

50¢

38 years of community service

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Clocks turn back one hour Sunday at 2 a.m.



Southern California Wildfires Rage

Hundreds of homes are destroyed in wind-whipped flames

See page A2, inside



# The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

Volume XXXVII, Number 41

Established in 1970

Committed to Cultural Diversity

www.portlandobserver.com

Wednesday • October 24, 2007

## Week in The Review

### Second Dead Cyclist

A cyclist was killed Monday on North Interstate Avenue by a garbage truck making a right turn in a near replay of another fatal crash that occurred downtown less than two weeks ago, sparking increased frustration over how vehicles and bikes share the road. See page A5.

### New Orleans Flooding

After eight inches of rain on Monday, fears of another disaster on the scale of Hurricane Katrina eased as waist-high flood waters began to recede Tuesday in New Orleans once drainage pumps began to keep up.

### Leaders Organize March

Civil-rights leaders concerned about the legal means of prosecuted cases like those that led to the Jena Six trial called Tuesday for Americans not to spend any money on Nov. 2 as an economic boycott of the federal government's handling of hate crimes. A Nov. 16 march on Justice Department headquarters in Washington is also planned.

### Obama Blasts FCC

Democratic presidential frontrunner Sen. Barack Obama called "irresponsible" a plan by the Republican chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, criticizing Monday the agency's record in promoting minority ownership in media companies as it considers the elimination of a ban against a single company owning a broadcast station and a newspaper in the same market.

### GOP Conservative Contest

Rudy Giuliani and Mitt Romney defended their conservative credentials in the face of pointed attacks from campaign rivals Sunday night in the most aggressive debate to date of Republicans in the race for the White House.

### Bush Touts Missiles

Soon after Defense Secretary Robert Gates warned of activating missile-defense sites without "definitive proof" of a threat, President Bush defended his security policies Tuesday by saying that plans for U.S.-led missile systems in Europe are urgently needed to counter an emerging threat of attack by Iran.

### African Peace Prize

For delivering security, health, education and economic development, former Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano received the inaugural Price for Achievement in African Leadership Monday. With a \$5 million initial payment, plus \$200,000 a year for life, the prize exceeds the \$1.3 million of the Nobel Peace Prize.

# East County Flash Point

## Population challenges authorities

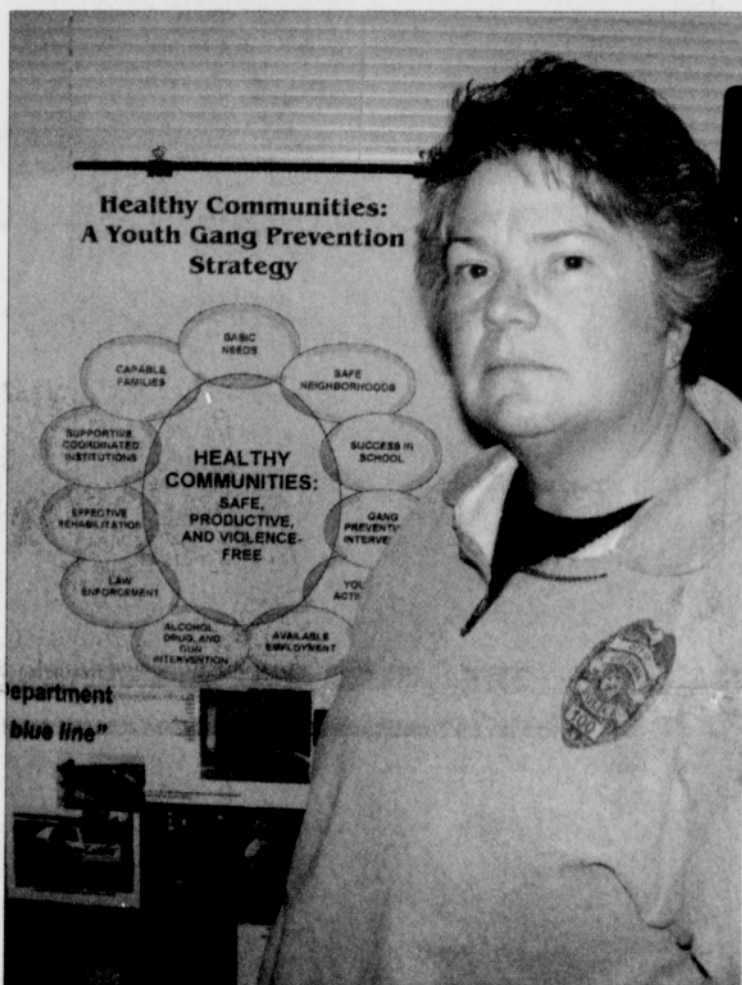
BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Increased police patrols near Gresham's border quelled a recent series of violent incidents, but law enforcement alone can't stop a number of social hurricanes gaining momentum in the growing suburb.

As with many parts of Portland's crumbling outer ring of neighborhoods, much of East County suffers from disproportionate unemployment, slumlord activity, high energy costs and long commuter distances. There's a worry that violence will resurface without further action.

A precipitous demographic shift in the past decade made Gresham the state's fourth-largest city without the concentration of urban services to help those struggling with change amid increasingly difficult economic conditions.

The area around 162nd and East Burnside had been a flash point



Gresham Police Chief Carla Piluso defines a healthy community as one that is safe, productive and violence-free. Her holistic approach to gang prevention is outlined in the billboard pictured.



PHOTO BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Before beginning work in East County, Gresham resident Sarah Edmond (right) regularly rides Max to Gateway Transit Center, which is near her daughter's daycare site.

resulting from other social problems, say police, who believe that their action will have little long-term effect without a renewed effort to partner with social-service agencies that assist in areas outside the

traditional realm of law enforcement. "The challenge for all of East County, not just Gresham, is that funding dollars for the social services is very limited," says Gresham Police Chief Carla Piluso. "It's not

a challenge just for law enforcement; it's a challenge for all those pieces to the puzzle."

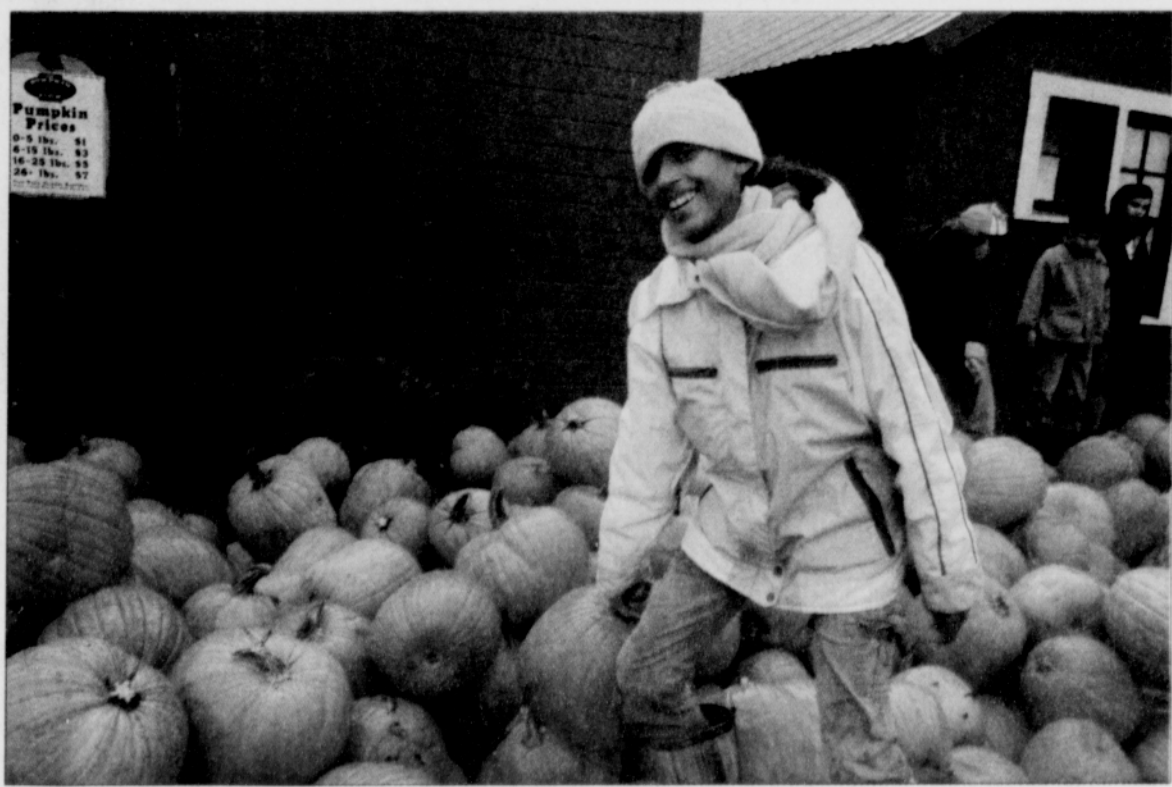
With an eye to relieving some of

continued ▼ on page A8

## Halloween Harvest Fun

Desyre Blackburn, a student at Rachel Carson Middle School in Aloha, finds a pumpkin that's just right for some Halloween fun during a visit to the Pumpkin Patch on Sauvie Island.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



## Equal Opportunity Focus

### Blazer president, top pick to address Urban League

Larry G. Miller, president of the Portland Trail Blazers, will deliver the keynote address at the Urban League of Portland's Equal Opportunity Day Awards Dinner on Tuesday, Nov. 6. Trail Blazer center and number-one NBA draft pick Greg Oden will also address the annual event to support the nonprofit group's education, employment, senior services, economic development and advocacy programs.

Oregon State Sen. Avel L. Gordly of Portland will be the recipient of the inaugural Urban League of Portland's Edwin C. "Bill" Berry

Leadership Award, recognizing a lifetime of service and achievement. Long-time educator and staunch community advocate Carolyn Marie Leonard will also be recognized for outstanding service to the community.

Miller will speak about his inspiring journey to become one of



Larry Miller



Greg Oden

the region's most successful businessmen, and the important role community organizations play in the health, vitality and long-term sustainability of our region.

He was named president of the Trail Blazers in July and is responsible for all aspects of the Trail

Blazers business portfolio, including all team business activities, the Rose Quarter and Rose City Radio.

Miller most recently was vice president and general manager of Nike Basketball, responsible for the Jordan Brand, Nike Basketball and Converse. An experienced business and community leader, he is a nationally renowned role model for youth and entrepreneurship.

Oden, drafted as a franchise turnaround player in June, is a 7-foot center that began his basketball career in high school where he was named 2006 Naismith Prep Player of the Year. He won numerous awards during his college basketball career, including being named NABC National Defensive Player of the Year and Associated Press All-America First Team.

The theme of this year's dinner is "The Opportunity Compact - Blueprint for Economic Equality", an action plan developed in concert with the National Urban League to address the challenges faced by urban communities.

Honorary co-chairs of the event will be civic activist Loen Dozono and Sam Brooks, president of Brooks Staffing and chairman of the Portland Business Alliance. KATU Anchor and Reporter Anna Song will be the emcee.

A no-host reception begins at 5:45 p.m., followed by dinner and the program at 6:45 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center, located at 777 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. For ticket information and

continued ▼ on page A8

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