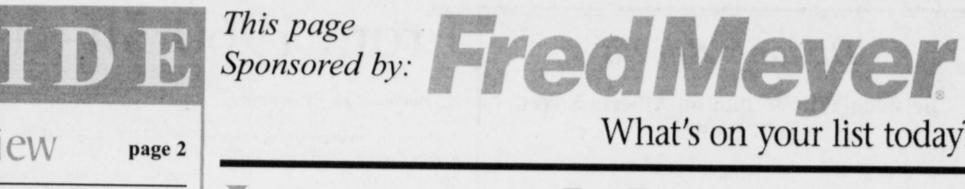
#### June 16, 2010

### The Portland Observer

BINSIDE

The Week in Review







# Man Loses Eye in Jail

### Was attacked by other inmates

An African American man has lost an eye in what he says was as a racially-motivated attack at the Columbia County Jail in St. Helens.

Raymond Lee Batista, 39, was serving a 20-day sentence for a gun charge, when he was brutally attacked June 7 by other inmates who drove a pencil through his eye.

"The severity of this is unusual for this jail," said Columbia County Sheriff Jeff Dickerson.

Batista, a resident of Hillsboro. told the Portland Observer that he has hired a lawyer, has no medical insurance, and has already taken enough pain killer to "down an elephant" for the excrutiating pain.

Dickerson said the sheriff's office is doing an internal investigation into the incident to see if the jail's procedures can be improved. He also said that the Washington County Sheriff's Office is investi-



Raymond Lee Batista is pictured in a Columbia County Jail photo.

gating the incident because it has better resources.

After the savage attack, Batista fashion. was released from his jail sentence. said Dickerson. He explained that of medical care was because jail the furlough was given out of basic concerns for "justice," and wasn't hend what injuries he suffered. done to avoid responsibility for his medical bills

"We figured he would be in the Dickerson.

hospital and we weren't going to put any guards on him," said Dickerson, who added that he did not see Batista as a threat to the community.

What's on your list today?.

He also said that it was immaterial if Batista had health insurance or not because the county would pay his medical bills if it was determined that it was responsible for his injuries.

"If we end up having to pay his bills, we will," said Dickerson.

Batista later told KPTV that the attack was a racially-motivated hate crime and he plans to sue Columbia County. He also said that he can't drive or work at his construction company after the attack.

He complained to the television station that he did not receive medical attention in a timely

Dickerson said that any delay staff did not immediately compre-

"We didn't know the nature of his injury right away," said

## From 1960 Sit-ins to Today: Professor sounds off during Portland visit

In 1960, Anderson J. Franklin was arrested with 33 other young black men who challenged laws of segregation by demanding service at a Richmond, Va. department store that served whites only. The group was later dubbed "The Richmond 34.

Franklin went on to earn a doctoral degree from the University of Oregon, and conduct research on the critical role that education and emotional well-being play in furthering the aims of the civil rights movement.

Currently the Hon. David S. Nelson Professor of Psychology and Education in the Lynch School at Boston College, he gave the commencement address at Graduate School of Education and Counseling at Lewis & Clark College.

What is Invisibility Syndrome? Invisibility Syndrome is taken from the Ralph Ellison classic novel the "Invisible Man." It's when the assumptions of others tend to dominate a person who is trying to over-



Anderson J. Franklin

come what other people think about him. One of the things I teach about the Invisibility Syndrome is that stereotypes of black men and men of African descent, particularly young black men, very often dominate how people see them and interact with them. So their true personality, ability, and aspirations are overshadowed by the misconcep-

tions based on stereotypes and racism. Struggling to overcome being invisible by a stereotypes placed upon them can have emotional and psychological consequences.

Like what?

Well it can be very stressful. It can be very indignant. So you have people clutch their pocket books when they see them or cross the street. They don't know anything about their lives, but they assume that they are like any other stereotypical black male. So one of the responses of the syndrome is indignation. Indignation can lead to anger and anger can lead to lots of wrong personal decisions about your life, or immobilization about thinking about your career options. I've had people come in and say that their supervisor has not evaluated their experience as well as their white counterparts. Therefore they don't get breaks or opportunities.

