

Old Radicals Deal With Modern Times

They're from the 60s, trying to survive.



See Entertainment, page B4.

Join In Celebrating Our

25th ANNIVERSARY

Inner City Kids Learn Soccer

The Portland Parks and Recreation's soccer program means fun for these area youth.



See Metro, inside.

The Portland Observer

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Japan Attack Serves As Alert

Japan's recent terrorist attack is a wake-up call, according to University of Oregon professor emeritus Aaron Novick who served on the Manhattan project which developed the atomic bomb. Novick says stockpiles of chemical agents pose a serious threat and should be destroyed. He says the nerve mist stored near Hermiston in northeast Oregon could be deadly in the wrong hands.

Post Office Named For Activist

A post office building in Ruleville, Miss. has been named in honor of the late human and civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer, an outstanding orator and inspirational leader from Mississippi who became famous for her trademark phrase that she was "sick and tired of being sick and tired" of blatant racial practices against African Americans.

Some Economic Gains Made

African American women have made more progress than black men in closing employment and income gaps. The Census Bureau reports that more black women than black men were employed in 1990, including those with college degrees. While college-educated African American women with full-time jobs have reached earnings parity with their white counterparts, the same is not true for black men with college degrees.

NAACP Sets Battle With Contract

The NAACP has announced a major campaign against the Republican Party's so-called Contract With America which includes plans to roll back civil rights gains and reduce federal social problems. Newly elected chairperson Myrlie Evers-Williams of Bend said she's frightened by what's happening in Congress.

Rutgers Presidents Holds On

The Rutgers Board of Governors rejected attempts to have university president Francis L. Lawrence ousted because of alleged racist remarks. Lawrence suggested that blacks were genetically less intelligent than whites. He later apologized and the board accepted it. But black student leaders are promising continued disruption of university activities under Lawrence is fired.

Poor Science Could Boost Racism

A panel of scientists and historians meeting in Atlanta, Ga. warn that biased scientific research and the public's weak understanding of genetics could fuel a new wave of racism and prejudice in America in which minorities would be blamed for society's ills and discriminated against by a host of new restricted laws. They were particularly upset by the media exposure given to last year's best selling book "The Bell Curve."

Colin Ferguson To Appeal

Colin Ferguson, the black man found guilty of killing six people during a shooting spree on a crowded New York commuter train said he will appeal. The Jamaican immigrant was found guilty in the deaths of six non-blacks and of trying to kill 19 others on the Long Island rail road.

UCLA WEARS NCAA CROWN

BY DANNY BELL

It was an expected outcome in an unlikely way.

The UCLA Bruins persevered without the luxury of their field general Tyus Edney to come through with an impressive win over defending NCAA champion Arkan-

sas, 89-78, capturing their 11th national championship and their first since the John Wooden era of 20 years ago.

Edney played only three minutes due to a sprained wrist he suffered in Saturday's game against Oklahoma State. But freshman Cameron Dollar came off the bench and effectively took over the ball handling duties

as well as play some important defense. Playing before 38,540 fans at Seattle's Kingdome, Ed O'Bannon turned in another stellar performance scoring 30 points and garnering 17 rebounds.

Arkansas' much touted swarming defense, labeled "40 minutes of hell," by their coach, Nolan Richardson, was not able to shut down the quick passing and ball handling ability the Bruins share as a team.

To a large degree it was UCLA's ability

to move the ball in the open court and defeat the trap that gave them so many good looks at the basket.

"I think it's really hard to press good basketball teams," UCLA Coach Jim Harrick said. "We had good spacing and when you play Arkansas, you need as many players on your team that can pass and catch the ball."

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Hill Seeks South Africa Investment



Oregon State Treasurer Jim Hill (right) and South African Consul General J.H. De Klerk boost the merits of investing in South Africa during a meeting at Doris Cafe on Northeast Russell and Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. (Photo by Donn Thomas)

BY PROMISE KING

Just a few years ago, Oregon State Treasurer Jim Hill stood before lawmakers in Salem to demand a ban on South African business investments.

But 11 months after apartheid crumbled, Hill rose again last week, this time before businessmen, politicians and community leaders in Portland to appeal for more dollars for post-apartheid South Africa.

"More than ever, South Africa needs our

help and we must stand up to this responsibility in the same way we stood up against apartheid," Hill said, recounting the horrors that apartheid wrought on black people.

"We stand to learn that people can put aside the gravest difference, the most severe discrimination and yet, the people there are willing to put all of these things behind and move ahead," Hill said.

South Africa's economy, according to foreign watchdogs, has not benefitted the poor black population which fought against apartheid, rather they contend that President

Nelson Mandela's budget has so far prospered the wealthy white minority. This probably to placate the extreme right wings which were bent on stalling the transition period.

Millions of black South African families still live in tin or cardboard shanties. They haul water from great distances in order to have fresh drinking water.

On the streets, tension and mistrust of government officials, especially the police still linger.

Hill's appeals came at a time when Bloemfontein, South Africa, one of the coun-

try's major cities and home to the largest shanty camp,

desperately needs medical attention for people ravaged in extremely unhealthy conditions.

"Now is the time to demonstrate our commitment to a free South Africa," the state treasurer said, in a gathering at Doris Cafe in northeast Portland and which included South African Consul General J.H. De Klerk.

De Klerk was in Portland on the invitation of Hill to meet with Gov. John Kitzhaber, Oregon business leaders and community activists to discuss changes in his country and seek closer trade ties with the state.

Hill visited the former apartheid enclave last November as part of a delegation of pension fund managers to learn firsthand about changes in the country and possible investment opportunities for the state pension fund.

De Klerk thanked the American people, especially African Americans for their consistent and sustained effort to end apartheid.

"Portland deserves our thanks. It deserves the regards of all South Africans and in particular the Africa American community in Portland," De Klerk said.

He said an economically viable South Africa would mean a better life for all freedom fighters.

The country's business environment, according to De Klerk, is conducive to good business investment, adding that government incentives are well in place to help emerging businesses.

"Your continuous involvement in the business of our world helps meet our commitment to our needy brothers," De Klerk said.

That commitment includes the building of about one million housing units, improving the educational system and creating economic opportunities for the majority of the black South African population.

Governor Faces Challenges Of Community

(Editor's note: The Portland Observer recently had an exclusive interview with Gov. John Kitzhaber. This is the last part of a special series.)

BY PROMISE KING

Gov. John Kitzhaber has taken a pragmatic approach to governing Oregon. He's shying from being heavy-handed in partisan politics and philosophies.

"I am not an ideologue," Kitzhaber explains.

The governor said he's a "good Democrat" in the sense he believes in the value of the Democratic Party, but said the Democratic Party of today needs to "re-evaluate how we achieve our objectives."

Unless something drastic happens, this physician turned-politician would certainly would like to be re-elected.

"I think it's important to have a certain degree of continuity, especially when your job is effective and particularly with term limits," Kitzhaber said.



Governor John Kitzhaber

"There are a lot people (new legislators) who have no history of the Oregon Health Plan, no history of education reforms, no history of land-use planning and I think that is a problem," he said.

Kitzhaber said part of his challenge is to curtain this Legislature from eroding "a lot of important things," passed by former lawmakers.

Another challenge is the economic development of the state, particularly of north and northeast Portland which constitute's one of the state's poorest domains.

Past efforts have stalled in quagmire and have done little to alleviate the pains of poverty.

Kitzhaber was concerned that economic activities and jobs are not being spread evenly for minorities and minority-owned small businesses.

"One of the problems is the credit line," he said. "They've (minorities) never been players on the table."

How does he intend to solve this lingering financial nausea?

"I think we should really look hard at trying to get people into the revenue stream," the governor offered. "Economic development should include hiring people," adding that a lack of jobs has fueled crime.

The challenge of crime has the governor's attention.

Recently, he met with the Johnny Gages, one a director of the House of Umoja in northeast Portland and the other a director of MYCAP, to develop a plan on curtailing the social ills of juvenile delinquency.

Even though he does have some reservations about recent ballot measures requiring the treatment of some juvenile offenders as adults and building new prisons, he noted that he was going to implement them anyway.

Kitzhaber said he hopes to provide constitutional provisions and reform that will insure equity in the justice system.

"As we construct our juvenile justice system. It's very important we not lose sight that the most effective way to deal with juvenile justice is to keep kids out of the system in the first place," he said.

The governor sees the challenge of diversity as an opportunity to enrich ourselves and learn from each other.

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