

Firing Ruled Unjust

(AP) — A federal jury has awarded \$332,251 to a former Oregon State University employee who said his contract was not renewed in retaliation for his claims of racial discrimination.

The all-white jury deliberated three hours after a three-day trial before awarding the money Friday

to Robert I. Brown, 63, who is black, for lost wages and compensatory damages. Jurors rejected a claim that his employment contract was not renewed because of his race but decided the university had unlawfully retaliated against him because of his racial discrimination complaints.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon (TriMet) is offering the public an opportunity to comment on its plan for FY2004 federal transit funding. TriMet will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 8, 2003 at 2 pm in Conference Rooms A & B at 4012 SE 17th Avenue, Portland, OR 97202. The purpose of the hearing will be to discuss capital projects for which TriMet plans to seek FY2004 funding from the Federal Transit Administration.

In FY2004, TriMet estimates that it will be eligible for the following programs:

Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program	\$26,000,000 - \$ 32,500,000
Section 5307 Surface Transportation Program (STP)	\$6,000,000
Section 5307 Congestion, Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)	\$3,100,000
Section 3037 Job Access and Reverse Commute	\$ 3,000,000
Section 5309 Fixed Guideway Modernization (Rail Mod)	\$5,300,000
Section 5309 New Starts (Wilsonville to Beaverton Commuter Rail)	\$18,000,000
Section 5309 New Starts (Interstate MAX)	\$117,000,000
TOTAL	\$178,400,000-\$184,900,000

The proposed Program of Projects is:

	Federal	Total	Fund	Match
Transit Tracker Project			5307	20.00%
	\$300,000	\$375,000		
Bus Preventive Maintenance			5307	20.00%
	\$29,300,000	\$36,625,000		
Rail Preventive Maintenance			5307	20.00%
	\$2,900,000	\$6,625,000		
Rail Preventive Maintenance			5309	20.00%
	\$5,300,000	\$3,625,000		
Rail Preventive Maintenance			STP	10.27%
	\$6,000,000	\$6,686,727		
Rail Preventive Maintenance Total:	\$14,200,000	\$16,936,727		
Job Access & Reverse Commute			3037	50.00%
	\$3,000,000	\$6,000,000		
Transit Development Program			CMAQ	10.27%
	\$2,100,000	\$780,118		
Region 2040 Initiatives/TMA/TDM			CMAQ	10.27%
	\$1,000,000	\$2,674,691		
Wilsonville to Beaverton Commuter Rail			5309NS	40.00%
	\$18,000,000	\$30,000,000		
Interstate MAX Project			5309NS	20.34%
	\$117,000,000	\$146,874,215		
TOTAL	\$184,900,000	\$240,265,751		

This table shows the plan for the maximum expected amount. If less funding is available, the federal involvement in these projects will be reduced.

Transit Tracker: "real time" displays showing when the next bus or train will arrive at about 40 bus shelters and rail platforms.

Bus Preventive Maintenance: partial funding of TriMet's bus maintenance costs for FY2004.

Rail Preventive Maintenance: partial funding of TriMet's rail maintenance costs for FY2004.

Job Access & Reverse Commute: funding for sixth year of program.

Transportation Development Program: bus replacement, bus shelters, streamline treatments.

Region 2040 Initiatives/TMA/TDM: TriMet administers these funds and contracts with groups such as transportation management associations to expand the core TDM program to focus on areas of regional significance (such as regional centers, industrial areas and the central city) in the Region 2040 Plan.

Wilsonville to Beaverton Commuter Rail: funding to complete final design.

Interstate MAX Project: funding to support the next phase of construction of the project.

In FY2003, TriMet also became eligible for the following programs:

Section 5309 Bus-Related Allocation	\$2,916,087
Section 5307 Surface Transportation Program (STP)	\$1,500,000
Section 5307 Surface Transportation Program (STP)	\$ 460,000
Section 5307 Surface Transportation Program (STP)	\$ 485,329
Section 5307 Congestion, Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)	\$ 161,881
Section 5307 Congestion, Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)	\$ 40,000
TOTAL	\$5,563,297

The Program of Projects was:

	Federal	Total	Fund	Match
Rail Preventive Maintenance (STP)			STP	10.27%
	\$2,445,329	\$2,725,208		
Bus Purchase (CMAQ)	\$201,881	\$224,987	CMAQ	10.27%
South Corridor PE (Section 5309)			5309	20.00%
	\$2,916,087	\$3,645,109		
TOTAL	\$5,563,297	\$6,595,304		

All projects have been selected through TriMet's planning process, which incorporates public involvement, and are included in the Metropolitan and State Transportation Improvement Programs. These projects conform to comprehensive land use and transportation planning in the area. The Wilsonville to Beaverton Commuter Rail Project will displace two business properties on SW Lombard north of Canyon Road, and potentially one business property in the Washington Square area.

At the public hearing TriMet will give interested persons or agencies the opportunity to comment on the social, economic, and environmental impact of the projects. Comments may also be submitted to TriMet's Finance Administrator as described above.

TriMet will provide a sign language interpreter for anyone who requests it at least 48 hours before the hearing by calling 503-962-4831 or TDD 503-962-5811, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If you want information regarding the Program of Projects detailed above, contact TriMet's Finance Administrator as described above. Any amendment to any program will be duly advertised to the public.

Bush Rolls Past North Portland Protesters

Confrontations rare with riot-clad police

(AP) — Thousands of boisterous but generally orderly protesters angered by a range of Bush administration policies jeered the presidential motorcade Thursday as it rolled into the gated University of Portland campus for a \$2,000-a-plate fund-raising lunch.

"How many children could \$2,000 feed?" read one protester's sign.

March organizers estimated the crowd at about 3,500 protesters. The Portland Police Bureau said ten people were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, failure to disperse, interfering with a police officer and resisting arrest.

Protesters burned at least one American flag.

There were no massive confrontations with the scores of black-clad police from six agencies in riot gear, a marked difference from Bush's visit to Portland last year to raise campaign money for Oregon's Republican Sen. Gordon Smith.

On that occasion police used tear gas and non-lethal bullets to disperse demonstrators in down-



Portland police arrest a protester outside the University of Portland campus Thursday where President Bush was raising \$1 million for his re-election campaign. (AP photo)

town Portland.

March organizers said police approached demonstrators in Columbia Park after the march, took one woman into the street and pepper-sprayed several people who tried to interfere.

"I've never been to a protest before in my life," said Joel Spinhirne, of Hood River, who opposes Bush. "I'm just an ordinary

middle-class guy, but things are happening in an outrageous fashion. I read the paper, I watch the evening news, and I just had to be here."

Protesters marched down Willamette Boulevard to the campus as police, some on horses, some on foot or on bicycles, looked on.

Some wore Bush masks. One sign read: "My Apache helicopter

killed your Iraqi honor student." Another said, "Somewhere in Texas a village is missing its idiot."

"I'm mad and I'm embarrassed. We just need to make clear that we're not all supportive of this regime and what it's doing," said protester Jennifer Murdock, of Portland, who was there with her 2-year-old daughter. Murdock said she opposes the war in Iraq.

Martian Opposition

Spectacular view of the Red Planet

Mars will put on a special show in late summer, and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry will sponsor a special sky watch party for the event. OMSI will join the local astronomy groups for a special Mars Viewing Party, Saturday, Aug. 23 from 8:30 p.m. to midnight.

Mars will not only be in direct alignment with the sun and Earth, an occurrence referred to as the Martian Opposition, but it will also be closer to Earth than human-kind has ever seen.

"That's because of the planets' elliptical orbits," said Jim Todd, OMSI Murdock Planetarium manager. "They do not orbit in perfect circles, so it takes 60,000 years for Earth and Mars to meet up at their closest possible point," he said.

The Martian Opposition will take place during the last week of August and the first week of September, with the closest approach occurring on Wednesday, Aug. 27. The opposition happens when the planets' orbits place Mars at the

outer end of the alignment, with the sun at the other end and Earth in the middle. When viewed from Earth, Mars appears in nearly the exact opposite direction from the sun, meaning that Mars is highest in the sky at midnight when the sun is at its lowest below the horizon.

Todd said that because Mars will be fully illuminated by the sun, it will be relatively easy to make out features on its surface with a large telescope, such as those available at the Mars Viewing Party.

"Mars will appear exceptionally bright, and its orange color will be rather conspicuous, no matter whether you see it from a remote area or a bright city," he said, "but to see its mountains, valleys and other terrain, you'll need the aid of a powerful telescope."

Volunteers will set up several telescopes for the Mars Viewing Party, and Todd will present informal talks throughout the evening.

For more information, call 503-797-4610.



Welcome to the Neighborhood

Portland Observer Publisher Chief Charles Washington (from left), City Commissioner Jim Francesconi, his wife, and Korean-American and north and northeast Portland businessman Jack Chung gather for Chung's grand opening of the Interstate Bar and Grill, formerly the Shamrock Restaurant on Interstate Avenue and Skidmore Street.

Dean Promises Jobs

(AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean promised to create jobs and condemned President Bush's environmental policies at a rally in downtown Portland on Sunday.

We need a president who cares about jobs and infrastructure, not about tax cuts for the wealthy," Dean said.

The former Vermont governor's four-day, 10-city "Sleepless Summer Tour" came to Oregon three



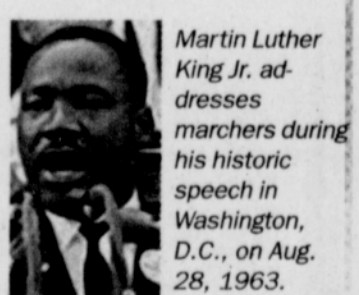
Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean

days after President Bush visited Portland to raise \$1 million in campaign money.

The timing of Dean's trip underscored the close political balance in Oregon. Bush barely lost Oregon to Democrat Al Gore in the 2000 election, and the state is thought to be competitive in 2004.

Dean condemned the Bush's Healthy Forest Initiative, which the president promoted during his visit,

40 Years Later, King's Words Remembered



Martin Luther King Jr. addresses marchers during his historic speech in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 28, 1963.

(AP) — Under a bright blue sky, about 1,000 people gathered Saturday in front of the granite steps of the Lincoln Memorial to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, delivered at the same spot four decades earlier.

The event drew people who reminisced about the civil rights leader's words — the highlight of the Aug. 28, 1963, March on Washington — as well as protesters angry about economic and health care policies that they said disenfranchised the poor and minorities.

"The focus of that day was a promise, the promise of equal protection under the law for all citizens, the promise of equal access to education," Jesse Jackson said in an interview on the Mall. "The promises of evening the playing field have been broken."

Some people waiting for the rally waved American flags while others carried placards with the peace symbol and protested the war in Iraq.

African American Health Coalition, Inc.

1st Annual Wellness Within REACH Walk

September 6, 2003

What

Join us for the 1st Annual Wellness Within REACH Walk Sat. September 6, 2003! Walk the 1.5 or 4-mile course.

When

The walk begins at 9:00 a.m. Other event activities begin at 8:00 a.m.

For more information

For more information about participation or to volunteer contact the African American Health Coalition, Inc. at 503-413-1850, whoamer@aahc-portland.org or mield@aahc-portland.org

Where

Start and finish at Dawson Park, located at N. Vancouver and Stanton in Portland, OR.

Why

The purpose of the walk is to celebrate our community's health and sustain ongoing free physical activity classes for African Americans in the Portland metro area.

Entry

Entry fee is \$15 per person.

REACH
Racial & Ethnic Approaches to Community Health
A member of the National Network for Public Health