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Week in The Review

Phelps Sets Olympic Record



American swimmer Michael Phelps took down the grandest of Olympic records

Saturday, earning his eighth gold medal, one more than Mark Spitz in 1972. Phelps now has 14 Olympic gold medals in total, more than any other athlete.



Williams Sisters Win Gold

Venus and Serena Williams earned a gold medal in tennis at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, beating Anabel Medina and Virginia Ruano in the final 6-2, 6-0.

Roy Recovery Expected



Trail Blazer and NBA all-star guard Brandon Roy is expected to completely recover from

knee surgery and be ready to play when the season opens on Oct. 28, team officials announced Thursday, following the arthroscopic surgery.

Push to Lower Drinking Age

University presidents from Pacific, Willamette and Lewis and Clark have joined 100 other college presidents from around the country wanting to see the legal drinking age lowered from 21 to 18 because they believe the current law encourages dangerous binge-drinking on their respective campuses.

Dangerous Heroin on Streets

Portland police say three drug overdose deaths over the weekend are due to the trafficking of a dangerous form of heroin. Since June, local authorities have responded to more than 115 heroin-related calls.

Militants Kill 10 French

Heavily armed insurgents mounted two of the biggest attacks in years Tuesday in Afghanistan, killing 10 French soldiers in an ambush and then sending a squad of suicide bombers in a failed assault on a U.S. base near the Pakistan border.

Musharraf Resigns

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf announced his resignation Monday to avoid impeachment charges over his attempts to impose authoritarian rule on his turbulent nation. Many Pakistanis blame the rising militant violence in their country on Musharraf's alliance with the United States.



Alleged Pimp Murdered

A Portland woman has been charged with fatally stabbing a man on 82nd Avenue she claims was trying to get her to work as a prostitute. Police say Donyel Hormats, 19, stabbed Christopher Richardson, 21, once in the chest after 8 p.m. on Friday. He died later that night at a hospital.

Guns for Texas Teachers

A Texas school district will let teachers bring guns to class this fall, the district superintendent said on Friday, in what experts said appeared to be a first in the United States.

Obama Camp Push: New Voters

(AP)—Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama's Oregon campaign says it will continue its push to sign up new voters for the November election, an effort that could help produce the largest number of voters ever registered for an Oregon election.

So far this year Democrats have added 122,518 registered voters statewide, mainly because of the heated May Primary race and the Obama campaign's intensive effort to register new voters. Republicans have lost 13,349 voters since the start of the year.

At a news briefing Monday, Obama's state director, Rob Hill, said the 700,000 eligible but unregistered voters in Oregon will be a key campaign focus in the weeks ahead.

"If we saw 100,000 new Democrats between the primary and the general election, we'd be feeling pretty good," Hill said.

If it's achieved, that number of new Democrats alone would push total overall registration past the 2.14 million record that was set in the 2004 presidential election, in which Democrat John Kerry defeated President Bush to win Oregon's seven electoral votes.

"If current trends continue," we could certainly reach that level by the Oct. 14 registration deadline," said Don Hamilton, spokesman for the Oregon secretary of state's office.

As of right now, Democrats make up 43 percent of registered

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Local political activists Moses Ross (from right) Shirley Minor and Robert Boyer gather at Barack Obama for President headquarters on Northeast Killingsworth Street Sunday as they prepare to go to Denver as delegates to next week's National Democratic Party Convention where Obama will become the first African American nominated for President.

A Seat with History

Local Democrats to Join Obama at Convention

BY LAURA MEEHAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The countdown has begun! The Democratic National Party Convention, which begins on Monday, will nominate Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois as the first-ever African-American presidential candidate of a major political party.

And this year, the convention will make history for the diversity of America in other ways. Democratic Party rules specify that at least half of the delegates will be women and large blocks of representatives will mirror the nation's minority populations.

Oregon's convention delegation will include eight African Americans, seven Hispanic Americans, two Native Americans, four Asian Americans, and five members of the gay community.

Portland residents Shirley Minor, Bob Boyer and Moses Ross are three of the convention delegates who have helped exceed the state party's diversity goals. While

they are excited about being present on this historical occasion, they also are extremely focused on the issues confronting Oregon and the nation.

Boyer, a former state senator and alternate delegate for Obama, will go to Denver with his wife to cast his vote should another delegate become unable to participate.

Boyer described the growing excitement he has watched Obama inspire in people during his three campaign visits during the Primary.

He looks back at the 17,000 people who

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Vancouver Festival Features Diverse Line Up



The Preservation Hall Jazz Band, hailing for New Orleans, is one of the headline acts at this weekend's Vancouver Wine and Jazz Festival.

Table set for wine and jazz

The 11th Annual Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival takes off this weekend, Friday, Aug. 22 through Sunday, Aug. 24 at Esther Short Park in downtown Vancouver.

This year's festival features a diverse lineup of vocal jazz, straight ahead, fusion, popular and crossover artists.

The slate of major bands includes Grammy-winning artists—as well as some of the music icons of the past 30 years: Judy Collins, Nicholas Payton, the Brubeck Brothers, BeauSoleil, Melissa Manchester, The Rippingtons, The Gospel Hummingbirds, Rita Coolidge, John Pizzarelli, and Preservation Hall Jazz Band. Local and regional jazz ensembles will also be performing.

The festival is recognized as one of the most important jazz festivals on the West Coast and the largest event of its kind in the Northwest.

In addition to the great music, the festival features over 200 wines from around the world. Attendees can sample wines or purchase a glass to sip with food from nine restaurants.

Cuisine ranges from Thai to Northwest Cuisine to Southern barbecue. Art lovers can shop the 50 fine artists from California, Washington and Oregon.

"The Festival is almost a sensory overload of music, art, wine and food" says Dr. Michael Kissinger, artistic director. "Our goal has always been to create a rich artistic environment, a palate from which people can sample and hear great music, drink a nice Northwest wine, purchase or commission a piece of art and just immerse themselves in an arts-rich weekend."

Tickets are available through TicketsWest outlets. For more information, visit vancouverwinejazz.com or call 360-906-0441.



Melissa Manchester



Nicholas Payton



Judy Collins