

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainer Shares Vision for Haiti

Returns to his birthplace to run for president

(AP) -- After the hip-hop party was over, the cheering supporters back in their tents and the speaker trucks parked for the night, newly minted presidential candidate Wyclef Jean sat down to talk business — promoting Haiti's and defending his own.

The potential front-runner in Haiti's Nov. 28 election told The Associated Press that he supports the U.S. and U.N. vision for rebuilding Haiti's economy after its magnitude-7 earthquake — a plan that encourages private investment in factories, agriculture and other areas.

He also hit back at critics of his own personal finances, including allegations over his use of post-quake charity funds and the revelation he personally owes \$2.1 million in back taxes to the United States.

"We can provide a way to get (Haitians) out of the mess they're in. And the way that that's going to happen (is) education, job creation and investment for Haiti," Jean said in the wide-ranging interview.

He spoke Thursday in a Port-au-Prince hotel room as aides, his wife and 5-year-old daughter looked on.

The Haitian-born, Brooklyn-



Wyclef Jean

raised singer is attempting a difficult and potentially dicey transformation: From multimillionaire international recording artist to leader of one of the world's poorest and most dysfunctional countries — and doing so through a pivotal and difficult election.

Among the best known figures in his native country, Jean — who left as a child — speaks American-accented Creole to crowds and New York-accented English at home. His estimated annual income of up to \$18 million is more than 13,000 times

more than the average Haitian sees in a year — assuming that person even has a job.

If he wins the presidency, the ex-Fugee frontman said he would encourage donors to invest heavily in education. He also endorsed the economic vision promoted by former U.S. President Bill Clinton, the U.N. special envoy for Haiti. Those plans include creating jobs in the garment export industry, boosting tourism and building the capacity of Haitian farmers to reduce the both nation's chronic dependence on imports.

"President Clinton is focusing on the garment industry and all that. I think that's great. But also agriculture is involved," Jean said. "We can work components at the same time."

Before campaigning can begin, Jean must be cleared to run by Haiti's eight-member provisional electoral council. Among the requirements he must fulfill are proving he has never renounced his Haitian citizenship by holding another — namely, U.S. — passport; and that he has been a resident of Haiti for the last five years — which by most accounts he has not.

The campaign will argue that Jean's status as a Haitian ambassador-at-large, a post he was awarded in 2007, exempts him from having not spent more time in the country of late.

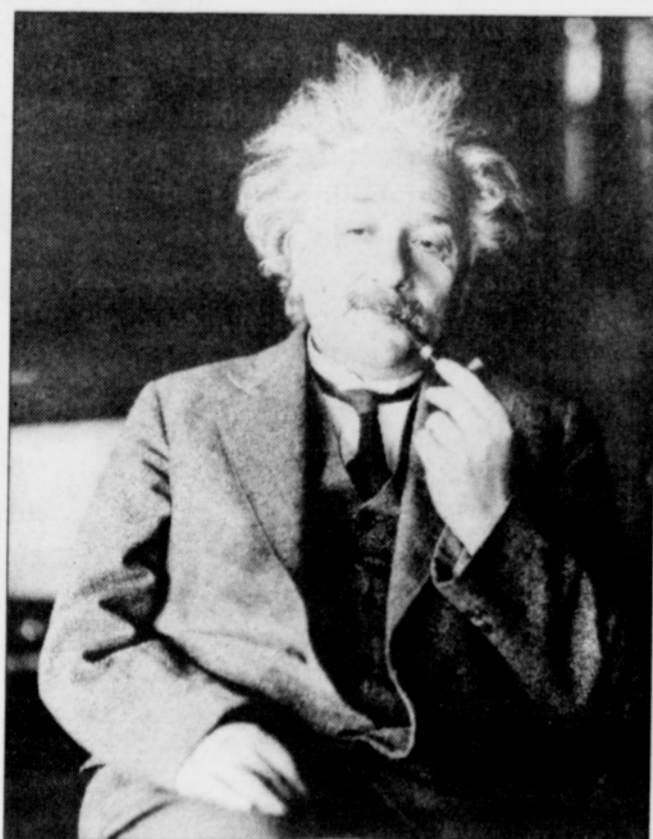
OMSI Brings Einstein to Life

Exploring the man and his science

Explore the mysteries of space and time and journey inside the mind of Albert Einstein, one of the greatest scientists the world has ever known, in the new exhibit Einstein, at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI).

Einstein is the most comprehensive exhibit ever presented on Einstein and brings to life his most revolutionary theories through hands-on interactive displays, videos about his life, science, and legacy; facsimiles of his manuscripts and personal letters to his loved ones, and more.

The exhibit explores many of



The genius of Albert Einstein is captured in a new exhibit at OMIS.

Einstein's most astonishing visions of the Universe—light's constant speed, time as the fourth dimension, and space-time as a

curved geometry—while at the same time revealing his passion for social justice and his speaking out against segregation, anti-Semitism, McCarthyism, and nuclear armament.

Through several influential scientific papers, Einstein changed the world and our understanding of it. His Special Theory of Relativity paved the way to unleashing atomic energy; his work on the photoelectric effect led directly to the development of vacuum tubes and integrated circuits, and eventually to the computer revolution; and his explanation of Brownian motion

created a new understanding of the size and shape of molecules that ultimately helped to unlock the secrets of DNA.



Summer Fun at Esther Short Park

A community event with activities for the whole family will take place Saturday, Aug. 14, when the Vancouver Fire Fighters Union takes over Esther Short Park in Vancouver to raise money for Share, a location organization that helps the hungry and homeless.

Fire in the Park II will run all day and is free and open to the public.

Activities will include fire fighter competitions, a chili cook-off, entertainment by regional pipe and drum bands, and a beer garden. A children's event area will include an obstacle course, face painting, free ice cream, and carnival games.

A free concert from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. will feature the local group 5 Guys Named Moe. Fighters will be "passing the fire helmet" for voluntary donations to support Share. Concert tickets for a prime viewing area are \$35 and include dinner and a drink; call 360-695-7658, extension 3301.



Ulicious Smokehouse & Grill

1505 N.E. Killingsworth St.
503-477-3958

House Hours
Mon-Thurs 11:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday 11:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

All dinners with two sides of your choice for \$9.95 potato salad BBQ beans Cole slaw or beans and rice.

Advertise with diversity in
The Portland Observer

Call 503-288-0033 ads@portlandobserver.com