

## Rid World of Nukes, says Obama

(AP)-- Democrat Barack Obama called for ridding the world of nuclear weapons Tuesday.

Obama argued that U.S. policy is still focused on the defunct Soviet Union instead of combatting the nuclear threat from rogue nations and terrorists. The United States shouldn't unilaterally disarm, he said, but it must work with other nations to phase out weapons and control atomic material.



Sen. Barack Obama

"Here's what I'll say as president: 'America seeks a world in which there are no nuclear weapons,'" Obama said.

"The best way to keep America safe is not to threaten terrorists with nuclear weapons—it's to keep nuclear weapons and nuclear materials away from terrorists," the Illinois senator said. Aides said the process Obama envisions would take many years, not just a single presidency.

Obama's address marked the fifth anniversary of an anti-war rally where he announced his opposition to invading Iraq.

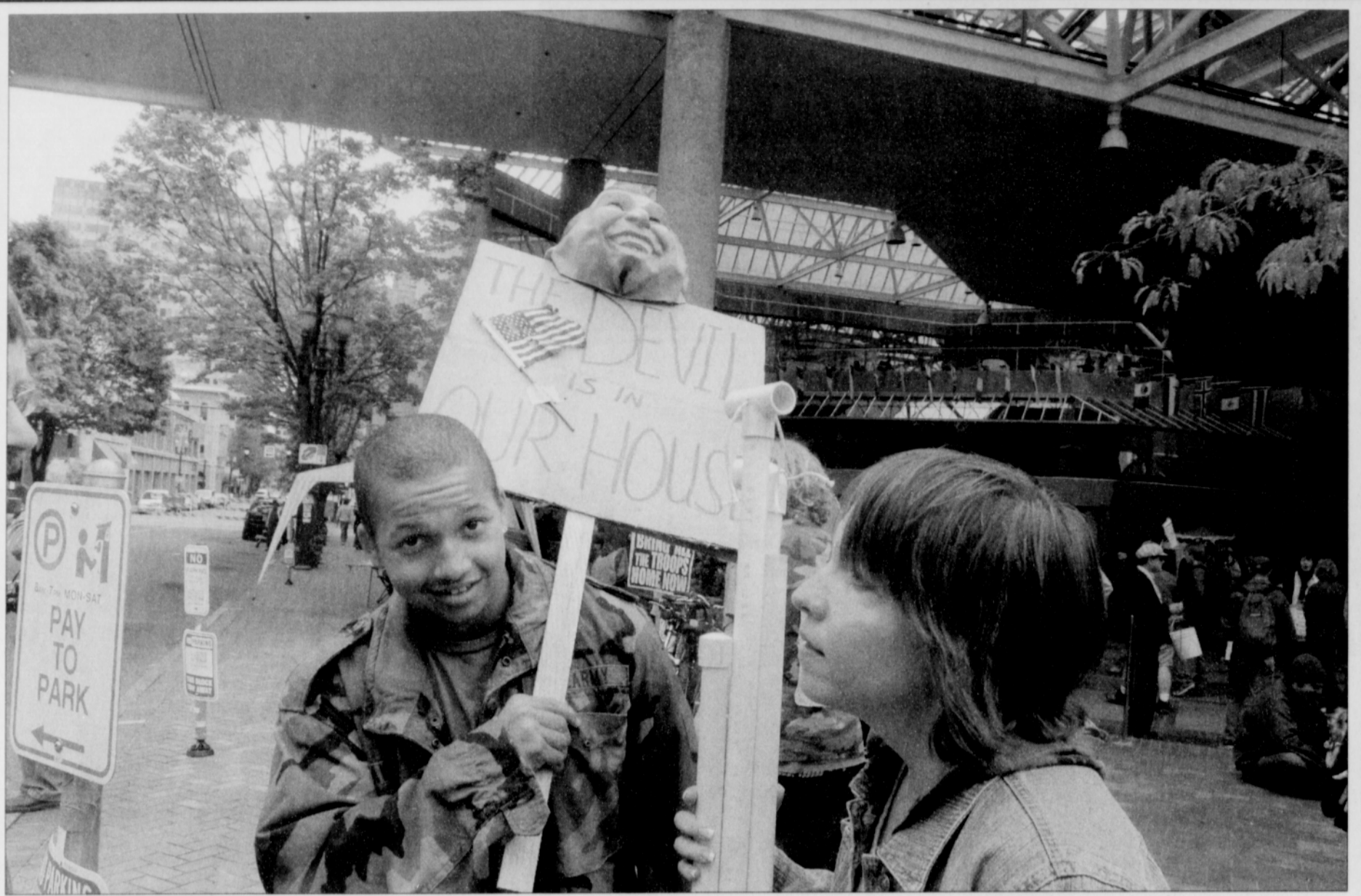


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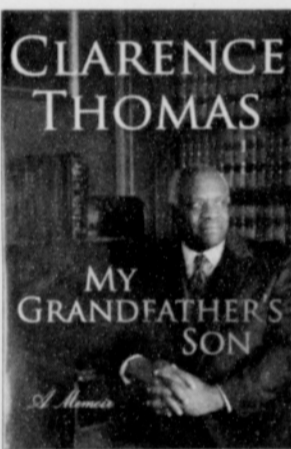
## Bring the Troops Home Rally

Johnny Crawford makes a political statement during Saturday's march and rally to stop the wars and occupations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Hundreds of people gathered for the event, sponsored by local peace and justice groups, churches and KBOO Community Radio.

## Hill Fires Back on Thomas Book

Justice says charges were political

(AP)-- Anita Hill, whose sexual harassment allegations against Clarence Thomas nearly derailed his Supreme Court nomination 16 years ago, said Tuesday she stood by her account of his behavior, disputing Thomas' assertion in a new book that the charges were politically motivated.



employee at the Education Department and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, was a mediocre employee who was used by political opponents to make claims she had been sexually harassed. Powerful interest groups and "left-wing zealots draped in flowing sanctimony" were out to stop him at all costs and chose "the age-old blunt instrument of accusing a black man of sexual misconduct," he writes. He described Hill as touchy and apt to overreact and said she complained to him only about his refusal to promote her.

Hill, who is also black, disputed

Thomas' assertions.

"I was truthful. What I described happened actually did happen, and what I've learned is that it's happened to many women in the workplace," Hill said in an interview Tuesday on ABC's "Good Morning America."

She said she believes the workplace environment is better now for women, but added that Thomas' approach "is really so typical of people accused of wrongdoing. They trash their accusers."

In the 1991 hearings, Thomas adamantly denied Hill's accusations that he made inappropriate sexual remarks, including references to pornographic movies. Thomas says he did talk about X-rated movies while at Yale Law School, adding that so did many other young people in the 1970s.

Hill is now a professor of social policy, law and women's studies at Brandeis University.

## Racial Disparities Doom City's Exclusion Zones

Inferior program needs replacement, says mayor

New data finds a racial disparity in how the city excludes people from exclusion zones, signaling the end to a constitutionally questionable means for barring hundreds of citizens from their homes and neighborhoods.

After also determining the Drug and Prostitution Free Zones have not been effective in eliminating the drug addiction driving these crimes, Mayor Tom Potter allowed the controversial ordinance to expire.

"I have concluded that both programs are no longer serving their intended purpose and act only to suppress a serious community problem rather than solving it," said Potter, who was police chief during their implementation. "I believe there are better, more effective ways to solve drug dealing and prostitution so businesses and neighborhoods can be free from the toll these crimes take on our livability and sense of safety."

For 15 years, Portland police officers had used the zones to provide neighborhoods with a tool to remove drug users and sellers from high-crime areas. But principal levels of government now criticize the laws for not getting at the root causes of neighborhood drug prob-

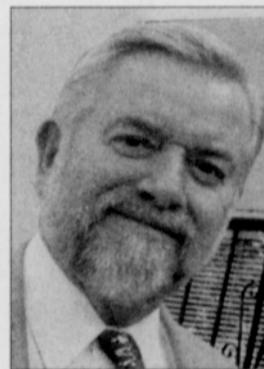
lems by lacking adequate treatment options.

As an alternative to the zones, Potter and City Commissioner Randy Leonard will co-sponsor a resolution calling for increased funding for programs that have cut recidivism among chronic offenders through access to drug treatment and a reserve of 57 jail beds for those refusing help.

Portland consultant

previous suspicions of a disparity with a number of changes, including this year's development of the Racial Profiling Committee to identify policies and practices that lead to disparate impact on communities of color and adjustments to the recruitment and hiring process to increase the number of minority officers.

But the recent report issued by Campbell's firm includes a state-



*"I believe there are better, more effective ways to solve drug dealing and prostitution."*

—MAYOR TOM POTTER

John Campbell developed research on contract with the mayor's office that revealed what critics had long suspected—the zones unfairly targeted the poor and minorities—especially African Americans.

After four months of independent analysis, Campbell's data revealed that African Americans arrested for excludable crimes are more likely to be excluded than Caucasians. For all zones, African Americans are excluded 68 percent of the time, compared to 54 percent for Caucasians.

The police had responded to

ment criticizing these efforts, saying, "The Portland Police Bureau, institutionally, has seemed incurious about testing the hypotheses developed to explain apparent disparities."

While the exclusion laws had been popular with some neighborhood and business groups concerned with crime, Potter encouraged a move forward, saying, "We call on all Portlanders to work with the Portland Police Bureau in developing problem-solving strategies to stop street drug dealing and prostitution in every area of our city."

## Anti-Hate Rally to Respond

A series of events are underway to counter a weekend gathering of neo-Nazi racists to the Portland area.

"Hammerskin Nation" hasn't disclosed where in town it will hold its 20th-annual gathering,

but local civil-rights activists have already held two music festivals and a teach-in to respond.

An anti-hate rally this Saturday, Oct. 6 starts at 1 p.m. It will be held at Lents Park on Southeast Holgate and 92nd

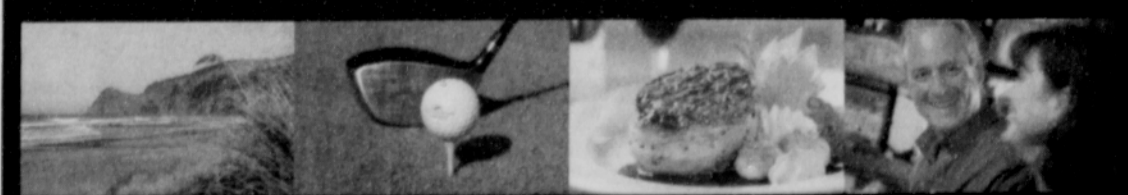
Avenue and will include performances by Mic Crenshaw of Hungry Mob, Cristien Storm of the "If You Don't, They Will" anti-fascist campaign, and Walidah Imarisha of Good Sista/Bad Sista.

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