

# Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

## 2007 Jeep Compass Limited 4X2

BY KATHLEEN CARR  
"Every Adventure Needs a Compass."

The 2007 Jeep Compass is all new, a term usually meaning that a vehicle has been completely redesigned. But in the case of the Compass, it's a completely new vehicle: first generation.

The Jeep Compass uses Daimler Chrysler's 2.4-liter, four-cylinder World Engine, developed jointly with Mitsubishi and Hyundai. It's a solid, sophisticated, 16-valve engine, quieter and stronger than a four-banger was believed capable of being, 10 years ago. Emphasis during development of this engine was on fuel mileage; even carrying 3326 pounds, the Compass 4WD with a 5-speed manual transmission delivers 26 city and 30 high-



SPECIFICATIONS: 2.4-Liter, 4-Cylinder engine; 5-Speed Manual transmission; City - 26 mpg. / Highway - 30 mpg.; \$ 22,100 MSRP.

way miles per gallon, estimated by Jeep.

The Compass is built on a front-wheel-drive, car-based platform.

The Compass comes with a choice of front-wheel drive or all-wheel drive.

The Jeep Compass offers a Con-

tinuously Variable Transaxle, which performs like an automatic transmission, and it's a doozy. The CVT is optional on the Sport model

but comes standard on the Limited, where Autostick can be added to the CVT. Autostick enables the driver to shift up and down over six steps, making it feel like a six-speed gearbox without a clutch pedal. The combination of CVT with six-speed Autostick is the best of both worlds, and works more precisely than the manual/automatic transmissions in many expensive sport sedans.

The safety, ride and handling of the Compass are all excellent, with a strong steel structure and well-planned subframe. Side-curtain airbags and electronic stability control with anti-rollover sensors are

standard features.

The styling is similar but sleeker than Jeep's other small SUV, the Liberty. There's good interior space all around, with rear seats that fold flat to make about 54 cubic feet of cargo space. The Limited model comes standard with leather interior, heated seats with driver lumbar support, cruise control, dark tinted glass, speed-sensitive steering, and 18" aluminum wheels with all-season tires among other goodies.

Buyers will be pleased with the buyer-friendly price and the overall performance of the Compass. Jeep's first generation 'Urban Jeep'.

## SPORTS

### Dennis Johnson, Celtics Great, Dies

Dennis Johnson's death last week at age 52 robs the basketball world of a powerful, positive force.

The quintessential teammate and defensive star won three league titles — two with the Boston Celtics — and one with the Seattle SuperSonics in 1979.

A slender 6-4 guard, he was voted to the NBA's all-defensive team nine times.

In Boston, he was a fixture on Celtics championship teams in 1984 and 1986 — teams that included future Hall of Famers

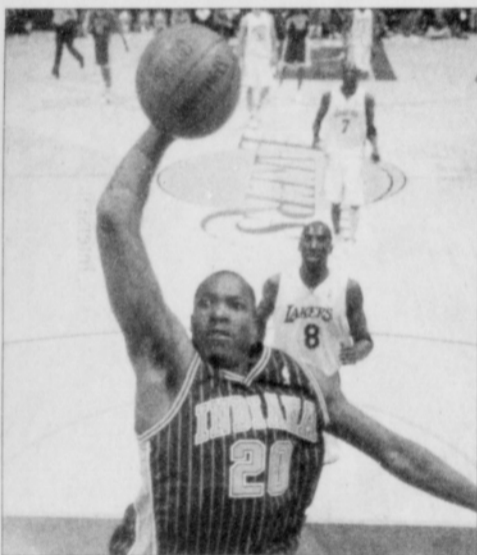


Larry Bird, Kevin McHale and Robert Parrish.

"He was one of those guys who played every minute of every game," says Ron Rapoport, the former Chicago Sun-Times columnist. "Dennis Johnson could do what needed to be done."

Dennis Johnson (right)

### Fred Jones Joins Blazers



Boston Celtics' Dennis Johnson, right, drives the lane against the Los Angeles Lakers' Earvin 'Magic' Johnson in this Dec. 12, 1986 file photo.

(AP)—The Portland Trail Blazers traded guard Juan Dixon to the Toronto Raptors on Thursday for guard Fred Jones and future considerations.

Jones, who went to the University of Oregon and lives in Portland

during the off season, is averaging 7.6 points, 2.1 rebounds and 1.4 assists in 39 games. He has made nine starts.

The 6-foot-2 Jones was the 14th overall pick in the 2002 draft by the Indiana

### Portland to Host World League Volleyball

USA Volleyball has selected Portland as one of three U.S. cities to host the 2007 World League Volleyball matches, a major annual international volleyball event.

The U.S. Men's National team, ranked eighth in the world, will square off twice against No. 7 France at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 26 and at 5

p.m. on Sunday, May 27 at the University of Portland Chiles Center Arena. The two other U.S. host cities have not yet been announced. The matches will be televised on ESPN University.

Advance tickets are \$10, \$15 and \$20. To order visit [www.americabestusa.com](http://www.americabestusa.com) or call 503-936-3203.

### Peninsula Little League 2007

(Serving the Youth of Inner North & Northeast Portland ages 5-14) visit our website at: [www.eteamz.active.com/peninsulalittleleague](http://www.eteamz.active.com/peninsulalittleleague)

### Last Chance For Registering

Portland Observer  
4747 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2007  
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

- Items to bring to sign-ups:  
Birth Certificate  
Proof of Address  
Doctor/Insurance Information  
Player Fee (\$65 t-ball, \$75 others)

Little League Baseball, Incorporated does not limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual preference or religious preference.

### PSU Vikings In Big Sky Tourney

The Portland State Vikings earned a berth in the Big Sky Conference Tournament with a pair of victories in their final two home games last week, with the Vikings facing Montana State in the tournament quarterfinal on Saturday, March 3, with the location undetermined.

Purchase tickets at the PSU box

office in Smith Memorial Student Union, 1825 S.W. Broadway, or call 1-888-VIK-TIKS or 503-725-3307. You can also purchase tickets at the Peter W. Scott Center on game night.

The Big Sky Conference semifinals and championship take place March 6-7 at the Dee Events Center at Weber State University.

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