

INSIDE

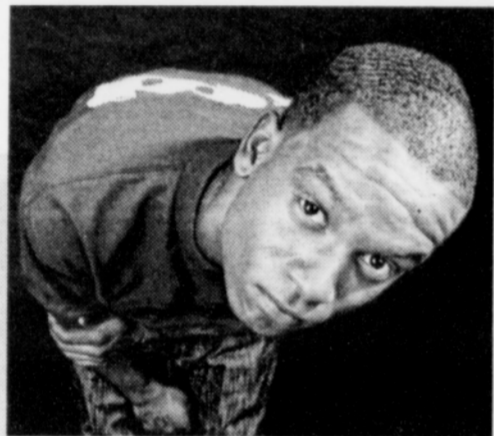
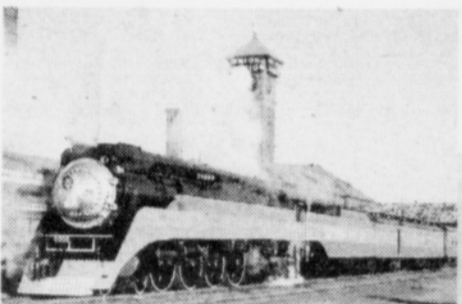
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1+1=1

WHITE KID IN WELL FUNDED WHITE SCHOOL	BLACK KID IN UNDER- FUNDED GHETTO SCHOOL	WELL EDUCATED AMERICAN CHILD EQUIPPED FOR THE FUTURE
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FOOD

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Joyce Washington
High School
All-Star Classic

B Section, inside



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What's on your list today?.

LOCAL NEWS

Diversity Claim Disputed

Candidate backs down on taking credit for bill

BY JAKE THOMAS
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland City Council Candidate Jesse Cornett has backed down from a claim he made in an interview with the Portland Observer (April 21 issue) that he worked with a former Portland State University student to bring more diversity to the athletic departments of Oregon's public universities.

In 2009, the Legislature passed a bill requiring all state universities to interview at least one minority candidate for athletic coaching positions. The proposal was modeled after the National Football League's "Rooney Rule," which was shaped by Pittsburgh Steelers owner Dan Rooney and adopted in 2003.

Cornett told the Portland Observer that he worked with PSU alum,



Jesse Cornett

Sam Sachs, to get the Legislature to pass the landmark bill.

But people at PSU involved with the issue say Cornett was not a strong advocate for the legislation.

"He never supported it," said Sachs who lobbied to Legislature for the landmark bill's passage. "He didn't work with me."

Avel Gordly, a former African American state senator who now

teaches at PSU, described Cornett as a "barrier" of the proposal until the final stages of its passage.

"He was in no way an advocate or champion for the legislation," said Gordly, who added that Cornett's claim raises issues of integrity.

Dalton Miller-Jones, professor of Psychology at PSU, also contends in an e-mail that Cornett was not a champion for the bill.

When confronted with these discrepancies, Cornett wrote in an e-mail exchange that PSU was neutral on the bill, until just before a final hearing when it "wisely" decided to support it. Cornett was employed as PSU's director of governmental relations at the time, and said that his prod-

continued on A

Bus Deaths Bring Safety Review

In the wake of an accident involving a TriMet bus that ran over five people in downtown Portland, two of which died, the transit agency is calling in an outside expert review of its procedures and is reminding operators of how to stay safe.

Fred Hansen, TriMet general manager, sent out a notice to employees last week that included a document outlining driver's safety responsibilities.

"I'm sure that everyone is devastated," Hansen wrote. "It is a tragedy beyond comprehension."

The correspondence advises TriMet operators to continually be aware of their surroundings as they steer transit vehicles, keep ample space between motorists and pedestrians; stay focused, and approach intersections with caution.

Hansen also announced that TriMet is calling in an expert from the National Safety Council to review the transit agencies practices.



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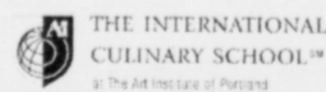


SUNDAYS from MAY 2 - OCT 31

10am - 2pm (NE 7th & Wygant)

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