

# METRO

The Portland Observer

**Courageous African Americans**  
Aviator advanced human rights with accomplishments  
See story on B6



SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### Arts Scholarship Extended

The African American Visual Arts Scholarship at Portland State University application deadline has been extended to July 31. The committee is seeking young African-American artists and offering to pay \$3,000 per year. For information, call 503-725-3397 or 503-725-5560.

### Going Green

Our Garden, Inc. is holding its 8th annual Our Garden Kids Party and Plant Sale from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 6 at King Plaza, 3939 N.E. Martin Luther King Blvd.

### Plan On It

A Juneteenth Planning Committee will meet every Friday at 6:30 p.m. through June 4 at the Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church, 236 N.E. Mason. For more information, call 503-282-2216.

### Ya Gotta Regatta

You gotta go to the 10th annual Columbia Slough Regatta small crafts show and paddling event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, July 26 at the lower Columbia Slough.

### Better Homes

A Fix-It Fair is a free neighborhood resource for building a better home and growing a greener garden from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 5 at Helensview High School, 8678 N.E. Sumner.

### Birth Ready

Whether you need childbirth preparation classes, or just a refresher, Providence Health Systems has a workshop for you. Prepare for pain, take a weekend seminar or prepare big sisters and brothers-to-be throughout the summer by visiting [www.providence.org/classes](http://www.providence.org/classes) or call 503-574-6595.

### Juggling Meds

An Aging Forum at the Providence Center, 4805 N.E. Glisan., helps older adult learn how to manage multiple medications at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 16 in the social room. To register, call 503-574-6595.

### Canine 101

The Oregon Humane Society explains problem pooches at Canine 101 classes on Saturdays, June 5 and 19 at 11 a.m. A \$10 donation is suggested. For more information, call 503-285-7722 or visit [www.oregonhumane.org](http://www.oregonhumane.org).

### Know Your Rights

A Know Your Rights public training for people of color will be held from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 29 at Bethel AME Church, 5828 N.E. 8th Ave. Childcare and lunch will be provided. For more information, call 503-288-5429.

### Women Speak

Women have a voice at Women in NAACP, a new women's group, meeting from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Saturday of each month at the American Red Cross Building, 3131 N. Vancouver. For questions, call 503-249-6263.

### Interest in Adoption?

A free information meeting for prospective adoptive parents is held the third Wednesday of every month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Belmont Public Library, 1038 S.E. 39th Ave. For more information, call 503-226-4870 or visit [www.openadoption.com](http://www.openadoption.com).

### A Healing Song

Sankofa Health Institute offers a free diabetes support group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every third Thursday at Alberta Simmons Plaza, 6707 N.E. MLK Blvd. For more information, call 503-285-2484.

### NAACP Meetings

The Portland Branch of the NAACP holds two monthly executive committee meetings. For more information, call 503-284-7722.

# Locked Out

Boxing officials say they're routinely passed over

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Two legends in the Oregon boxing field say they've been held back professionally by a boy's club that doesn't include African Americans.

Boxing referee Del Ray Lewis doesn't pull punches when it comes to his experience in the field.

"I'm the best referee they have. I have 40 years of experience in boxing and I haven't referred a fight here in a year and a half," said Lewis, a boxing great from northeast Portland who went pro in 1975 and competed for championships titles for the United States and North America.

Lewis says his skin color has kept him from being invited to judge the key professional matches, which are much higher

in money and prestige than the amateur fights he occasionally oversees.

"You can look at the new guys (referees) and see they don't know what they're doing. Let them start at the bottom like I did," Lewis said.

His frustration with the Oregon Boxing Commission is backed up by Ray Lampkin, another local boxing great and former professional boxer, turned inspector.

"I was the first inspector in the state of Oregon and I've been left out," Lampkin said. "I don't know what's happening. I haven't gotten any calls about any of the boxing shows for the last couple years."

Lampkin and Lewis are the only African Americans on the Oregon Boxing Commission.

But Lampkin says he's not even invited to committee meetings.

"They say, 'Oh, I didn't think of you.' They've always got an excuse that they forget who we are," he said.

Lampkin started boxing in 1957, won his first tournament in 1958 and missed

the Olympic tryouts to attend his father's funeral. Instead, he turned pro and became a boxing legend when he narrowly lost the world lightweight championship in a fight lasting 14 rounds against Roberto Duran in

Panama City in 1975.

Lewis says he's considering giving up on Oregon altogether. He has applications in with California and Nevada boxing organizations and says he'll answer those calls when they come.



Boxing great Ray Lampkin says the Oregon Boxing Commission has a poor record of including African Americans in officiating fights.



Referee Del Ray Lewis has 40 years experience in the ring. The local boxing legend is upset with favored treatment by Oregon fight officials that put African-American referees like him out of work.

## Local Fighters Compete at Lincoln City

New generation brings distinction to boxing

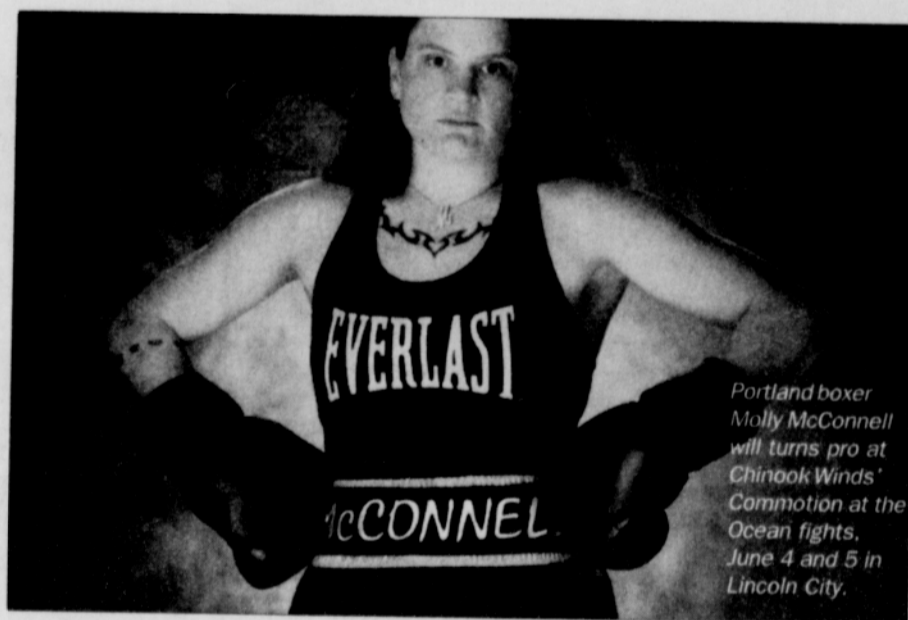
Four local boxers will prove to the world that the Pacific Northwest produces professional fighters to contend with when they jab and dodge their way to boxing distinction during professional matches next week in Lincoln City.

The athletes are on the fight card during the second night of Commotion at the Ocean V at the Chinook Winds Casino. Filming the night's action will be FOX Sports Net for their popular Sunday Night Fights.

National Golden Gloves junior welterweight champion, National Ringside champion and Police Athletic League champion, Molly McConnell will make her pro debut during the event.

The other local talents include Marcus Pernell, who has a family connection to Oregon's boxing history, will be making his first professional fight in his home state.

On May 15, Pernell won his first professional fight with a knockout in the first round. His father is the well known Ray "Lightning" Lampkin, the first boxer from Oregon to go professional and ultimately fight for a championship against Roberto



Portland boxer Molly McConnell will turn pro at Chinook Winds' Commotion at the Ocean fights, June 4 and 5 in Lincoln City.

Duran in March 1975.

Native Oregonian, Reggie Davis (10-2, 5KOs) of Portland, has been boxing since he was 12 years old and fighting professionally for the past three years. A junior middleweight, Davis earned a place at the 2000

Olympic Boxing trials and won his last fight with a knockout in the first round.

West Linn resident and Oregon native, Michael Lucero (7-7-1, 2 KOs), will fight in his 16th professional fight at Commotion at the Ocean.

## Hall of Famers Support Youth

The Multi-Cultural Sports Hall of Fame is celebrating its third year as a nonprofit organization for local professional athletes with a Sunday, June 6 dinner and fundraiser at Billy Reed's Restaurant on northeast Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Our youth today and their future is the theme of the annual event. The support generated from the dinner is used to develop innovative projects that serve the community.

"We would like to give back what has been misplaced," said Thad Spencer, a board member and founder of the hall-of-fame group. "Our youth are in desperate need of support and encouragement."

For more information, e-mail Spencer at [spencerboxing@yahoo.com](mailto:spencerboxing@yahoo.com).

## The Aroma of Barbeque

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Darnell Hurst of Blue Ribbon Barbeque and Carl of Big K Dog House tempted visitors at the Mississippi Avenue Street Fair in north Portland Saturday with ribs, chicken and other barbecued delights.

