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The Week in Review

Schools Budget Improves

Citing an improved fiscal outlook, the Portland School Board voted Monday to add \$19.6 million to its current budget year, including the addition of roughly 30 teaching positions. However, a dispute still rages over a labor agreement with teachers and placing \$14 million in reserves that union leaders say should go directly into the classroom and to teachers.

Help for School Dropouts

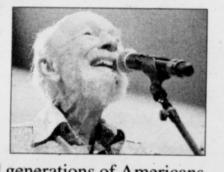
The City Club of Portland released a draft report Friday calling for more infrastructure and supports that will help more young adults who lack a high school diploma prepare for college and a career. About 336,000 adult Oregonians lack a high school diploma or alternative General Educational Development (GED) credential.

Oregon 3rd for Job Growth

Oregon has the third-highest percentage of job growth in the nation. The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Tuesday that Oregon posted a 2.4 percent increase in 2013. Only North Dakota and Florida expanded at a faster clip. Washington's job base grew by 1.9 percent.

Folk Singer, Activist Dies

The banjo-picking troubadour Pete Seeger, a political activist who sang for migrant workers, college students and starstruck presidents in a career that introduced generations of Americans



to their folk music heritage, died Monday at the age of 94. Seeger popularized "We Shall Overcome" as a protest song during the modern Civil Rights era.

31 Pounds of Meth Seized

A drug runner was busted on I-84 east of Portland Monday with 31 pounds of methamphetamines in his vehicle, at an estimated street value of \$1.5 million. Portland police said the drugs were in a suitcase in the trunk.

Minimum Wage Justice

Oregon's Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden visited Green Zebra Grocery in north Portland Monday to talk about the growing income inequality in America and to call on Congress to raise the hourly minimum wage to \$10.10 and then provide annual increases linked to the cost of living.

Gorge Hikers Rescued

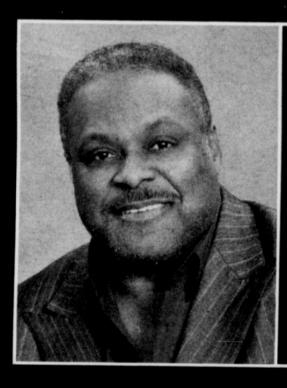
Four lost hikers were safely escorted down a trail to Multnomah Falls in the Columbia River Gorge Thursday night. They were hiking from Wahkeena Falls to Multnomah Falls when they walked down a trail that ended in a washout. They turned around but couldn't make it out before darkness fell.

South Hit with Ice, Snow

A rare blast of snow, sleet and ice hit the U.S. South on Tuesday, prompting three states to declare a state of emergency, clos-



ing the New Orleans airport and causing chaos on roads for drivers unaccustomed to the dangerously slick conditions.



Charles Washington

Past Publisher of the Portland Observer

In memory of an outstanding and dedicated member of Portland's Longest Standing Minority Publication.

The Fortland Observer



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