

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Portrait of the Obamas

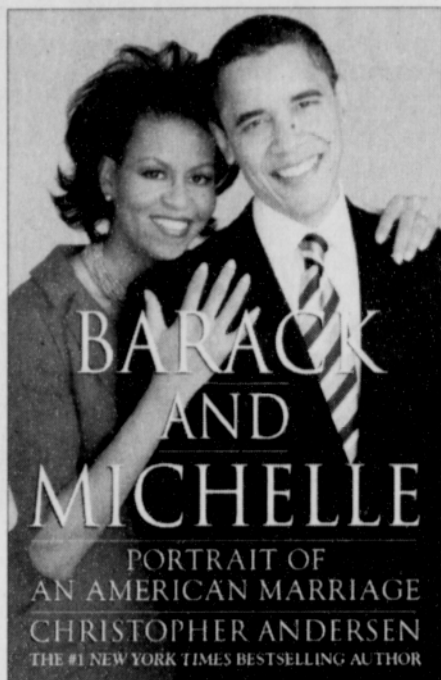
Author describes couple as 'Rock-solid'

As Barack and Michelle Obama celebrate their 17th anniversary this month—their first as President and First Lady, No. 1 New York Times bestselling author Christopher Andersen claims they are "the most real, down-to-earth, quintessentially American First Couple we've ever had in the White House. Whatever your politics, it's almost impossible not to admire them on a personal level."

Andersen should know. Among his 29 books and 13 New York Times bestsellers are three books about presidential marriages: Jack and Jackie, Bill and Hillary, and George and Laura.

In Barack and Michelle: Portrait of an American Marriage, Andersen draws on important sources—some speaking for the first time—to paint a glowing picture of the Obamas as two people who have come through rough times early in their marriage to form an enduring personal and political partnership.

"It's a real love story, no doubt about it," says Andersen, "and it differs from other presidential marriages because there



is no tension simmering beneath the surface. They are not rivals for power, like Bill and Hillary Clinton were. There is no sense that one is eclipsing or smothering the other. They are equal partners in this, and their friends tell me that their marriage has gotten even stronger since they moved into the White House."

Things were not always so rosy. Both the President and First Lady have spoken openly about the days when he was in the Illinois Senate and spending four nights a week away from home, leaving Michelle alone to take care of their two small daughters Malia and Sasha.

Andersen points to the night in September 2001 when the Obama's younger daughter Sasha, then just three months old, was stricken with spinal meningitis, as a "pivotal moment in their marriage. They stayed at her bedside in the hospital for 72 hours straight until she was out of danger. Michelle said it was a nightmare, but the experience brought them close together than they had ever been."

In Barack and Michelle, Andersen also credits Michelle with convincing her husband to adopt the "Yes We Can" slogan, which he initially rejected, and having a major say in picking Joe Biden over Hillary Clinton as his running mate. "Do you really want Bill and Hillary down the hall from you in the White House?" the book quotes Michelle as saying to Barack. "Could you live with that?"

Says Andersen, "The President has said she is his chief counsel and advisor, that he wouldn't make a big decision without first asking her opinion. Michelle's no Hillary--she doesn't want to be 'co-president'--but she does have major say in the White House."

County Museum Hosts Swank Affair

With OSU coach Robinson

Oregon State University Basketball Coach Craig Robinson and the local jazz band the Stolen Sweets will headline an annual gala for the Washington County Museum, located on the Rock Creek campus of Portland Community College.

Robinson will preside as Master of Ceremonies during the Saturday, Oct. 17 event.

For those that haven't heard, Robinson, who is also First Lady Michelle Obama's brother, has spent the last year transforming OSU basketball -- notably securing the school's first

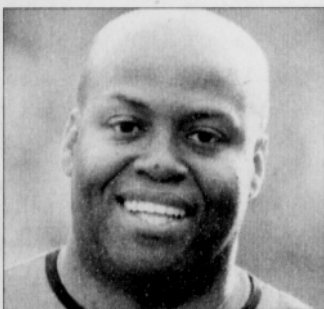


Portland jazz band Stolen Sweets are touted for their harmonies, top-notch players and infectious dance songs.

ever post-season tournament championship win in the College Basketball Invitational.

The fundraising gala, A Swank Affair: Lights, Camera, Action! is a benefit for the museum's programs and community outreach.

Joining Robinson is one of Portland's most exciting up-and-



Craig Robinson

coming bands, the Stolen Sweets. The Sweets are a modern, acoustic jazz band like no other, channeling the sounds of their inspiration—Tin Pan Alley, and classic acts like the Boswell Sisters and Cab Calloway.

For more information, call the Washington County Museum at 503-645-5353.

Platinum Fade SALON



We have the Best Barber & hair Stylist in Portland and we do Razor Line Cuts, Weaves, Relaxers and Cuts

Barbers & Hairstylist Wanted - 1 month free

5010 NE 9th Unit A, Portland, Oregon 97221

503-284-2989

Hours of operation:

M-F 9 am - 6 pm

Sat 8 am - 9 pm

Sun 11 am - 6 pm



New Prices Effective May 1, 2007

Martin Cleaning Service

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

Residential & Commercial Services

Minimum Service CHG. \$45.00

Carpet Cleaning

2 Cleaning Areas or more \$30.00 Each Area

Pre-Spray Traffic Areas (Includes: 1 small Hallway)

1 Cleaning Area (only) \$40.00

(Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area • Hallway Extra)

Stairs (12-16 stairs) \$25.00 (With Other Services)

Heavily Soiled Area: Additional \$10.00

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Area & Oriental Rug Cleaning
- Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
- Deodorizing & Pet Odor Treatment
- Spot & Stain Removal Service
- Scotchguard Protection

UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

- Sofa \$79.00
- Loveseat \$59.00
- Sectional \$109 - \$139
- Chair or Recliner \$35 - \$49
- Throw Pillows \$5.00

(With Other Services)



See Flyers for Additional Prices

Call For Appointment

(503) 281-3949



OREGON MUSIC HALL OF FAME

Safeco Insurance presents

3rd ANNUAL CONCERT & INDUCTION CEREMONY

Doors Open 6:00PM

hosted by Dwight Slade

Silent Auction 6:30PM

Showtime 7:30pm

Tickets \$25 ADV.

VIP Ticket Package Available

Proceeds Benefit Music Education in Oregon Schools



performances by

COOL'R
CRAZY 8s

JEFF LORBER
SLEAZY PIECES

Inducting Terry Robb, The Cherry Poppin' Daddies & more...

OCTOBER 17, 2009 ROSELAND THEATRE

Tickets Available via TicketsWest

www.omhof.org

Advertise with diversity in
The Portland Observer
Call 503-288-0033
ads@portlandobserver.com



Don Adams
20 Years Lending Experience

BAY MORTGAGE
A DIVISION OF COWLITZ BANK

Looking to purchase or refinance a home? If so, it's time to call Don Adams at Bay Mortgage. We are a Division of Cowlitz Bank which has served the Northwest since 1978. We offer several loan programs and will put together the perfect loan for you. A few of our loan programs are:

- No Down Payment
- \$100 Down Payment
- 3% Down Payment
- FHA, VA, USDA and Conventional Home Loans
- 12 Day Start to Finish on FHA Home Loans

For the best local rates and best local service, call today.

(360) 992-6230

donadams@bay-loans.com

www.bay-loans.com



"We are about neighbors helping neighbors improve their community."

- Mary Harrell
at Friends of Trees
503-282-8846

Order your discounted tree before your neighborhood deadline!

www.FriendsofTrees.org

