

Season Ends with Pride

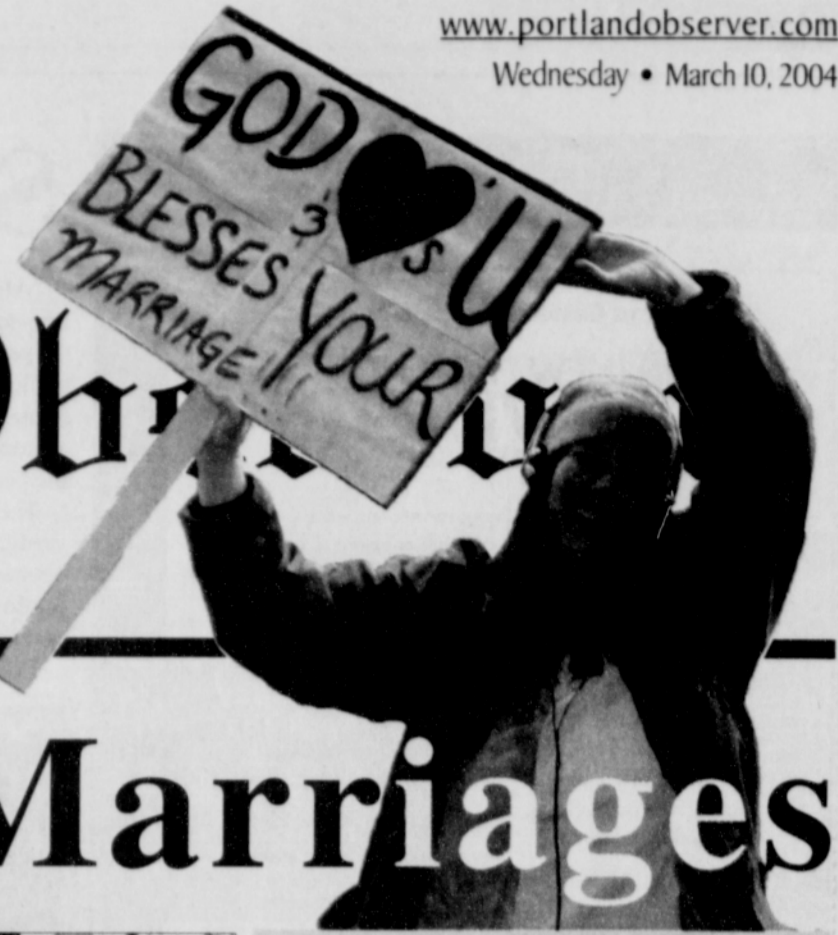
Grant Coach Tony Broadous empowers every player
See story in Sports, page B6

The

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Week in The Review



John Allen Muhammad

Convicted Sniper Sentenced to Death

A judge rejected John Allen Muhammad insistence of innocence and sentenced him to death Tuesday. Circuit Judge LeRoy F. Millette Jr. ordered that Muhammad be executed on Oct. 14, but that date likely will be postponed to allow appeals. See story, page A2.

Same-Sex Marriage Battle Grows in Seattle

Six same-sex couples filed a lawsuit seeking the right to get married after they were refused marriage licenses by a sympathetic public official, as the mayor ordered the city to recognize the marriages of gay city employees who tie the knot elsewhere. The couples applied for King County marriage licenses but were rejected because of a state law defining marriage as exclusively between one man and one woman.

Fire Hits Farrakhan's Farm

A fire destroyed a barn at a farm owned by Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, killing 22 animals, authorities said. The barn was destroyed Sunday but firefighters prevented the fire from spreading to a nearby maintenance shed. Farrakhan was not at his home at the time and no one was injured. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Prison Likely for Martha Stewart

Martha Stewart was convicted of obstructing justice and lying to the government about a superbly timed stock sale - a devastating verdict that probably means prison for the woman who epitomizes meticulous homemaking and gracious living.

Bush, Kerry Are Tied in Race

John Kerry and President Bush are starting the general election campaign tied, according to an Associated Press poll, while independent Ralph Nader is drawing enough support to make Democrats squirm. The Republican incumbent had 46 percent support, Democrat Kerry had 45 percent and Nader, the 2000 Green Party candidate who entered the race last month, was at 6 percent in the survey conducted for the AP.

Landmark Marriages



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Abby Haywood (left) and Jamie Bolyard express the joy and love they have for each other moments after being legally married at the Multnomah County building in southeast Portland.

Hundreds of same-sex couples line up for licenses

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Jamie Bolyard didn't picture her wedding day beginning by standing in line at 3 a.m. in the cold and rain. And she certainly didn't picture protesters shouting, "You are in danger" during a wedding ceremony on the steps of the Multnomah County building in southeast Portland.

Bolyard says she wasn't able to picture her wedding day at all, until Multnomah County commissioners permitted the issuing of marriage licenses to same-sex couples last Wednesday, in a controversial move aligning the county

with few other cities, including New Paltz, New York and San Francisco.

Bolyard and Abby Haywood, both 32, say they knew for a while they would spend their lives together. They began their relationship two-and-a-half years ago in Nashville, Tenn., without the

popular approval.

"We're not going to find a lot of peers that are supportive," said Haywood, who is African American. "In the lesbian community, there's racism and that's difficult. It would be different if we were the same race. Then I could go to the black

When African Americans say the gay rights issue is not a civil right issue, I know that it is. For me, it's fighting all the battles and I think it's compounded, being interracial and being a lesbian couple.

— Portland newlywed Abby Haywood on the right to marry her same-sex partner.

approval of their parents.

"Abby's parents are okay with it. They're not overly supportive, but they're better with it than my parents," said Bolyard.

Not only are she and Haywood lesbians, but they're also an interracial couple, which they say adds to the burden of

lesbians and get a lot of support, but I can't do that because I'm dating a white woman."

Bolyard and Haywood had not considered having a union ceremony because they say the civil unions are sepa-

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Rights over Gay Marriage Divides

Some blacks opposed to civil rights imagery

(AP) — When Mayor Jason West of a small New York town started presiding over gay weddings, he saw it as nothing short of "the flowering of the largest civil rights movement the country's had in a generation."

"The people who would forbid gays from marrying in this country are those who would have made Rosa Parks sit in the back of the bus," said the Green Party mayor of New Paltz, N.Y.

West's words have a strong resonance for gays and lesbians who feel their rights are being denied, but for blacks who worked to end racial discrimination in the 1950s and '60s, the reaction is decidedly mixed. Some leaders of the civil rights movement find the comparison apt, but other blacks call it downright disgraceful.

"The gay community is pimping the civil rights movement and the history," said the Rev. Gene Rivers, a black Boston minister. "In the view of many, it's racist at worst, cynical at best."

Other African Americans are conflicted over attempts to equate the civil disobedience of homosexual unions with still-vivid memories of voting-rights protesters mauled by snarling police dogs and knocked down by firehoses.

Some conservative groups are appealing directly to black congregations to block attempts to co-opt the language of the civil rights movement in the gay marriage debate.

"We oppose attempts to equate homosexuality with civil rights or compare it to benign characteristics such as skin color or place of origin," says a Web site from the conservative Family Research Council.

Meanwhile, civil rights luminaries such as NAACP board chairman Julian Bond and U.S. Rep. John Lewis, one of the organizers of the 1963 march on Washington, have spoken on the side of gay marriage. Bond said he supports "gay civil or religious marriage," and finds strong parallels between the black and gay rights movements.

"Discrimination is discrimination - no matter who the victim is, and it is always wrong," Lewis said. "There are no 'special rights' in America, despite the attempts by many to divide blacks and the gay community with the argument that the latter are seeking some imaginary 'special rights' at the expense of

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Support Boosts Youth Tennis

Kimberly Moua (from left), Amelia Vang, Yee Yang, Laura Gulliksen and Mellena Giday wait their turn during a tennis clinic Friday at the St. John's Racquet Center in north Portland. The Portland Parks and Recreation facility scheduled the event to celebrate a \$50,000 donation of tennis shoes and equipment from Nike to benefit 600 kids in more than 12 community tennis programs in the city.

PHOTO BY STEVE DIPAOLO