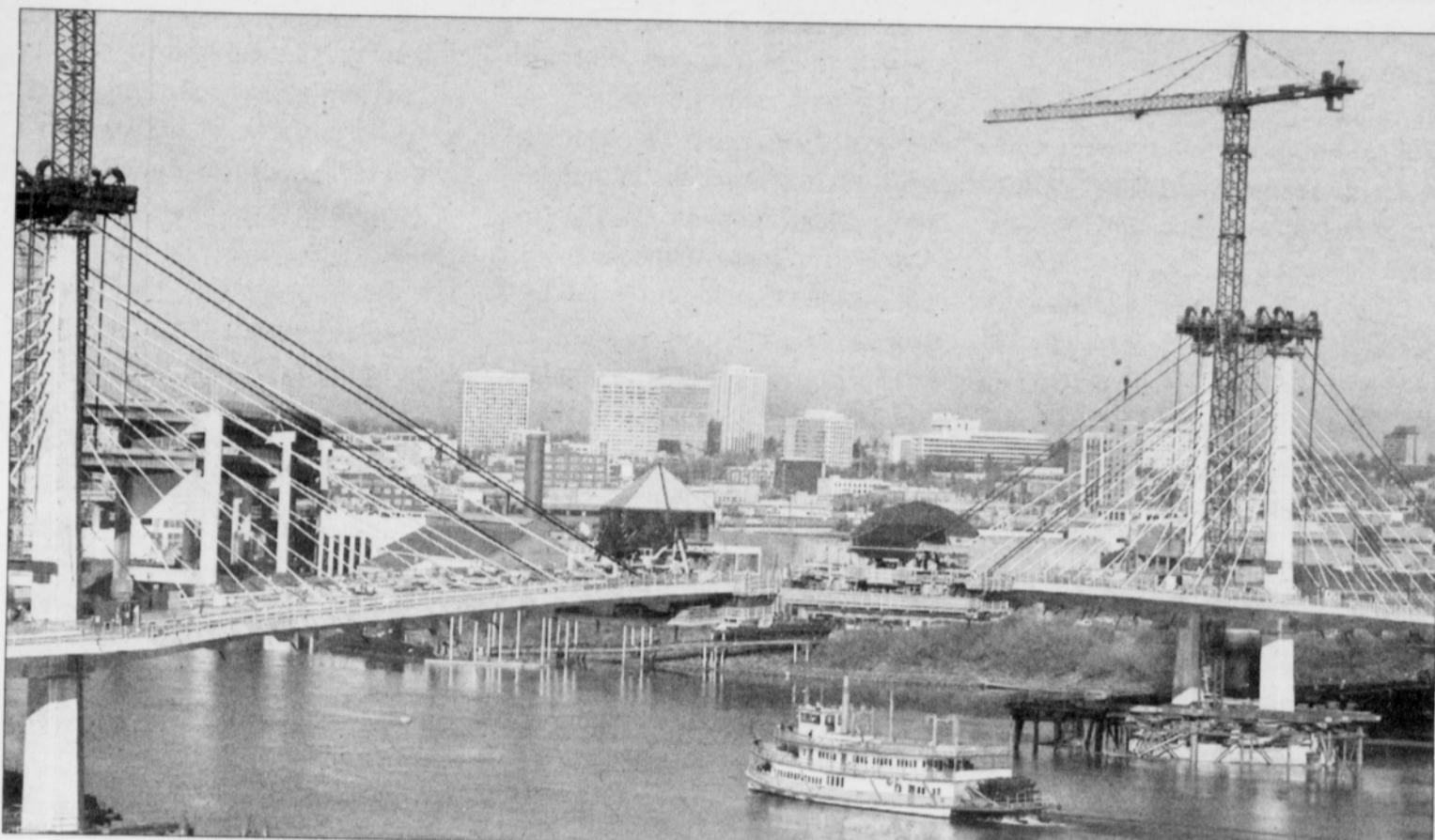


PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIMET

Public enthusiasm is high as Tri-Met looks to the community for comments on four proposed names of cultural significance for the new light rail bridge over the Willamette River and future route for the Portland-Milwaukie Orange Line.

History in the Making

Bridge name finalists rooted in cultural significance

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

After a fierce search for the right name for the new light rail bridge under construction over the Willamette River, a committee of 10 has narrowed the list of possibilities to four names that meet criteria for cultural and geographic significance.

The Milwaukie-Portland light Rail transit bridge, just south of the I-5 Marquam Bridge, has been under construction for over a year now. The span was designed to exclusively carry light rail trains, bicyclists, and pedestrians but no vehicles. Emergency vehicles would be allowed as necessary.

To give the transit bridge an of-

ficial identity, Tri-Met appointed a naming committee headed by Chet Orloff, a 22-year veteran of the Oregon Geographic Names Board. The group followed criteria to find a name that would be culturally significant to the region, and reflect how the 1,720-foot bridge connects people.

Over 9,500 potential names were submitted to the committee.

The final four are Abigail Scott Duniway, named after a pioneer Oregon activist who fought to give women the right to vote; Cascadia Crossing, in geographic reference to the Pacific Northwest's Cascade Mountain Range; and Tillicum Crossing and Wy'east, two names rooted in Oregon's Native Ameri-

can culture. Tillicum is a word for people in the Chinookian language and Wy'east was the name Native tribes had deemed for Mount Hood.

The most popular submission to the committee was the "Kirk Reeves Bridge," a tribute to the late trumpeter Kirk Reeves, an African American resident who was known for entertaining commuters for years on the Hawthorne Bridge.

TriMet will take public comment on the four finalists until March 1. The ultimate decision on the transit bridge's new name will come from TriMet General Manager Neil McFarlane, sometime this spring, officials said. The bridge is currently set to open September 2015.

DAY OF SERVICE HONORS KING



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAISER PERMANENTE

Kaiser Permanente employees Trevor Scott (from left), Sandra Howard and Tresean Foreman volunteer at the Clark County Food Bank Monday in honor of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and King's legacy of compassion and dignity for the most vulnerable members of our community. More than 700 Kaiser workers, friends and family members volunteered at sites across the region, joining hundreds of other volunteers from the United Way and other organizations.