

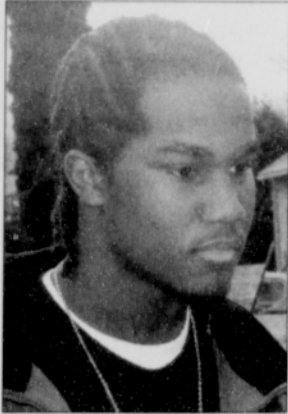
In the Neighborhood

What do you think about the proposal to require Jefferson High School students to wear uniforms and will it impact how others perceive the school?

It's not going to contribute to our learning. The population of students is going to go down even more. I think that we will be stereotyped. --
Kia Carter, 9th grade



If we have to wear uniforms then every school in the P.I.L. should do it. --Dominick Dixon, 11th grade



It's not fair because we are a public school. The Board of Education says that it will make a positive difference, but I disagree. --Alexandria Martin, 9th grade



Dressing is a part of individuality and it is important to how you feel and it describes your personality. There's no reason why we should have to wear uniforms. --Laura Arellano, 9th grade



I like to wear basketball shorts and sweats because they are comfortable, the uniforms won't be. Also, I don't like that they are bringing middle school kids into Jefferson, I left middle school and got away from those kids. --Theron Segar, 10th grade



I wouldn't wear the uniforms, and I wouldn't go to school. It wouldn't feel like home to the perception and me already is that Jefferson sucks. I am graduating and going to college and a lot of people don't think that we will. --Robert Hylla 12th grade



Soaked Northwest Floods

Melinda Thompson and her daughter Kestrel take in the floodwaters covering Clackamet Park in Oregon City. Four weeks of rainfall on a near daily basis has soaked Portland, Vancouver and Western Oregon and Washington. High winds and mudslides have also caused damage in both states.

PHOTO BY ISAIAH BOUIE/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

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Assisted Suicide Law Upheld

(AP)—The U.S. Supreme Court upheld Oregon's one-of-a-kind physician-assisted suicide law Tuesday, rejecting a Bush administration attempt to punish doctors who help terminally ill patients die. Justices, on a 6-3 vote, said the 1997 Oregon law used to end the lives of more than 200 seriously ill people trumped federal authority to regulate doctors. New Chief Justice John Roberts backed the Bush administration, dissenting with the majority for the first time.

The ruling was a reprimand to former Attorney General John Ashcroft, who in 2001 said that doctor-assisted suicide is not a "legitimate medical purpose" and that Oregon physicians would be punished for helping people die under the law. Oregon's law covers only extremely sick people — those with incurable diseases, whom at least two doctors agree have six months or less to live and are of sound mind.

Kitzhaber Priority: Public Health

Won't challenge current governor

(AP)—Former Gov. John Kitzhaber announced Friday that he won't challenge Gov. Ted Kulongoski in the Oregon Democratic primary, removing one obstacle to the incumbent's efforts to get re-elected in November.



John Kitzhaber

Kitzhaber, 58, a former emergency room physician who left politics in 2002 after declining to make a run for the U.S. Senate, has been publicly musing about a race for months, saying his campaign could be a platform to promote sweeping health care reforms. Instead, he said Friday that he will focus on a broader campaign to "bring change to the American health care system."

"At some point I had to decide where I could make the greatest difference," he said. "I can do that best, not as a candidate for governor, but to lead a campaign to change the American health care system."

Kitzhaber said he will spend the next few months raising money to promote his health care reform plan. The health plan he has put forward would scrap Medicare and Medicaid in Oregon as well as the tax break that employers get for insuring workers. They would be replaced them by a basic, government-paid policy for every resident, and then allow people to buy additional coverage in the private market.

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