



# Focused on Student Success, Enrollment, Growth, and Workforce Programs

## Clark College 2026 Address Highlights Achievements and Challenges

Clark College President Dr. Karin Edwards delivered the annual State of the College address on March 12 in Gaiser Student Center. The address provides an opportunity to share the progress, challenges, and vision guiding the college forward, offering an overview of the institution's current priorities, student success initiatives, financial outlook, and strategic direction. It brought together students, faculty, staff, elected officials, community partners, and education supporters to reflect on the college's achievements and share its vision moving forward.



LtoR: PTK Student President, Lindsey Quiroz; College President Dr. Karin Edwards; ASCC Student President, Alijah Machida

President Edwards highlighted the college's resilience, growth, and impact on student success, workforce partnerships, and the broader Southwest Washington community. "Clark College remains true, steadfast,

and unwavering in our mission to cultivate an inclusive, equitable, and vibrant community that educates, elevates, and empowers individuals to achieve their personal and professional goals," Dr. Edwards said.

Alijah Machida, president of the Associated Students of Clark College (ASCC), kicked off the event with a report on increased student participation in college clubs and ASCC's efforts to increase student engagement in

on-campus activities.

Lindsey Quiroz, a student and chapter president of Clark's Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society, shared her experience of re-enrolling at Clark to pursue a career in medicine after facing personal loss during the COVID-19 pandemic. She credited the support of her professors and mentors in PTK for helping her continue her educational journey.

President Edwards began her address by sharing that the college's official reaccreditation was reaffirmed from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). This process occurs every seven years and recognizes educational institutions for performance, integrity, and quality across all areas of the institution. The college was commended for the strength of its student onboarding experience, its outstanding tutoring program, and

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# PP&R Recruiting Ninth-Grade Students for EAGLE Caddie Program

## No Experience Required; Chance to Apply for Full University of Oregon Scholarships

Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) is now accepting applications for the three-year Early Adventures in Golf for a Lifetime of Enjoyment (EAGLE) Caddie Program. This unique program gives current ninth-grade students the chance to gain valuable work experience, earn money over the coming summer, and potentially qualify for a full



Current EAGLE caddies. Photo taken February 10, 2026, at Waverly Country Club

Evans Scholarship to the University of Oregon.

No prior golf experience is needed! Applications are open

through Friday, May 1, 2026.

"Successful candidates are ready to work hard and excited to learn," says PP&R Interim Direc-

tor Sonia Schmanski. "Our EAGLE caddies show a commitment to personal growth, and we're proud to help them go further. We

look forward to a great summer with our new caddies."

EAGLE is a collaboration between PP&R's golf program, the Western Golf Association Evans Scholars Foundation, and high schools across Portland. The program provides hands-on job experience and encourages applications from students who are Black, Indigenous, people of color, women, non-binary, immigrants, or refugees.

Qualified students are paid an hourly wage, receive work credit hours, and have a mentor who monitors their progress. In addition, scholarship opportunities are available from their involvement in our program. The EAGLE Caddie Program is competitive, and not all applicants will be chosen.

**Evans Scholarship** —

Through the EAGLE program, students can apply for the high-

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# Rising Child Care Costs Fuel Major Political Push in Key Races

## Group Invests \$50M to Elevate Child Care, Elder Care in 2026 Races

(AP) — An advocacy group seeking to expand support for child and elder care says it plans to spend \$50 million to boost Democrats in key congressional races, aiming to tie the rising cost of caregiving to the nation's broader affordability debate.

The Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy, founded about a decade ago, is working to elevate caregiver issues as a central concern for voters. Its latest push comes as child care costs continue to climb nationwide and waiting lists for federal subsidies grow, leaving many working families struggling to secure affordable care.

Sondra Goldschein, the campaign's executive director and head of its political action committee, said caregiving expenses are increasingly shaping how Americans think about the economy. In many parts of the country, she noted,



Children draw in one of the classrooms at the Children's Promise Centers child care center in Albuquerque, N.M., April 5, 2024. (AP Photo/Susan Montoya Bryan, File)

the cost of child care now exceeds what families pay for housing, placing intense financial strain on households.

"When child care can cost more than your rent or a mortgage, or you have to

sacrifice a paycheck in order to be able to take care of a loved one, that becomes a real voting issue," Goldschein said. She added that the burden is especially heavy on the so-called "sandwich generation,"

adults who are simultaneously caring for children and aging parents.

The group plans to direct funding and organizing efforts into competitive Senate races in North Carolina, Georgia, Michigan, Maine and Ohio, as well as House contests in Iowa and Pennsylvania. Volunteers will also be deployed to speak directly with voters about caregiving challenges and economic pressures tied to family responsibilities.

Republicans have increasingly acknowledged child care as an economic issue tied to workforce participation, though their policy approaches generally differ from those proposed by Democrats. During his presidency, Donald Trump backed measures that expanded access to child care tax credits, making millions more families eligible. The legislation also increased support for military families and provided incentives for employers to offer child care benefits.

Still, Democrats have largely pushed for broader, more systemic reforms. Before 2020, child care was rarely a centerpiece issue in national campaigns. That

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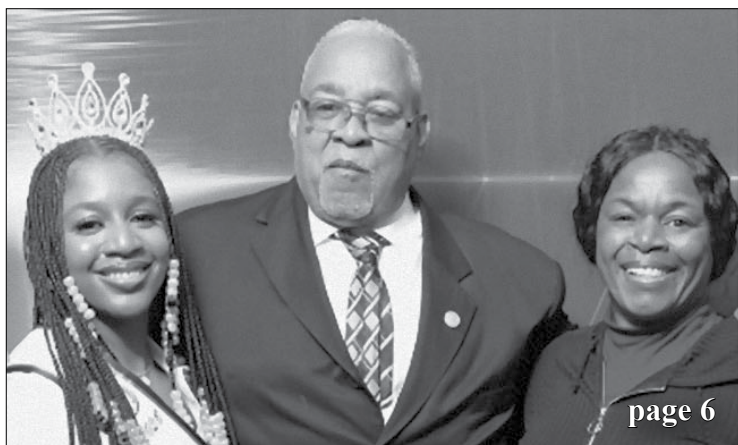
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# LOCAL NEWS

## Delta Park Redemption Center to Close

### Green and Blue Bag Access will Expand in North Portland

The Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative — operator of the BottleDrop network — announced that the Delta Park Redemption Center located at 1176 N. Hayden Meadows Drive in Portland is closing. The last day of service to the public will be July 31, 2026.

In partnership with retailers in the Delta Park area of North Portland, BottleDrop is expanding the number of Green and Blue Bag drop sites. As the center prepares to close, OBRC is focused on giving customers expanded convenience and flexibility to redeem their containers through the Green and Blue Bag program, making drop-offs simpler, faster and easier to fit into their everyday routines.

New retail bag drop sites will open to customers as the Redemption Center approaches its final day of service. OBRC will provide communication to Delta Park customers with information about setting up a Green Bag account and locating new and existing drop locations.

“Since 1971, Oregon’s Bottle Bill has delivered outstanding recycling outcomes and positive environmental benefits for com-



*North Portland Bottle Drop Center*

munities across the state,” said Devon Morales, Vice President of Strategy and Outreach at the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative. “By partnering with retailers to expand Green and Blue Bag drop site access throughout the Delta Park area, we’re making it even easier and more convenient for customers to redeem their containers, while also having a hand in continuing Oregon’s proud legacy of environmental stewardship. All bottles and cans are 100% recycled in the U.S., and so are the BottleDrop bags. When recycling is simple and accessible, Oregonians, our communities and the environment all win.”

After the closure, customers will be able to redeem containers at nearby BottleDrop Redemption Centers and at new and existing Green and Blue Bag drop sites at

retail stores. Information about BottleDrop locations is available at [bottledrop.com/deltapark](http://bottledrop.com/deltapark) or via the BottleDrop location finder at [bottledrop.com/locations](http://bottledrop.com/locations). To learn more about container return requirements for retailers within the former Delta Park Convenience Zone that are not part of the BottleDrop network, please visit the OLCC.

Customers who wish to get started with a BottleDrop account and learn about new Green and Blue Bag drop sites in the Delta Park area can visit [bottledrop.com/deltapark](http://bottledrop.com/deltapark). BottleDrop will update this page and its social media channels with more information as new drop sites open. The Green Bag program is a premium service offered to Oregon residents to return beverage containers that are purchased in Oregon.

## Get Help with Financial Aid at Clackamas CC

### Learn About Scholarships and Get Expert Guidance

Clackamas Community College invites students and their families to attend the CCC Financial Aid and Scholarship Application Workshop on April 9, 4:30-6:30 p.m., at the college’s Oregon City campus in the Wacheno Welcome Center. This event is designed to help students navigate the financial aid process, including the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), ORSAA (Oregon Student Aid Application) and the CCC scholarship application.

The FAFSA determines students' eligibility for federal grants, loans and work-study programs. The ORSAA provides access to state-based financial aid for students who are not eligible to complete the FAFSA. Submitting one of these applications also helps students qualify for programs such as the Oregon Promise, which



*Photo courtesy of Clackamas Community College*

helps many recent high school graduates attend community college with little tuition cost.

CCC’s financial aid and scholarship team will guide attendees and ensure they have the support they need to complete these essential applications. Completing the FAFSA or ORSAA is the first step to unlocking financial support that can make college more affordable, including grants that do not need to be repaid.

Attending this event offers valuable benefits. Financial aid

staff will be on hand to provide personalized assistance, ensuring you get expert guidance for your specific needs. You’ll also have the opportunity to learn more about applying for CCC Foundation scholarships, with the average award exceeding \$2,000 and one in three applicants receiving a scholarship. Don’t miss your chance—applications are due by April 15.

Space is limited. For questions, email [finaid@clackamas.edu](mailto:finaid@clackamas.edu) or call 503-594-6082

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Publisher: *Mark Washington, Sr.*

Editor: *Shawntell Washington* • Admin Coord: *Quaywana Washington*  
Office Mngr/Clasfds: *Lucinda Baldwin* • Creative Director: *Kenya Anderson*

CALL 503-288-0033 • FAX 503-288-0015

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# Fire Breaks Out at Elephant's Deli

## Fire Engulfs Historic NW 22nd Building

On March 10 at 1:00 AM, Portland Fire was dispatched to a possible fire at 115 NW 22nd, the Elephant's Deli. Crews arrived to what was possibly an exterior fire that had extended to the interior and into the roof structure of the nearly 7000 square foot building built in 1947.

The exterior portion of the fire was quickly extinguished, and crews accessed the interior to address any visible fire in the large open space of the commercial delicatessen. Fire had extended into the complex roof structure and was difficult to access from both the interior and exterior. Crews were on the roof using saws to gain access to the areas in the attic that had heavy fire involvement. Crews were also using long pike poles on the interior in attempt to access the attic.

Crews were temporarily pulled off the roof with heavy fire pushing out of roof vents 20 minutes into the incident with a concern of switching tactics to a defensive fire attack posture. Radio communication made from the last officer to exit the structure indicating a body of fire was just located and could safely be addressed from both the interior and exterior had command continue permit the offensive



Elephants Deli (Photo courtesy of Portland Fire & Rescue)

fire attack. A second alarm was requested at around the 30 minute mark with aggressive smoke pushing out of vent holes and long flames shooting upwards from the roof at this time in the incident.

There was much concern that the fire and cuts had weakened the roof structure that was holding up a few large HVAC units along with multiple fire crews working on the roof. When it was determined that it was no longer safe to attempt accessing the body of fire within the complex roof structure, the command officer directed all

members to withdraw from their locations, and a Personnel Accountability Report (PAR) was conducted to ensure all working on scene were accounted for. Crews worked to gain access through holes in the wall while working off ladders around an added awning in attempt at accessing body of fire trapped in an interior void space in the roof construction. Multiple holes were opened in the wall with no access to the fire present on the interior.

A tactical change was made to use the overhead master stream from a ladder

truck to flood the roof complex and allow the water to find the fire from the top and drown in out with copious amounts of water. This change ended up leaving only Station 3 and C1 on scene working reducing the numbers of PF&R members on scene from nearly 60 to under 10.

Portland Fire Investigations Unit was on scene early to evaluate the fire and has begun working toward beginning a forensic evaluation of the scene to determine cause. There were no reported injuries.

## Airline CEOs Push Congress to Fund Airport Security



Travelers wait at a TSA security checkpoint at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport, Nov. 30, 2025, in Romulus, Mich. (AP Photo/Ryan Sun, File)

## Operations at Risk Without Restored Security Funds

(AP) — The CEOs of the nation's top airline companies, including American, Delta, Southwest and JetBlue, are imploring Congress to restore funding to the Department of Homeland Security

and embrace a bipartisan solution to pay federal aviation workers including airport security officers during the partial government shutdown.

"Once again, air travel is the political football amid another government shutdown," the executives wrote in an open letter to Congress that was published Sunday online and in The Washington Post.

The letter, which was also signed by the CEOs of the cargo companies UPS, FedEx and Atlas Air, said that Con-

gress should pass the Aviation Funding Solvency Act and the Aviation Funding Stability Act, which would guarantee air traffic controllers are paid regardless of the government's funding status, as well as the Keep America Flying Act. That measure would offer the same protections to Transportation Security Administration officers tasked to provide security and to screen all travelers.

"It's difficult, if not impossible, to put food on the table, put gas in the car and

pay rent when you are not getting paid," the letter said.

The current partial shutdown affects only the Department of Homeland Security, which includes TSA. Democrats in Congress refused to fund the department over objections to its immigration enforcement tactics. The lapse marks the third shutdown in less than a year to leave TSA workers temporarily without pay — and once the government reopens, to have to wait for back pay.

Democratic lawmakers have said DHS won't get funded until new restrictions are placed on federal immigration operations following the fatal shootings of Alex Pretti and Renee Good in Minneapolis earlier this year.

The CEOs noted that with spring break in full swing, FIFA's World Cup 2026 approaching and celebrations for America's 250th birthday throughout the year, the stakes are high. The letter said that U.S. airlines expect 171 million passengers this spring season.

As the latest partial shutdown drags on, there have been long security lines at a growing number of U.S. airports.

The TSA and Homeland Security have consistently blamed Democrats for the long security lines.

Homeland Security posted on its X account last week that more than 300 TSA agents have quit since the start of the shutdown.

# Clackamas ESD Invites Nominations for First Annual Mission Awards



Photo courtesy of Clackamas Work District

## New Awards Program Celebrates Leadership & Innovation Across Clackamas County

Clackamas Education Service District is inviting nominations for its first annual Mission Awards, a new opportunity to celebrate the people who make a lasting difference for students, schools and communities. Created to recognize excellence aligned with Clackamas ESD's mission and values, the Mission Awards honor individuals whose work reflects leadership, service and innovation. The awards also highlight the core values that guide Clackamas ESD's work every day: collaboration, integrity, respect and excellence.

The awards are already generating strong interest. Nominations have been received from

many of the 10 school districts in Clackamas County, and Clackamas ESD is excited to see even more nominations from across the county. Awards will be presented in three categories: the Leadership Award, the Hoa Nguyen Service Award and the Innovation Award.

The Hoa Nguyen Service Award holds special meaning. Named in memory of Hoa Nguyen, a cherished Clackamas ESD colleague, the award honors an individual whose dedication, compassion and service reflect the spirit of giving back to others. It celebrates those who serve with heart and help build a stronger sense of belonging across the community.

Eligible nominees include Clackamas ESD employees, school district staff, board members, students and community partners. The awards are designed to shine a light on people whose daily efforts, fresh ideas and commitment to others bring Clackamas ESD's mission to life.

Nominations are open through April 15, 2026, and may be submitted through the online form on the Clackamas ESD website.

For more information or to submit a nomination, visit the Mission Awards page on the Clackamas ESD website at <https://www.clackesd.org/annual-leadership-service-and-innovation-awards/>



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# Honorable Mentions



Community members and leaders receive honorable mentions and awards at an unforgettable evening. Photos by Tony Sibley

# SPORTS

## Damian Lillard Joins Ownership Group for Luxury Sports Lounge



Damian Lillard joins an ownership group to open Honorable Mention, Portland's first luxury sports lounge, inside the Benson Hotel.

### Honorable Mention Opens Inside the Benson Hotel in Downtown Portland

Urban Restaurant Group, in partnership with Portland icon Damian Lillard and local business leaders JR Duperrier, Dr.

William Johnson, David Lucas, and Mark Byrum, has announced the opening of Honorable Mention, Portland's first true luxury sports lounge. The highly anticipated venue will officially open Friday, March 6, inside the historic The Benson Hotel, occupying the former London Grill space at 309 SW Broadway in downtown Portland. Honorable Mention will operate Sunday through Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00

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## Let the Madness Begin!



Arkansas forward Trevon Brazile, right, blocks a shot by Vanderbilt forward Jalen Washington, left, during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game in the final of the Southeastern Conference Tournament Sunday, March 15, 2026, in Nashville, Tenn. (AP Photo/George Walker IV)

### March Madness: How, What to Watch

(AP) — March Madness arrived Sunday evening when the NCAA released its 68-team tournament bracket, sending hundreds of thousands of fans scrambling to study college basketball before filling out their brackets before first-round games begin Thursday.

Duke, Arizona, Michigan and Florida are the favorites. Miami (Ohio) made it. Indiana, Oklahoma and Auburn didn't.

If you like the tourney at 68 teams, enjoy the moment! Discussions continue on whether to expand the field by at least four teams and possibly more. And keep an eye out for the NCAA punishing teams that fail to provide player availability reports. Fines begin at \$10,000.

According to BetMGM Sportsbook, Michigan (plus-325) is a slight favorite to win the national championship over Duke (plus-333) despite the Wolverines' 80-72 loss to Purdue in Sunday's Big Ten tourney title game.

Michigan and Duke are followed by Arizona (plus-425), defending champion Florida (plus-600) and last year's national runner-up, Houston (plus-1,000). UConn, which won back-to-back national titles in 2023 and 2024, is fifth at plus-1,800.

Duke, Arizona, Michigan and Florida earned the No. 1 seeds in the four respective regions.

Food for thought: Michigan State in 2000 was the last Big Ten team to win the national championship, which was played that year in Indianapolis, the site of this year's Final Four. But remember: Three of Duke's five national championships (1991, 2010 and 2015) were won in Indianapolis while Arizona captured its only national title in Indy in 1997. Florida also won the first of back-to-back national championships in 2006 — in Indy.

Games to watch: No. 2 seed Purdue (27-8) vs. No. 15 Queens (21-13), Friday, West Region.

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 Easter delight



# Michael B. Jordan Wins First Oscar

## Sinners Star Earns Best Actor

Michael B. Jordan has been building toward a performance like "Sinners" for over 20 years. Now he has the best actor Oscar as his reward in what proved to be a hugely popular win.

Jordan got one trophy for playing identical twins Smoke and Stack in the blues-seeped supernatural horror film set in 1930s Mississippi that earned a record 16 Academy Award nominations and won four.

Last year's winner, Adrien Brody, announced Jordan's name Sunday night, setting off a wild celebration inside the Dolby Theatre. Teyana Taylor, a supporting actress nominee for "One Battle After Another," joined the standing ovation, mouthing, "Yes!"

Jordan was cheered loudly as he made his way through the backstage photo and interview rooms. The win is Jordan's first Oscar.



Michael B. Jordan, winner of the award for actor in a leading role for "Sinners," poses in the press room at the Oscars on Sunday, March 15, 2026, at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. (Photo by Jordan Strauss/Invision/AP)

"I've been doing this for 25 years and there's a lot of people who have seen me grow up in this industry," he said backstage, "and they looked out for me

when they didn't have to."

Jordan is eager to pass on that support.

"I'm really big on the next generation, so, try to be an exam-

ple," he said. "I'm not a big talker, I'm about action. I like to lead by example."

Jordan is the sixth Black man to win the best actor trophy. He

joins Will Smith ("King Richard," 2020), Forest Whitaker ("The Last King of Scotland," 2006), Jamie Foxx ("Ray," 2004), Denzel Washington ("Training Day," 2001) and Sidney Poitier ("Lilies of the Field"), who was the first in 1963.

"I stand here because of the people that came before me — Sidney Poitier, Denzel Washington, Halle Berry, Jamie Foxx, Forest Whitaker, Will Smith," he said on stage, "and to be up amongst those giants, amongst those greats, amongst my ancestors, amongst my guys, thank you everybody in this room and everybody at home supporting me over my career."

Jordan added, "I know you guys wanted me to do well and I want to do that because you guys bet on me, so thank you for keep betting on me. I'm going to keep stepping up, and I'm going to keep being the best version of myself I can be."

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For more information about the event or to buy tickets online, please visit:



# Damian Lillard Joins Ownership Group for Luxury Sports Lounge

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p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to midnight, offering an upscale yet welcoming destination for sports fans, visitors, and locals alike.

Developed with the vision of elevating Portland's sports and hospitality scene, Honorable Mention blends the energy of a sports bar with the sophistication of a luxury lounge. The space has been thoughtfully designed to reflect Portland's growth as a world-class sports city, pairing Victorian-inspired elegance with a modern, open-concept layout. Guests will find curated local artwork, premium sightlines to catch every major game, and intimate seating areas designed for everything from lively watch parties to relaxed, upscale evenings. Rich textures, warm lighting, and refined finishes create an environment that celebrates both the city's historic charm and its contemporary culture.

"Portland is my home," said Lillard. "When I think about helping build this city back up to what made me and many others fall in love with it, I know that starts with presenting people who come here with an experience we can all share—fellowship, fun, good food, and safety. I look forward to building on this as we continue to lift Portland back to what it once was."

The culinary program at Honorable Mention is led by Chef Bobby Brown and centers on elevated, shareable plates designed to bring people together. The menu features refined interpretations of classic sports lounge favorites alongside bold, dynamic flavors and premium group offerings ideal for gatherings and celebrations. Complementing the food is a

carefully curated beverage program featuring signature craft cocktails, premium spirits, and select pours that reinforce the lounge's commitment to a high-end sports entertainment experience.

"Honorable Mention shines a light on the city's deep love for sport while honoring its historical roots," said JR Duperrier. "This space is for the community, and it's a win for Portland."

Beyond its design and menu, Honorable Mention carries a deeper cultural purpose. The concept celebrates athletic excellence across race, gender, and culture, honoring pioneers, barrier-breakers, and global icons whose achievements have shaped the history of sports. Through storytelling, design elements, and curated displays, the lounge highlights figures whose perseverance and impact opened doors for future generations of athletes.

The name itself also pays tribute to the first Black athletes who attended Ivy League institutions. Despite facing significant social and institutional barriers, these athletes helped transform collegiate athletics through their presence, talent, and determination. Their contributions expanded opportunities for athletes of color and helped pave the way for the diverse landscape of sports seen today.

By combining sports, culture, and hospitality in one sophisticated setting, Honorable Mention aims to become more than just a place to watch games. The venue aspires to serve as a gathering place where community, celebration, and shared experiences come together—reflecting both Portland's rich past and its promising future. The location is at 309 SW Broadway, Portland, OR 97205 inside The Benson Hotel.

# Let the Madness Begin!

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The Big Ten tourney champs and No. 1 team in the AP preseason poll faces a first-time NCAA tourney entrant and has a history of early departures against smaller-school teams. Purdue guard Braden Smith needs two assists to break Bobby Hurley's Division I career record (1,076).

No. 5 seed Wisconsin (24-10) vs. No. 12 High Point (30-4), Thursday, West Region. Showtime! The Big South tourney champs are tied for the third-highest scoring average in Division I (90.0 points). Wisconsin isn't far behind at 83.5 points (30th). The fact it's a five-12 matchup could be a fun upset pick.

No. 11 seed Miami (Ohio) (31-1) vs. No. 11 SMU (20-13), Wednesday, First Four. Some bracketologists thought the Mustangs didn't belong while others thought the lack of schedule strength and quality wins should leave Miami out. Instead, both teams now have a chance to prove they belong.

No. 7 Miami (Florida) (25-8) vs. 10 Missouri (20-12), Friday, West Region. The Hurricanes got a tough draw against a lower seeded foe that will play just about 90 minutes away from its campus.

Sure, Missouri has lost three straight. But a home-like crowd could make this an upset special.

Games will be telecast either on CBS, TBS, TNT or TruTV and their digital platforms, including Paramount+. TBS will broadcast the Final Four and national title game this year. The NCAA will also stream games via its March Madness Live option.

The 31 conference tourney winners received automatic bids into the field. Twelve selection committee members chose the remaining 37 at-large teams, leaving some of the missing teams miffed as usual.

After this week's First Four games, first- and second-round games will be played Thursday and Saturday in Buffalo, New York; Greenville, South Carolina; Portland, Oregon and Oklahoma City. Games played Friday and Sunday will be in Philadelphia, San Diego, St. Louis and Tampa, Florida.

Sweet 16 games will be played March 26-29 in Houston (South), Washington (East), Chicago (Midwest) and San Jose, California (West).

The Final Four is Saturday, April 4, at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, with the title game the night of Monday, April 6, at 8:30 p.m. Eastern.

## Flour Power!

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Opened in 1977, the **Milwaukie Pastry Kitchen** was the **first Black-owned business in Milwaukie** and **first Black-owned bakery in the State of Oregon**. Toolbox's historic exhibition pays homage to the Hadley family, unveiling **never-seen photographs, equipment, and original recipes** from the Hadleys bakery and home.

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## PP&R Recruiting Ninth-Grade Students for EAGLE Caddie Program



Photo courtesy of Portland Parks & Recreation

### CONTINUED FROM FRONT

ly regarded Evans Scholarship, which covers full college tuition and housing at the University of Oregon.

Since 1990, nearly 100 Portland students have received full tuition and housing through the Evans Scholarship.

The Evans Scholarship is valued at over \$125,000 for four years. The Western Golf Associ-

ation (WGA) reports that 1,190 caddies are currently enrolled at 24 universities nationwide as Evans Scholars. Since the program began in 1930, over 12,285 caddies have graduated as Evans Scholars. Evans Scholars maintain an average GPA of 3.3 and have a 98% graduation rate, with 95% employed or in graduate school within six months of graduation.

Applications are open through Friday, May 1, 2026. Visit our

EAGLE caddie page for more information and to apply.

Students who attend high schools that are not located within the city of Portland may contact the following golf courses about their area's respective caddie programs: Oswego Lake Country Club, Portland Golf Club, Riverside Golf and Country Club, Royal Oak Country Club in Vancouver, Tualatin Country Club, Waverley Country Club, and Willamette Valley Country Club.

## Rising Child Care Costs Fuel Major Political Push in Key Races

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

changed during the COVID-19 pandemic, which exposed the fragility of the child care system as centers struggled to remain open while supporting essential workers.

In 2021, then-President Joe Biden signed legislation providing \$39 billion in emergency child care funding, allowing states to expand subsidies and stabilize providers. He later proposed a more sweeping plan that would have created universal prekindergarten and capped child care costs at 7% of household income. That proposal ultimately failed to pass Congress.

With pandemic-era aid now expired, many families are once again facing rising costs and limited access. As a result, child care affordability has become a more prominent campaign issue at both the state and local levels.

Several Democratic candidates have built campaigns around expanding access to affordable care. In New York City, Mayor Zohran Mamdani ran on a platform that included universal child care. Governors such as Mikie Sherrill of New Jersey and Abigail Spanberger of Virginia have also emphasized expanding subsidies and support for working families.

Other candidates are following suit, including Washington, D.C., mayoral candidate Janeese Lewis George and Iowa gubernatorial hopeful Francesca Hong. In New York, Gov. Kathy Hochul has pledged to work toward expanding universal child care statewide if reelected.

Meanwhile, the current administration has taken a different approach, focusing in part on oversight of existing programs. Federal officials have emphasized efforts to combat fraud in child care subsidy systems following allegations involving providers in Minneapolis. While some prosecutions have occurred, investigators later found that key claims in a widely circulated video were unsubstantiated.

Despite that, federal officials attempted to temporarily freeze child care funding to several Democratic-led states, including Minnesota, before a court ordered the funds to be released.

As the 2026 election cycle intensifies, advocates say the growing cost of caregiving is likely to remain a central issue. For many families, the challenge of balancing work, child care and elder care is no longer a private struggle but a defining economic concern—one that could influence how voters cast their ballots in the months ahead.

# Focused on Student Success, Enrollment, Growth, and Workforce Programs

### CONTINUED FROM FRONT

a campus culture deeply committed to student belonging, achievement, and success.

Programs across campus have also been reaccredited by their respective accreditation commissions, including Addiction Counseling, Automotive, Dental Hygiene, Medical Assisting, Nursing, Pharmacy Tech, and Child & Family Studies. The Dental Hygiene program received the highest level of approval in its reaccreditation, and the Teacher Education program received its first full accreditation by the Professional Educator Standards Board last November.

Clark College continues to prepare students for in-demand careers. The college currently offers more than 100 degrees

and certificate programs, including six bachelor's degrees in Applied Management, Computer Science, Cybersecurity, Dental Hygiene, Human Services, and Teacher Education.

Enrollment has increased by 32% this academic year compared with 2024-25. Approximately 9,828 students enrolled during the fall and winter terms — the largest enrollment since the pandemic. 700 of those students are members of the PTK Honor Society, and 1,602 made the Vice President's List with a GPA of 3.75 or higher.

New programs and academic offerings are driven by community needs and workforce demands. This year, the college launched its Surgical Technician program — the first of its kind in Southwest Washington — with a full cohort and a waitlist for the fall term.

Clark also launched its first Bachelor of Science degree in computer science to help meet the region's growing demand for skilled technology professionals.

The Advanced Manufacturing program welcomed its first cohort in the fall and celebrated the opening of the Advanced Manufacturing Center at Boschma Farms in January, a 49,000-square-foot facility offering an associate in applied science in Integrated Technician and certificate programs in Intro to Manufacturing and Manufacturing Operator. The college is also in the approval process for a Construction Management program and seeks to add additional programs in Clean Energy, Machining, and Radiologic Technology.

Community partnerships and philanthropy are essential in sup-

porting student and college needs. President Edwards expressed appreciation for the ongoing support of the Clark College Foundation and its donors, which distributed \$1.8 million in scholarships and grants and \$5.1 million in total support to Clark College during the 2024-25 academic year. This allowed more than 700 students to receive direct financial assistance.

In addition, Clark has received over \$10 million in federal, state, and local grants, contracts, and allocations. This includes a \$78,000 Job Skills Program grant for the Continuing and Community Education program, which supports local manufacturing companies transitioning toward a culture of improvement and leadership development.

Clark College continues to play a significant role in the regional

economy. According to a 2025 economic impact study, Clark contributed \$656 million in income to the area in 2023-24 and supported 7,159 jobs—equivalent to one out of every 40 jobs in the region. The study also found that the college delivers \$1 billion in social benefits, representing a strong return on investment for students, taxpayers, and the community.

Looking ahead, the college remains focused on expanding opportunity, strengthening workforce pathways, and ensuring students have the resources they need to succeed. Dr. Edwards thanked the Clark College community and its partners for their dedication and shared commitment to student success, noting that the college's achievements reflect the strength of a community that believes deeply in the power of education.

# Michael B. Jordan Wins First Oscar



Delroy Lindo, from left, Miles Canton, Wunmi Mosaku, Omar Benson Miller, Jayme Lawson, Li Jun Li, Lola Kirke, Francine Maisler, and Michael B. Jordan accept the award for outstanding performance by a cast in a motion picture for "Sinners" during the 32nd Annual Actor Awards on Sunday, March 1, 2026, at the Shrine Auditorium and Expo Hall in Los Angeles. (AP Photo/Chris Pizzello)

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

The other nominees were Timothée Chalamet in "Marty Supreme," Leonardo DiCaprio for "One Battle After Another," Ethan Hawke of "Blue Moon" and Wagner Moura in "The Secret Agent."

Chalamet had been the early Oscar favorite after wins at the Golden Globes and Critics Choice Awards. But Jordan surprised himself by winning at the Actor Awards, giving him momentum in the final days of Oscar voting.

"Sinners" reunited Jordan and writer-producer-director Ryan Coogler. They go back to their first collaboration in 2013.

"You're an amazing person," Jordan told Coogler from the

stage. "You gave me the opportunity and space to be seen."

Jordan's breakthrough film role came in Coogler's "Fruitvale Station" for which he received critical praise playing a real-life man who was killed by police. It was Coogler's directorial debut, and they followed with "Creed," "Black Panther" and now "Sinners."

Jordan's initial acting success came in television. He had a small yet pivotal role in "The Wire" in 2002, followed by the daytime drama "All My Children," in which he replaced Chadwick Boseman, and "Friday Night Lights."

He and Boseman later acted together in "Black Panther" and were close friends until Bose-

man's death from colon cancer in 2020. Jordan dedicated his acting award from this year's NAACP Image Awards to Boseman.

Jordan, a 39-year-old who also produces and directs, was named People magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive" in 2020.

Jordan shared Oscar night with his mother, Donna, who hugged her son upon hearing his name, and his father Michael A. Jordan, as well as his two siblings. He espoused the values that he was taught growing up in Newark, New Jersey.

"I'm just walking my path, just trying to be locked in," he said backstage. "Dream big, man, and be kind and be honest. That's how I try to live."

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Photo by S. Washington/Portland Observer

# Tear Gas Use to be Limited at Portland ICE Protests

## Judge Curbs Federal Crowd- Control Tactics at Protests Moving Forward

(AP) — A federal judge in Oregon on Monday restricted federal officers from using tear gas at protests at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement building in Portland, in response to a lawsuit filed by the ACLU of Oregon on behalf of protesters and freelance journalists.

U.S. District Judge Michael Simon issued the preliminary injunction after a three-day hearing in which the plaintiffs — including a demonstrator known for wearing a chicken costume, a married couple in their 80s and two freelance journalists — testified about having chemical or projectile munitions used against them.

The lawsuit, whose defendants include the Department of Homeland Security, argues that federal officers' use of such munitions is a retaliation against protesters that chills their First Amendment rights.

"Plaintiffs provided numerous videos, which were received in ev-



U.S. Customs and Border Protection agent's standoff against demonstrators as tear gas fills the air outside the U.S. Immigration and Customs building during a protest in Portland, Ore., June 14, 2025. (AP Photo/Jenny Kane, File)

idence and unambiguously show DHS officers spraying OC Spray directly into the faces of peaceful and nonviolent protesters engaged in, at most, passive resistance and discharging tear gas and firing pepper-ball munitions into crowds of peaceful and nonviolent protesters," Simon wrote, using the term OC Spray to refer to pepper spray.

"Defendants' conduct — physically harming protestors

and journalists without prior dispersal warnings — is objectively chilling." In an emailed statement Tuesday, DHS said it was "authorized to do what is appropriate and necessary in each situation to diffuse violence against our officers in the most appropriate manner possible."

Simon had previously issued a temporary restraining order simi-

larly limiting federal agents from using chemical munitions during protests at the ICE building. His preliminary injunction is the second in recent days restricting agents' tear gas use at the facility, following that of a federal judge overseeing a separate case brought by the residents of an adjacent affordable housing complex.

Federal officers' aggressive crowd-control tactics are causing concern as demonstrators in cities

across the country have protested the immigration enforcement surge spearheaded by President Donald Trump's administration.

In his Monday order, Simon limited federal agents from using chemical or projectile munitions such as pepper balls and tear gas unless someone poses an imminent threat of physical harm. He also ordered agents not to fire munitions at the head, neck or torso "unless the officer is legally justified in using deadly force against that person."

Additionally, officers cannot use pepper spray against a group in an indiscriminate way that would affect bystanders; they must only target people who are engaging in violent unlawful conduct or actively resisting arrest, or use it "as reasonably necessary in a defensive capacity," Simon wrote. He specified that trespassing, refusing to move and refusing to obey an order to disperse are acts of passive, not active, resistance.

Simon also granted provisional class certification, which means his order covers a broader group of all those who have peacefully protested or reported on demonstrations at the ICE building in recent months.

The preliminary injunction will remain in effect while the lawsuit proceeds.

## OREGON PROBLEM GAMBLING RESOURCE

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