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First Playoff Win

Parkrose football team and their hero coach advances

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Rose Court Signups

New vision and outreach encourages participation

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'City of Roses'

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Committed to Cultural Diversity



PHOTO BY SALIM SANCHEZ

A local group of actors raised their voices to collaborate with Portland playwright Damaris Webb to write the script and then perform in "SOUL'D: The Economics of our Black Body" a new play that delves into the economic dreams and realities for black Americans, coming Thursday, Nov. 14 to Nov. 24 to the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. They are (from left) are Ken Dembo, La'Tevin Alexander, Shareen Jacobs, Catherine Braxton, Tyharra Cozier, Webb, Sydney Jackson and Auntais Faulkner

Giving Voice to Economic Truths

Actors contribute to script in new play

BY BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

When Damaris Webb's new play, "SOUL'D: The Economics of our Black Body," was performed at the Vanport Mosaic Festival back in May, it was only 15 minutes long. But now the play, to be performed again starting Thursday, Nov. 14 and continuing through Nov. 24, has grown to nearly an hour long. Performanc-

es will be at 7:30 p.m. each evening at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in north Portland, with Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m.

The play has grown not because of Webb's sole input, but because it was "a work in progress" and a collaborative effort of all the cast members, she said, and everyone contributed to the final expanded product.

"We all co-wrote this play, but I'm at the head in shaping and pushing," Webb said. "It's collaborative, horizontal play-making."

Traditionally, plays are vertical, from the top down, she said, with the playwright at the top. But this collaborative approach as a way of crafting a script often has a different result, she said.

"Everyone contributes, from personal experience, research on personal narratives, legislation and news articles," she said. "This piece is not a linear story of a particular person's journey, but it does have a beginning, a middle and an end."

The play investigates the narrative of the

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Online Sports Betting Debut

Launch comes with hopes and concerns

BY BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

When the Oregon Lottery launched its new online betting app Scoreboard last month, Lottery director Barry Pack said the move would increase state revenue by attracting new players without relying on current players of state-sanctioned betting games like video poker. Others are more cautious, and worry about an increase in

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