

Madame President Sirleaf

Liberian president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the first black woman head of state and Africa's first elected woman president, speaks Friday at Concordia University in northeast Portland. Nearly 500 people turned out for the community event. President Sirleaf also spoke at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall; both events were sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Oregon.



PHOTO BY NIA DIYG/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

High-School Face off

continued ▲ from Front

As a second-year coach of one of the teams of all-star women, Harper emphasizes the importance of having venues for all kinds of athleticism.

"In a nutshell, I'm excited because it's one of the few locations where we can highlight female talent," he says.

Despite the similarities between the coaches, the event underscores a diversity of talent in the city.

The athletes come from every high school in the PIL, and the rosters include Mariah Ladd from St. Mary's, Michael Harper Jr. of Wilsonville and two men from Harper's team at Riverdale.

A lot of work is going into this event, and Holton chalks up this engagement to the inevitability of community interest in anything that truly functions to help youth.

"Whenever there's a chance to support young people, the community rallies together," he says.

Last year's inaugural Joyce Washington All-Star games sold out the gymnasium at Self Enhancement Inc., 3920 N. Kerby Ave., the same site for Saturday's games. Fans are encouraged to show up in the hour before the first tip-off at 4 p.m. to secure the \$4 tickets (\$2 for ages 12 and under). You can also pick up a ticket in advance at the Portland Observer offices at 4747 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Sanctuary City for Soldiers Wanted

continued ▲ from Front

being threatened by others.

"These women and men have a right to live a public life, have access to healthcare, find work, get an education, play in the park with their families, and live like other civilians while they are going through the process of being released from duty," says Barnett. "Sometimes, it can take years for the paperwork to be processed by the government."

The Strike Against War: Build a

Rose City Refuge for G.I. Resistance Forum is providing a simple solution to the problems that these soldiers face by introducing the idea of making Portland a Sanctuary City.

"There needs to be a neutral place where these people can live even if it is symbolic," says Shea. "And Portland is the perfect city to help provide a resolution for these social issues."

Soldier sanctuaries are nothing new. They date back to the Vietnam War and, even today, churches,

even some local ones, provide safety for fleeing servicemen.

The forum will provide meaningful discussions and conversations, and build a common goal within the community. All the while, speakers will be present, volunteers will be helping with the event, and food will be donated from local restaurants.

Donations will go to support the Freedom Socialist Newspaper that supports the movement.

"Our goal is to find ways to support the soldiers who are speaking

out and refusing to deploy," says Barnett. "We want to build strength within the community that will allow soldiers to come out from the underground and also we would like to get a political discussion going."

"The idea is to plant a seed and let it grow," says Shea. "Immigrants have been able to build sanctuaries, why can't our own soldiers?"

For more information, to get involved, or to donate, you can contact Dan Shea at 503-975-4160 or 503-661-1317.

Million-Dollar Lottery Ticket Lost

(AP) — Somewhere in Oregon or beyond, perhaps in the laundry, perhaps in the back of a desk drawer, a fortune has been lost.

Oregon Lottery officials say the year has elapsed for the winner of a \$1.3 million Powerball prize to turn in the ticket and claim the money.

So, now, the proceeds go into the state's Economic Development Fund. The ticket was purchased in Ashland, the lottery said. Lottery officials say it's typical for \$4 million to \$5 million in prizes to go unclaimed each year, and since 1985, the state has received more than \$80.5 million in unclaimed prizes.

FRIDAY MAY 25TH 2007 MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
WEST COAST
JOINING OF THE VOICES

LOS ANGELES, CA
TIM BISHOP BROWN & THE MIRACLE MASS CHOIR

SEATTLE, WA
DANELL DAYMON & ROYALTY

PORTLAND, OR
DERRICK MCDUFFY & CHOSEN GENERATION

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM
EVENT STARTS AT 8PM

HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN CENTER
7600 NE GLISAN
PORTLAND, OR
DR. W.G. HARDY, JR., SENIOR PASTOR

PROMOTIONS BY PARTNER
FREE ADMISSION

PROJECT NO: 78,104

ESCAPE.

Just west of Portland 1,700 acres of hilly forestland between HWY 26 and Vernonia is now protected as a state park. Constructed with funds from the Oregon Lottery, "Stub" Stewart State Park is Oregon's first new full service park in more than 30 years. It's less than 30 miles from Portland and it opens July 2007.

With 80 campsites, 15 miles of trails for hiking, horseback riding and mountain biking, a cabin village, a horse camp, a hike-in camp for backpackers, interpretive exhibits, a sheltered picnic ground and a hill-top observation tower for sightseeing and stargazing, Stub Stewart is an ideal place to escape into nature — whether you want to get away or just hear yourself think.

In 1998, Oregon's state parks were in trouble. There wasn't enough money to maintain them and some were in danger of closing, which is why Oregonians voted to use Lottery profits to support state parks. Today, Oregon is able to make investments in all of its parks and is buying and developing new park land across the state because of the Lottery funding.

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Lottery games are based on chance and should be played for entertainment only.

