

# Obama rallies for Kitzhaber

President Obama went to bat for gubernatorial candidate John Kitzhaber on Oct. 20, arguing that the state needs Kitzhaber's leadership more than ever.

"You need him again, you need him one more time," Obama told the crowd of 10,000 at the rally at the Portland Convention Center.

Kitzhaber served as governor twice before, from 1994-2002 and is running for a third term in a close race against Republican and former Portland Trail Blazer Chris Dudley.

"This should not be a difficult choice," Obama said. "I know you have a race where both candidates are talking about change. But there's only one candidate who has delivered change. And that's John Kitzhaber. You know John's track record."

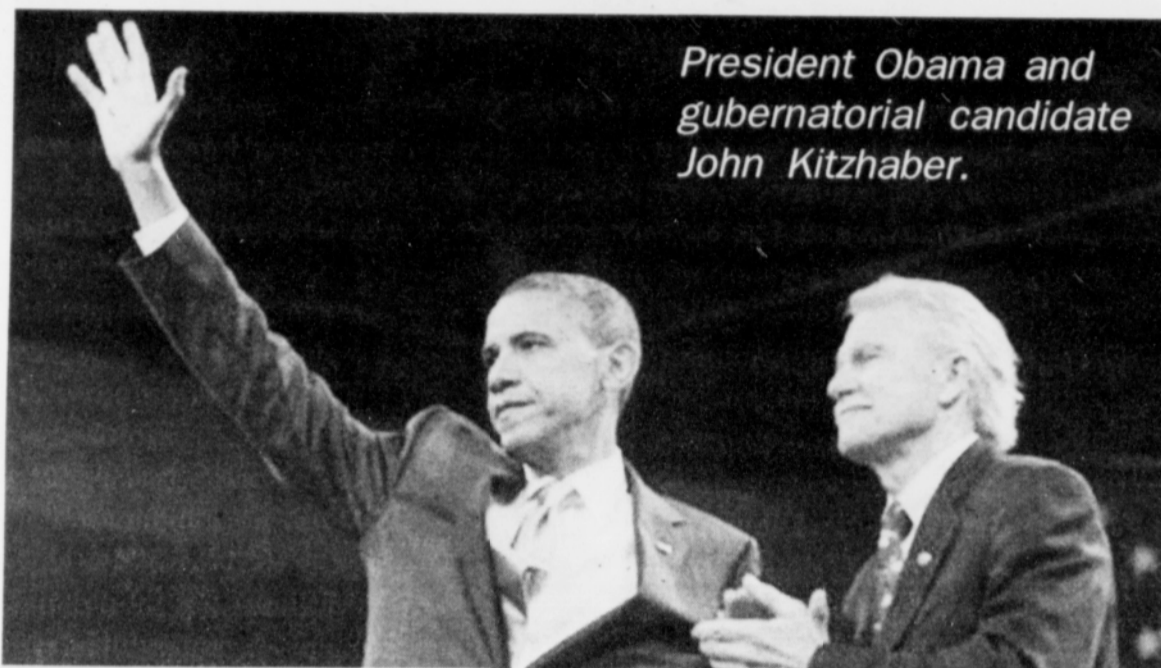
Obama's support of Kitzhaber is seen as a needed boost to the democrat, as results from an independent poll published in Sunday's Oregonian show that the gubernatorial race is still too close to call. It's the fourth poll in a row — and the fifth of the last six — that show that the race is within 2 percentage points, with Kitzhaber defending a slight lead over Republican candidate and former Blazers player Chris Dudley.

Seattle pollster Stuart Elway, who conducted the survey, told The Oregonian that the race now appears to come down to a battle over which candidate is most successful in getting his supporters to actually vote.

"Turnout is destiny in this race," Elway said. "It's close and there aren't that many undecided voters left."

The president said that it is up to voters to tell the Republicans that they have not forgotten about their time in office.

"It is up to you to tell them we haven't



President Obama and gubernatorial candidate John Kitzhaber.

forgotten. We don't have amnesia, and we don't want what you're selling because we've tried it before and we didn't like it because it didn't work."

Much of the president's remarks were devoted to get-out-the-vote efforts.

"We need you all to mail in your ballots now," Obama said, "mail them in!"

Obama called on attendees of the rally to "keep fighting, and knocking on doors and making phone calls and mailing in your ballots ... (so that) not only are we going to elect John, but we are going to preserve that American Dream and American promise for centuries to come."

Kitzhaber, elected in 1994 and re-elected four years later, is seeking an unprecedented third term. Dudley, in his first run for office, has appealed to Oregonians who think Kitzhaber already had a chance as governor, and the state needs a fresh approach to its persistent economic problems.

Dudley said he's pleased to be virtually tied this late in the campaign in a state that has not elected a Republican governor since 1982.

"People are clearly seeing, even though there is that registration edge, that what we've been doing for the last 20 years has not worked," said Dudley, who has based his campaign on the idea that Oregon is lagging economically and educationally behind the rest of the country.

"It's been a more Democratic state from day one" of this race, Dudley added, "so obviously going into this, I would have to say I was the underdog."

Kitzhaber, meanwhile, is unconcerned by this, citing his huge advantage over Dudley in terms of political experience — he's served 24 years in the state legislature, including seven as Senate president in addition to his two terms as governor.

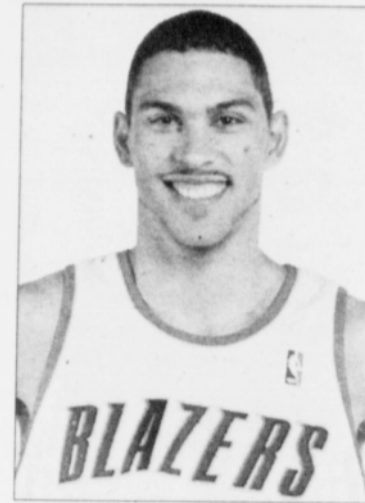
"That's right where we wanted to be," said Kitzhaber, adding that "we had wanted to be even going into the home stretch" after being greatly outspent in campaign advertising by Dudley over the summer and through much of the fall.

Kitzhaber is hoping Oregonians will better relate to his laid-back, jeans- and cowboy hat-wearing self.

## Week in The Review

### Blazers waive Pendergraph

The Portland Trail Blazers have waived forward Jeff Pendergraph, it was announced Oct. 25 by General Manager Rich Cho. Pendergraph, 23, suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in an Oct. 7 preseason game at Utah and is scheduled to undergo surgery as a result. "We want to thank Jeff for his



hard work and professionalism since he arrived here in Portland, and we wish him a fast and successful recovery from his injury," said Cho. "We sometimes have to make difficult decisions in this business, and this was certainly one of them."

### Oregon Awarded \$9M for Rail

Oregon Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden announced Oct. 25 that the U.S. Department of Transportation is awarding nearly \$9 million to Oregon to help implement plans to bring high-speed rail to the Northwest corridor. The funds will go toward plans to increase the frequency of rail service, reduce travel time and make necessary structural and track improvements to Union Station.

### Health Center Recognized

The Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center's Clinical Pharmacy team was recently nationally recognized for dramatic improvements in diabetes control. Virginia Garcia's efforts include discussing diet, exercise, medications and lifestyle with its patients. The award was given by the Health Resources and Services Administration for Outstanding Performance for documented results showing an increased clinical pharmacy services, improved health outcomes, and identification and prevention of adverse and potential adverse drug events.

## Sustainably Thriving in Today's Business Climate How to Do Business with Local Public Agencies

Friday, November 5, 2010  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PCC Cascade Campus, Terrell Hall  
705 N. Killingsworth Street, Portland 97217

The conference will feature:

- Expert panel presenters from the construction and A/E industry
- Small business resources panel to help companies move to the next level
- Seminar: How to operate your small business sustainably in today's economy
- Seminar: Preparing your financial records to obtain a business loan

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