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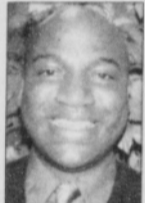
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BY RON
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Woods Unleashes His Tiger to Break Barriers

Eldrick Woods remembers what it felt like to be racially mistreated. Even before preschool he felt the sting of prejudice as neighborhood children threw limes and rocks at his home. They pelted his bedroom windows with BB gunfire. At five years old, a gang of older kids tied him to a tree. They stoned him and called him "monkey" and "nig..." Little did the bullies know that they were harassing and assaulting a future golfing champion of the world.

While his heritage includes Thai, African, Chinese, American Indian and European, Tiger Woods refers to himself as "African and Asian." As he grew up and became a young golf legend, overt actions of racism disappeared. Tiger became so good that people seemed to forget that he was a minority at all.

His father, Earl Woods, a former college baseball player and U.S. Army Green Beret, sensed that young Eldrick was destined to be famous. Even before he could walk, little Woods was strapped to a high chair and given a golf club to practice swinging. His father had played golf for the first time at 42 years of



Tiger Woods

age and began to love the sport right away. Earl began to have big plans for Woods at the earliest of ages.

Eldrick got his nickname "Tiger" in memory of a Vietnamese combat friend of his father. Tiger would go on to honor his family and namesake by winning many titles and firsts in golf. He would win the Masters in Augusta, Ga. and at 21, became the first black, as well as youngest man ever to win a major professional golf tournament.

In recent years, young Woods has won the 2002 U. S. Open, the 2002 and 2001 Masters, and World Golf Championship. Sports Illustrated named him the Sportsman of the Year in 2002. Although he has slowed down a bit, he is still winning major titles and holds just about every trophy possible in the sport. With his terrific smile and never-

zine called Woods one of "The Most Influential People in America." He has been a perfect role model for kids around the globe.

In golf, where few minorities have shown great impact, Tiger Woods broke down the color walls for once and all. He sacrificed much of his childhood and precious teen years in striving to be the best golfer in

Tiger Woods broke down the color walls for once and all. He sacrificed much of his childhood and precious teen years in striving to be the best golfer in the world.

quit attitude, Woods has earned hundreds of millions of dollars. Companies such as Nike and Buick were quick to have him endorse their products. He has also been on the front page of many top magazines and in most newspapers around the world.

He founded the Woods Foundation to help set up golf scholarships for innercity kids. Time Maga-

zine called Woods one of "The Most Influential People in America." His efforts paid off not only for himself, but also for millions of minority children around the world who now know they can "accept the challenge" and win. Go for it!

Ron Weber is a regular speaker on African-American history and a frequent contributor to the Portland Observer.

Corner opens for PCC Expansion



The old PCC Fragmeier Building on the corner of North Killingsworth and Albina Avenue is nothing but a pile of bricks and rubble as demolition crews get the site ready for a new college arts and humanities building and college bookstore.

PHOTO BY MARK
WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

EL OBSERVADOR

Venegas is Latin Artist of the Year

(AP)— Mexican singer and accordion player Julieta Venegas won the most trophies at the MTV Video Music Awards Latin America, with three awards including artist of the year.

Mexican rock and hip-hop group Cafe Tacuba and American pop kings Maroon 5 garnered two awards each at the Thursday night event in Miami. Cafe Tacuba got video of the year and best alternative act, while Maroon 5 took

best new and rock international artist.

Black Eyed Peas walked away with the show's first-ever best international hip hop and R&B award. Venegas also won best solo act and best Mexican artist.

U2 frontman Bono welcomed the audience in Spanish and Latin star Paulina Rubio hosted the show. Performers included Mexican rap-metal band Molotov, Lenny Kravitz, Colombian singer-songwriter Juanes and the Beastie Boys.

The award show will air on MTV on Saturday, Oct. 30.



Recording artist Julieta Venegas receives the Artist of the Year Award from Lenny Kravitz at the 2004 MTV Latin Video Music Awards in Miami Beach. (AP photo)

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