

The INSIDE

The Week in Review

page 2



pages 6-7

OPINION

JOYCE WASHINGTON CLASSIC



page 9



METRO

page 9



Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

pages 8-13

CLASSIFIEDS

pages 14

CALENDAR

page 15

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What's on your list today?



PHOTO BY ZACHARY SENN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Police line Southwest Madison Street to separate a smaller alt-right rally in Terry Schunk Plaza on the left from a larger counter-demonstration across the street in Chapman Square. The opposing demonstration included members of labor unions, immigrant rights organizations and anti-fascist groups.

Dueling Protests

Activists counter white nationalism rally

BY ZACHARY SENN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Demonstrators representing the white supremacist alt-right movement squared off against a diverse coalition of Portland community groups and justice advocates on Sunday. The opposing rallies took place just 10 days after a racially motivated stabbing attack left two

people dead on a MAX light rail train.

The initial demonstration, which was billed as a "Trump Free-Speech Rally," by its organizers, took place on the federal

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



The family of Ricky Best attends his burial service with military honors Monday at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland. Best was one of two men killed May 26 during an attack on a Portland light-rail train. (AP photo)

Mourned as Martyr and Hero

(AP) -- Mourners remembered one of the men who was fatally stabbed trying to stop an anti-Muslim tirade against two teenage girls on a Portland light-rail train as a modern-day martyr and a hero who never stayed on the sidelines when others were in need.

At the funeral Monday of Ricky Best, 53, one of his teenage sons, Erik Best, said his father understood deeds were more important than words, calling his

father a "child of God."

Best, an Army veteran who worked for the city of Portland, also leaves behind a wife, two other teen sons and a 12-year-old daughter.

Prosecutors say Jeremy Joseph Christian killed Best, another man and wounded a third when they tried to stop Christian from verbally assaulting the girls, one of whom wore a Muslim head covering.

Christian, 35, faces aggravated

murder and other charges in the case. He has not yet entered a plea and has a court hearing later this week.

At Best's funeral, the Rev. Rick Paperini used the word "martyr" to describe Best's actions.

"It is a privilege to love," Paperini said. "I think Ricky understood love this way. He saw it as an opportunity and a privilege, and that's why he responded the way he did on the 26th of May, 2017."