

Area All Stars Appeal

Riverside Little League disqualification called unjust

See story in Sports, Page B6



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Week in The Review

Global Hotspots on Agenda

President Bush, mulling whether to send U.S. troops to enforce a fragile cease-fire in Liberia, met Monday with the world leader who has pushed most aggressively for American intervention in the strife-torn West African nation. Bush and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan sat down to an agenda jammed with global hotspots and seemingly intractable problems. Like Bush, who returned late Saturday from a tour of five sub-Saharan nations, Annan is just back from Africa, where he attended the African Union summit in Mozambique.

Candidates Ditch NAACP Convention

NAACP President Kweisi Mfume criticized Democratic presidential candidates Dick Gephardt, Joe Lieberman and Dennis Kucinich for skipping the group's presidential forum, saying the three have become "persona non grata" among black voters. Mfume lashed out at the three during a speech to the thousands gathered for the NAACP's convention. Each time Mfume mentioned their name an organ master played a death knell chord.

Bastille Day Gets Political

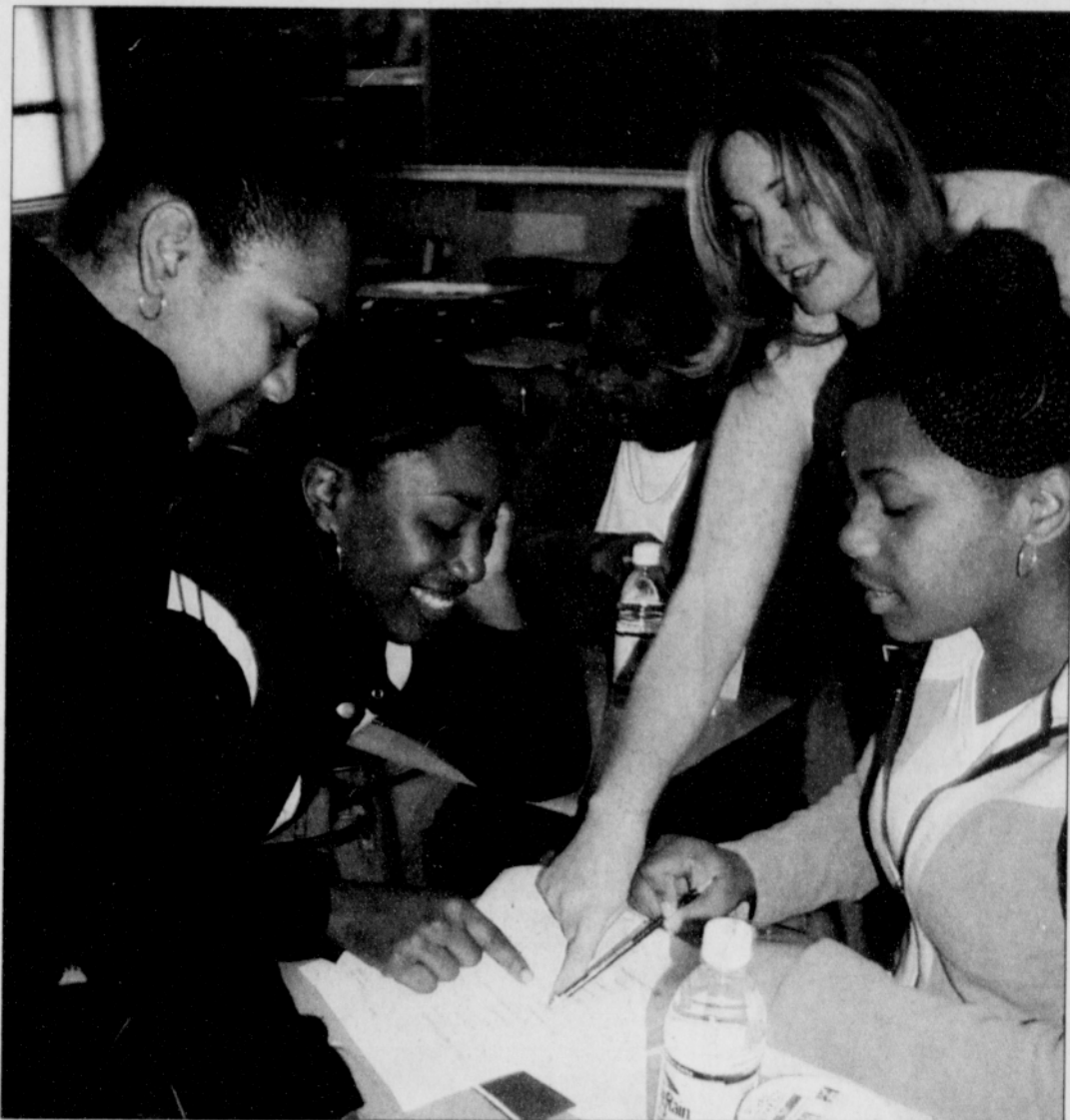
French leaders used their traditional Bastille Day interviews to press for the return of U.N. weapons inspectors to Iraq, saying such a move could help settle the doubts over Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass murder. After watching French and European troops march side-by-side in a show of unity down the Champs-Élysées, President Jacques Chirac criticized the United States and Britain for refusing to allow U.N. inspectors to complete their job in Iraq before going to war.

New York Times Editor Replaced

The New York Times on Monday named Bill Keller as executive editor, more than a month after the newspaper's top editors resigned following a plagiarism scandal. Keller, 54, a former Times managing editor and Pulitzer Prize-winning foreign correspondent, was chosen as the permanent replacement for Howell Raines.

Ringleader Files for Senate

Jerry Springer, the talk show host whose nationally syndicated program often spotlighted strippers and skinheads, officially filed papers on Monday to run for the U.S. Senate from Ohio.



Students study math and engineering to prepare for their freshman year at Jefferson High School.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Freshman Ready

Incoming students prepare for success in math and science

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The first day of high school can conjure many anxieties, from getting lost to feeling alone in a much larger school, with much older kids. New students may also be nervous about study skills dulled by a summer of intense sprinkler sprinting and video gaming.

High school can be particularly challenging for kids who never grasped basic math and science concepts, such as fractions and multiplication.

MESA, the Mathematics Engineer-

ing Science Achievement Program has designed a summer camp for incoming freshman at Jefferson High School, to quell some worries about their upcoming year.

The Jefferson Summer Scholars Program, which wrapped up last month, was designed to help minority kids get exposure to math and science fields, where minorities are still under-represented.

Kids also learned their way around the campus and met students from other middle schools. Jefferson High School upperclassmen assisted the program as student mentors.

"What students love the most is they get to meet kids coming from other schools so when they walk the halls, it's not all new, and they have older faces to look up to from meeting our five mentors," said Phoebe Tyeskey, Jefferson's MESA advisor.

Camp projects were hands-on. Students had group projects, field trips and even constructed towers using straws, toothpicks and marshmallows.

The purpose of that project, according to Tyeskey, was to build the highest free-standing towers while spending the least amount of material, keeping "building costs" low.

The group took a trip to an engineering firm to learn how their freshman year will affect their futures in college and beyond.

Blazers Warned of Boycott

Passing over Maurice Lucas as general manager sparks protest

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

If the Portland Trail Blazers don't hire some African-American decision makers in the Oregon Arena's front office, a former professional athlete and 29,000 of his friends have vowed to boycott the team.

Portland resident R.C. Burke, a former football pro, started a petition two weeks ago, recommending former Blazer great Maurice Lucas, as general manager of the team. He said they have 29,000 signatures to date.

While the petition soared through the hands of prominent African American leaders and former NBA and NFL stars, the Blazers were reported to have offered John Nash the position on Monday.

Wednesday, the team is expected to announce Nash as the new general manager of the team, a position that has been vacant for three months, since Bob Whitsitt resigned. Nash comes to Portland as a former general manager in Philadelphia, Washington and New Jersey.

According to Burke, both Whitsitt and team owner Paul Allen knew that Lucas was interested in the GM post.

He said Lucas' interest in the position came during a conversation about "relationships that the current Blazers do not have with the black community."

"It's appalling that there are no black employees in the Oregon Arena front office," Burke said. We're going to boycott the Blazers and ask African Americans to impose economic sanctions against any away game that they play until they are more inclusionary to minorities."

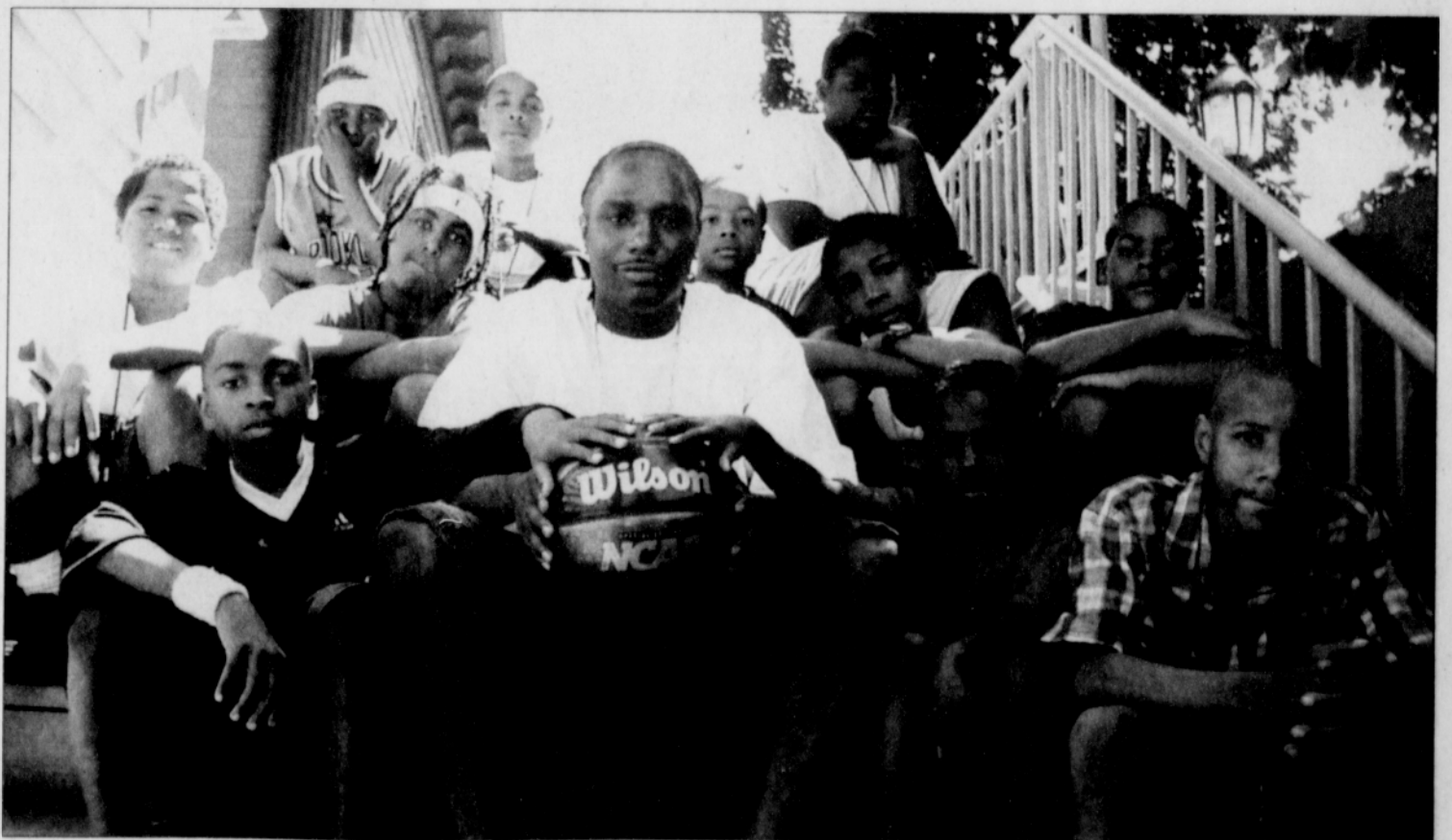
The spokesperson for the Trail Blazers did not reply to repeated requests for comment on the complaints.

To sign the petition or reach Burke, e-mail Maurice.LucasForBlazersGM@hotmail.com.

Aiming High at Summer Camp

Program director Lavon Van poses with his campers in northeast Portland from Successful Choices. The nonprofit hosts free summer camps, with activities including Bible study, basketball and field trips. The organization also sponsors after-school programs. For registration information and other questions, call 503-735-3156.

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