



## LAST WEEK FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

Deadline is Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 5 p.m.

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The  
City of Roses

# Portland Observer

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## Week in The Review

### Wall Street Misery Worsens

The misery worsened on Wall Street Tuesday, with stocks piling on the losses late in the session and bringing the two-day decline in the Dow Jones industrials to more than 875 points amid escalating worries about credit markets and financial sector.

### Retirement Plans Lose \$2 Trillion

Americans' retirement plans have lost as much as \$2 trillion in the past 15 months, Congress' top budget analyst estimated Tuesday. The upheaval that has engulfed the financial industry is devastating workers' savings, said Peter Orszag, the head of the Congressional Budget Office.

### Oregon Gasoline Prices Fall

Like the stock market, gasoline prices are going down. The average price for regular gas in Oregon has dropped 9 cents, to \$3.49 a gallon - a penny more than the national average of \$3.48.



### Halle Berry Sexiest Woman

Alongside a photo spread that shows her in little more than a T-shirt, Halle Berry talks about being the sexiest woman alive, a title Esquire magazine gives her in its November issue.



### Simpson Future Hangs on Appeal

O.J. Simpson's attorneys in his armed robbery case could be fighting long odds to convince an appeals court that he was a victim of racial prejudice and payback for his murder acquittal, legal experts say, but there may be other grounds for a new trial. See story, page A2.

### Racial Incidents at Jesuit

Officials at Jesuit High School talked to students about several racially charged incidents that occurred on campus last week, including the defacement of an Obama/McCain poster and the racial harassment of a student.

### Bank Panther Loses Appeal

The U.S. Supreme Court Monday refused to hear arguments for a new trial for Mumia Abu-Jamal, a former Black Panther accused of killing a police officer who has become an icon for anti-capital punishment campaigners.

### Blazer Tickets on Sale

As few as 500 tickets were expected to be available Tuesday when \$10 single-game tickets for all Trail Blazer regular season games at the Rose Garden went on sale. Blazer officials say the team's season ticket base has more than tripled in two seasons.

38  
years of  
community service

# Obama's Historical Run

## Black Studies professor brings insight

BY CHARITY PRATER  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sen. Barack Obama's nomination for president ranks with some of the greatest historic markers for equality in the United States such as the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery and the birth of Martin Luther King Jr. in 1929.

Now just a month away from the Nov. 4 General Election there is a real possibility that we will see the first black president elected.

Darrell Millner, a 33-year veteran professor of black studies and U.S. history at Portland State University, is hoping to witness such a glorifying event, but like other unknowns there are doubts.

"My generation grew up with racist policies as the norm, Millner told the Portland Observer. "It's hard to believe that this country would elect a black man as president, but I think we are finally ready for that step."

Millner compares the heated 2008 election to 1860 when Abraham Lincoln ran for the presidency.

Many Americans are praying that Obama wins, especially many older African Americans.

"If Obama wins then many people will feel invigorated, where if he loses many will lose hope in our political system," Millner said.

On his educated prediction of the outcome of the contest, he replied, "If enough older Civil

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Darrell Millner, long-time Black Studies professor at Portland State University and student Kyra Maples count down the days to register to vote in a national election that could result in the first black president.

## Concordia Hosts Voter Registration Drive

The Urban League of Portland and its supporters will lift their voices in song to register voters and encourage the community to get out the vote on Saturday Oct. 11 at Concordia University, 2811 N.E. Holman St.

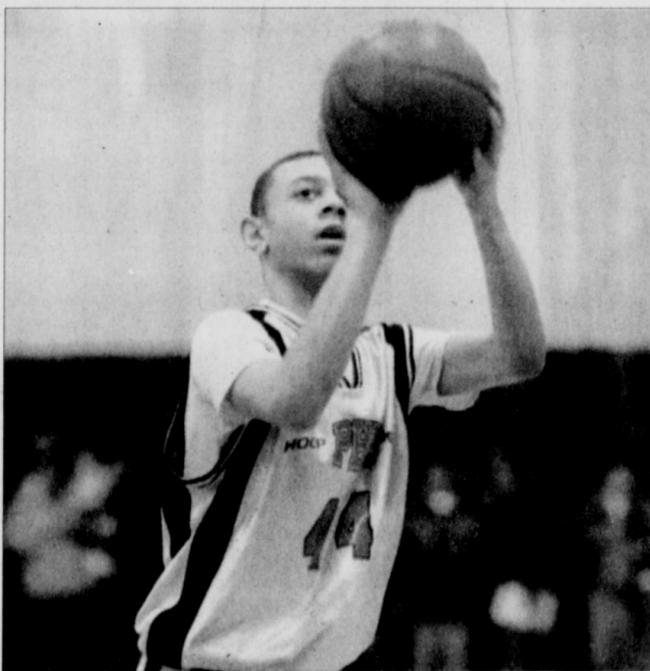
Several local churches, choral groups and youth programs will participate in the event, also sponsored by the NAACP, KBMS and the Bus Project.

Registration teams will meet at 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. in the

Concordia Auditorium with food, music and entertainment scheduled from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The No Kidding Choir led by Jancie Hopkins will kick off the celebration, followed by the 25th Hour band, rapper Jabbok and other special guests.

Call Sunshine Dixon at 503-280-2618 to join one of the registration teams.

The deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 4 election is Tuesday at 5 p.m.



Nigel Williams-Goss of Happy Valley is one of the top prep basketball players in the country. He will participate in Saturday's 'Clash of the Classes' at Lewis & Clark College.

## Elite Prep Stars Prepare for Battle

### First 'Clash of the Classes'

Local African American sports promoter and coach Canaan Chatman is bringing the best prep basketball talent from Oregon and Washington together for the Ultimate All-American Experience

For years, the hotbeds for prep basketball existed in urban areas such as New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. But as high school hoops has risen to mainstream consciousness, other parts of the country have emerged as must-visit areas for

college coaches, recruiters, and hardcore fans, and the Pacific Northwest has unquestionably become one of the regions stacked with elite talent.

The first-ever "Clash of the Classes" - which takes place on Saturday, Oct. 11 at Lewis & Clark College featuring the best players from the high school and middle school ranks from Oregon and Washington. Two action-packed all-star games are scheduled pitting the two states against one another.

The talent will be fierce - especially on the high school level. On the Oregon All-American team, Arizona-bound Mike Moser

from Portland's Grant High School has established himself as one of the top players in the Class of 2009 nationally and Lake Oswego High School rising senior Max Jacobsen isn't far behind.

Terrence Jones of Portland's Jefferson High School and Stephen Holt of Jesuit High School, both rank among the top prospects nationally in the Class of 2010. Others such as rising juniors Garrett Jackson (Westview) and Jordan Railley (Beaverton) and rising sophomore Kyle Wiltjer (Jesuit) already hold Division I scholarship offers as well.

Add in Century sharpshooter  
continued ▼ on page A11

## Equal Opportunity Day Dinner Slated National leader featured

The Urban League of Portland's Equal Opportunity Day Dinner is coming up on Oct. 21 at 5:30pm at the Oregon Convention Center's Portland Ballroom.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux, president of Bennett College for Women and a national leader recognized for her progressive and insightful observations, will serve as guest speaker.

Malveaux is also an economist, author and commentator, and has been described by Dr. Cornel West as "the most iconoclastic public intellectual in the country."

Former Portland Mayor Vera Katz will be the annual event's guest of honor.

Katz entered politics as an activist, and picketed the Portland City Club in the late 1960s and early 70s, protesting their exclusion of women, and effectively pushing the Club into admitting women.

From her success, she embarked on a political career that would span more than three decades. Katz was first elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 1972. During her tenure she became the first woman to chair the Ways and Means Committee, as well as Oregon's first woman to serve as Speaker of the House, and the only three-time speaker. In 1992, she launched a successful mayoral campaign, starting the first of three terms as Portland's third female mayor.

At the Equal Opportunity Day Dinner, the Urban League also plans on unveiling the State of Black Oregon, a compelling series of visual essays detailing months of intensive research on African-Americans in Oregon.

This document will put forth case studies, essays, hard data, and recommendations for improving our schools, our healthcare, our housing, and other areas in time for the next Legislative session.

For more information about the dinner, call the Urban League at 503-280-2611, email mtreyz@ulpdx.org or visit the website ulpdx.org



Julianne Malveaux