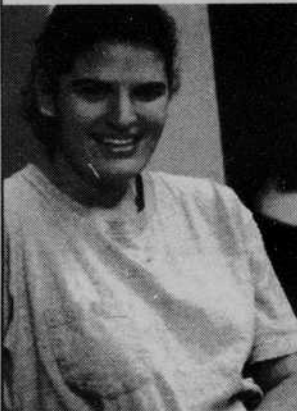It's about
road trips...
without crashes
or injuries

It's about
GPAs...
not DUIs and MIPs

It's about
keeping our friendships alive...
not having our friends die

It's about
preserving our community...
not destroying it

It's about
drinking alcohol responsibly
or **not** drinking
at all....

2000
Office of Student Life
University of Oregon

Blazers beat Jazz; want L.A.

By Landon Hall
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — The Utah Jazz can flail and fume, but they just can't push the Portland Trail Blazers around anymore.

Arvydas Sabonis and Rasheed Wallace each scored 17 points as Portland withstood a tumultuous fourth quarter to beat Utah 101-92 Sunday, the Blazers' 11th straight victory.

"You know what's going to happen with Utah: There's going to be a lot of pushing and shoving, a lot of flopping," Portland's Detlef Schrempf said. "We let them get back a little closer than we wanted, but we got the W."

Steve Smith added 16 points and Damon Stoudamire had 15 for the Blazers, who have won 17 of 18 overall and 16 straight at home.

As the final seconds ticked off, the sellout crowd chanted "Beat L.A.!" The Blazers play host to the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday in a showdown between the teams with the league's best records.

"This was the perfect way for us to get focused on the Laker game," Stoudamire said. "This should be a carryover to the Tuesday night game. We're just going to let it all ride on Tuesday."

Counting last year's playoff series win, the Blazers have beaten the Jazz nine out of the last 10 times at the Rose Garden. Portland leads the season series 2-1, and the play one more time — April 10 at Utah, where the Blazers have lost 12 of their last 13.

Karl Malone and Bryon Russell scored 23 points each to lead Utah. But it was Malone's physical play in the fourth quarter that stirred up the Blazers and started the Jazz unraveling.

Utah closed to 82-79 on a dunk by Greg Ostertag with 7:58 to go, but after a turnover Malone got tangled up with Portland's Bonzi Wells and threw him to the floor. Wells jumped up and bumped Malone in the chest, and the two were quickly separated.

"That was a tryout for the WWF, that takedown," Blazers coach Mike Dunleavy said of Malone's move.

Both were assessed a technical foul, and the Blazers got a jumper from Greg Anthony and a putback by Wallace to take an 86-79 lead with 5:31 left.

A short time later, Ostertag was ejected after a tussle with Smith. Ostertag thought he was fouled by Smith, and the two glared at each other.

They exchanged words, then Ostertag grabbed onto Smith. Teammates, coaches and officials immediately jumped in, and the two were separated after Smith had his hands around Ostertag's face and neck.

"We just hooked up. He didn't want to let it go," Smith said. "He gave me a stare, so I started laughing."

Ostertag had gotten a technical in the second quarter for angrily bouncing the ball, and his second earned him an automatic ejection.

Smith's jumper with four minutes left made it a 10-point lead, but he fell backwards over John Stockton and was helped off the court with a slightly sprained left foot.

Portland, leading the NBA in field goal shooting, shot nearly 49 percent.