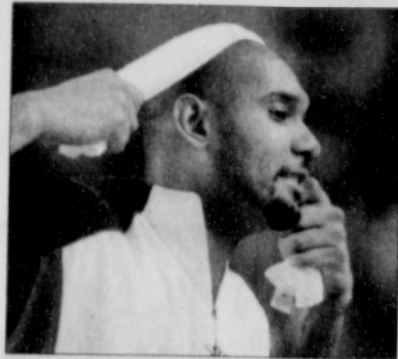


METRO

The Portland Observer



Going for the Gold

Americans 3-2, face Spain in basketball

See Sports, page B2

SECTION B

Community Calendar

AIDS Walk 2004

Help save lives by participating in AIDS Walk 04 on Sunday, Sept. 26, presented by Nike. This 5k event starts at 8:30 a.m. at Pioneer Courthouse Square and ends at the same location. Activities run through noon. For more information, call 503-223-9255.

Gallery of Visual Arts

View art from talented local artists of all ages throughout the month of August at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center; 5340 N. Interstate Ave., from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., free.

Alberta Farm Market

Marketing healthy, affordable, high quality food, the Alberta Cooperative Grocery offers seasonal produce from local growers, ready-to-eat food and weekly entertainment. Open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily, located on 1500 N.E. Alberta St. For more information, call 503-287-4333.

School Is Back In Session

A free school supply give-a-way is from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 29 at the Chevron Gas Station parking lot at 3435 N.E. Martin Luther King Blvd. Get supplies while they last. Free food also provided. Call 503-890-0070.

Get Fit, Stay Healthy!

Sankofaa 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. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. For more information, call 503-285-2484.

Choose To Adopt

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.openadopt.com.

Creative Space For Dance

Aurora dance studio, 5433 NE 30th (& Killingsworth), offers an array of classes for children, teens and adults at all levels of ability. Call 503-249-0201 or visit online at www.hevanet.com/auroradance for additional information.

Work For Change

Community Advocates invites those interested in protecting children from abuse to become an event volunteer, event outreach, technology expert, graphic artists or office support team member. For more information, call 503-280-1388.

Home Improvement

The Community Energy Project holds free workshops on water conservation and weatherization. For more information, call 503-284-4962.

Aquatic Fitness

Providence has a full schedule of fitness classes including water exercising at the Providence Aquatic Center, 4805 N.E. Glisan. For schedule, call 503-215-6301.

Women in NAACP

Women in NAACP, a new women's group, meets 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.

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 or call 503-574-6595.

Scholar Embarks on Public Service

Ivy League fellow joins United Way

BY JOHANNA S. KING
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Outgoing, peppy, and full of energy for the job, Maurice Gattis is the newest addition to Portland's United Way office branch. "I'm so excited to be here," said Gattis. "Coming from the East Coast, Portland is like a breath of fresh air for me and I love it."

A recent graduate from the prestigious ranks of the Ivy League Columbia University in New York City, with a master's degree from the school of Social Work, Gattis will focus his work in four areas of the public service organization - community engagement, community impact, donor relations and marketing and brand strategy.

"Maurice makes a great addition to our United Way team," said Brent Stewart, United Way president. "His dedication and commitment to our community will help us succeed in our goal of changing people's lives and improving our community."

As one of only 10 fellows selected from over 400 applicants, Gattis joins in the rigorous professional development experience. Fellows learn how United Ways across the nation are bringing communities together by building partnerships, forging consensus around a community agenda, and leveraging financial resources to make a measurable difference in communities.

His fellowship in the City of Roses is the equivalent of a yearlong paid internship from the United Way of America Community Fellowship program.

"When United Way of America presented me with this opportunity, I chose United Way of the Columbia-Willamette because it is one of the most dynamic United Ways in the country," said Gattis. "Community involvement is the forefront of our business practices, it's just something we do on behalf of our those we serve. It's about making a difference, one that lasts."

Upon successful completion of the program, Fellows like Gattis will have the opportunity to compete for open positions anywhere within the United Way



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Maurice Gattis aims to make United Way's guiding principle of community service an innate part of his daily life both on and off the job.

organization to launch a career in the United Way system.

United Way of the Columbia-Willamette is a leading community non-profit organiza-

tion focused on doing what matters to change lives throughout the Portland and Vancouver area, serving Clackamas, Clark, Multnomah and Washington counties.

For more information, or to volunteer in your community, visit online at www.unitedway-pdx.org or call 503-228-9131 or 360-696-0341 in Vancouver.

Damon Keeps it Real with Neighborhood Zeal

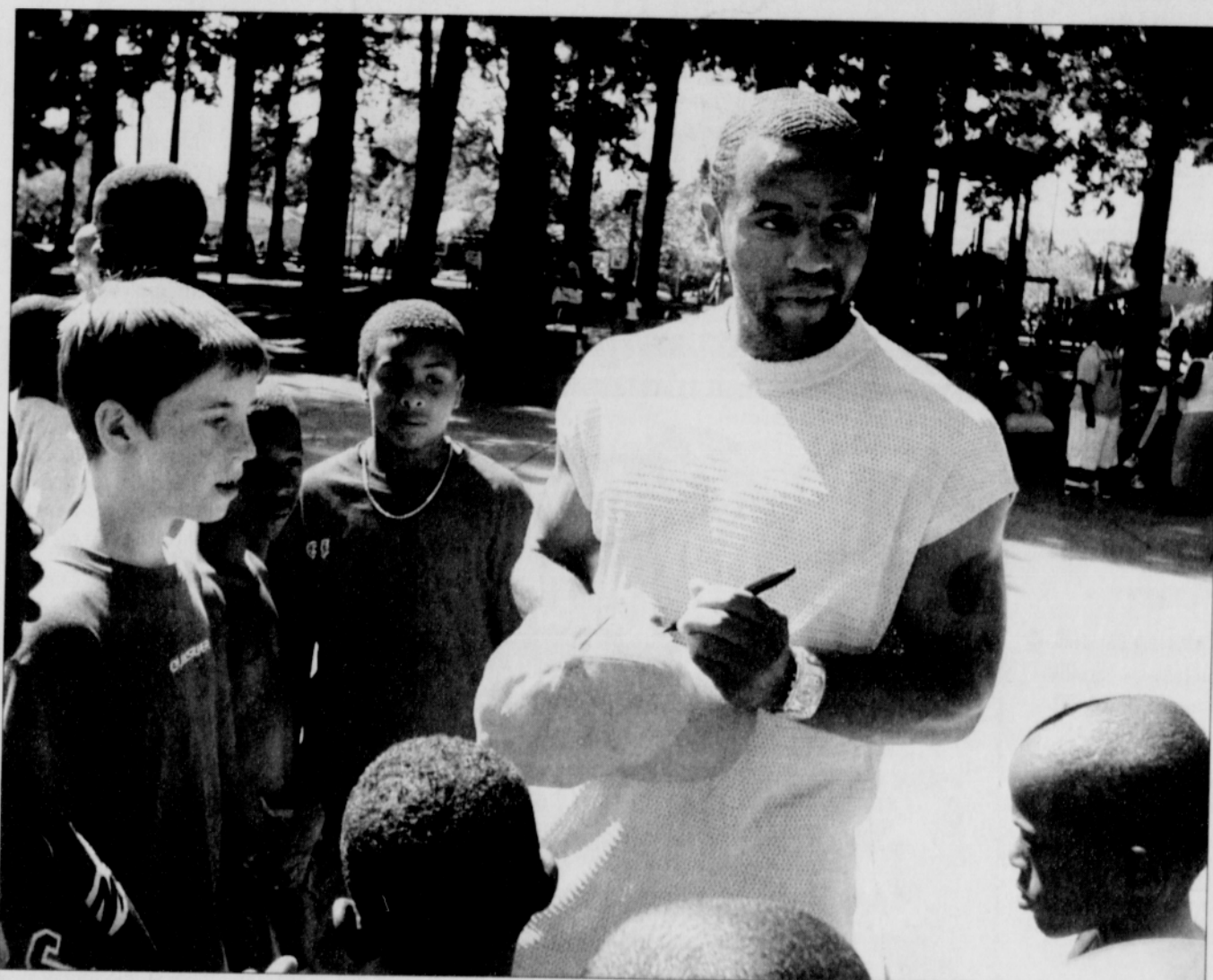


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Hosting his annual hometown fair for area parents and kids at Peninsula Park, Portland Trail Blazer Damon Stoudamire gets surrounded by pint-sized fans.

Portland Trail Blazer and native son Damon Stoudamire caused a commotion last Friday at Peninsula Park when he hosted his annual Biggie's Kids Fair.

Fans seeking autographs surrounded the sports star and peppered him with questions about teammates, trades and losses.

Stoudamire was candid with kids as he signed hats, shirts, photos and notebooks.

The fair provided interactive activities, booths and entertainment for kids and parents.

Stoudamire has a full schedule of community events for the month of September.

Jefferson Area Schools Supported

Grant will boost arts and sciences

Five schools surrounding Jefferson High School will see more teaching in the arts and sciences this fall thanks to a federal grant to create curiosity in science and math for minority students and those in lower socio-economic groups.

The \$5.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education will coordinate a new approach to the connection between arts, math, science and technology over the next three years.

A check for the first year of the new program was presented last week to Portland Public Schools at Ockley Green Middle School in north Portland. The grant will bring science kits, calculators, musical instruments and computers to five schools in the Jefferson High School neighborhood.

"Bringing a coordinated intense effort to helping children achieve is always successful. These additional resources help us do just that while tapping into the innate curiosity that students have in the arts and sciences," said PPS Superintendent Vicki Phillips.

Most importantly, the new curriculum is designed to boost the skills and knowledge of elementary school students with what they are expected to know once they reach high school. The new focus is expected to increase the number of students arriving at Jefferson High School with above standard skills in math and science and the ability to use the arts to express themselves.