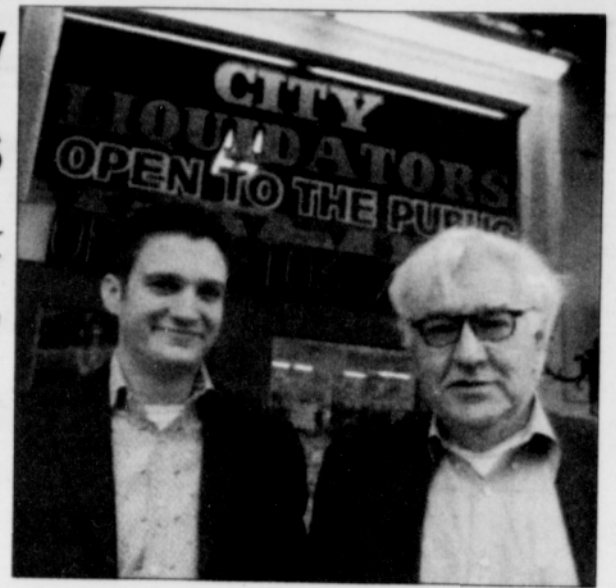




PHOTO BY MINDY COOPER/PORTLAND OBSERVER

Timbers
The Portland Timbers gather together in a huddle at Jeld Wen Stadium before their game on Sunday against the Seattle Sounders. see page 21, inside

Home Town City Liquidators
Landmark business unites generations
See Metro, page 11



Portland Observer 41

'City of Roses'

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Established in 1970
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Doors Close with Restrictions

Owner Says:
"I Don't Like Being Labeled a Gang Bar"

BY MINDY COOPER
THE PORTLAND/OBSERVER
An African-American owner of a northeast Portland bar has closed his doors after the Oregon Liquor Control Commission issued several restrictions on the business. A series of enforcement actions were put into immediate effect by the OLCC after the fatal shooting of 34-year-old Leonard James "LJ" Irving on June 26 in a parking lot across the street from Seeznin's Bar and Lounge located at Northeast 82nd Avenue.

Inside the Bar and Lounge last week, residents could be seen with food and beverages from places of business other than Seeznin's, which is no longer undergoing sales.

"The restrictions being enforced by OLCC are a detriment to my business," said Samuel A. Thompson, the owner and license holder of the bar. "In the scheme of things, what I do in the community has been lost because negative incidents have

occurred within the proximity of my building."

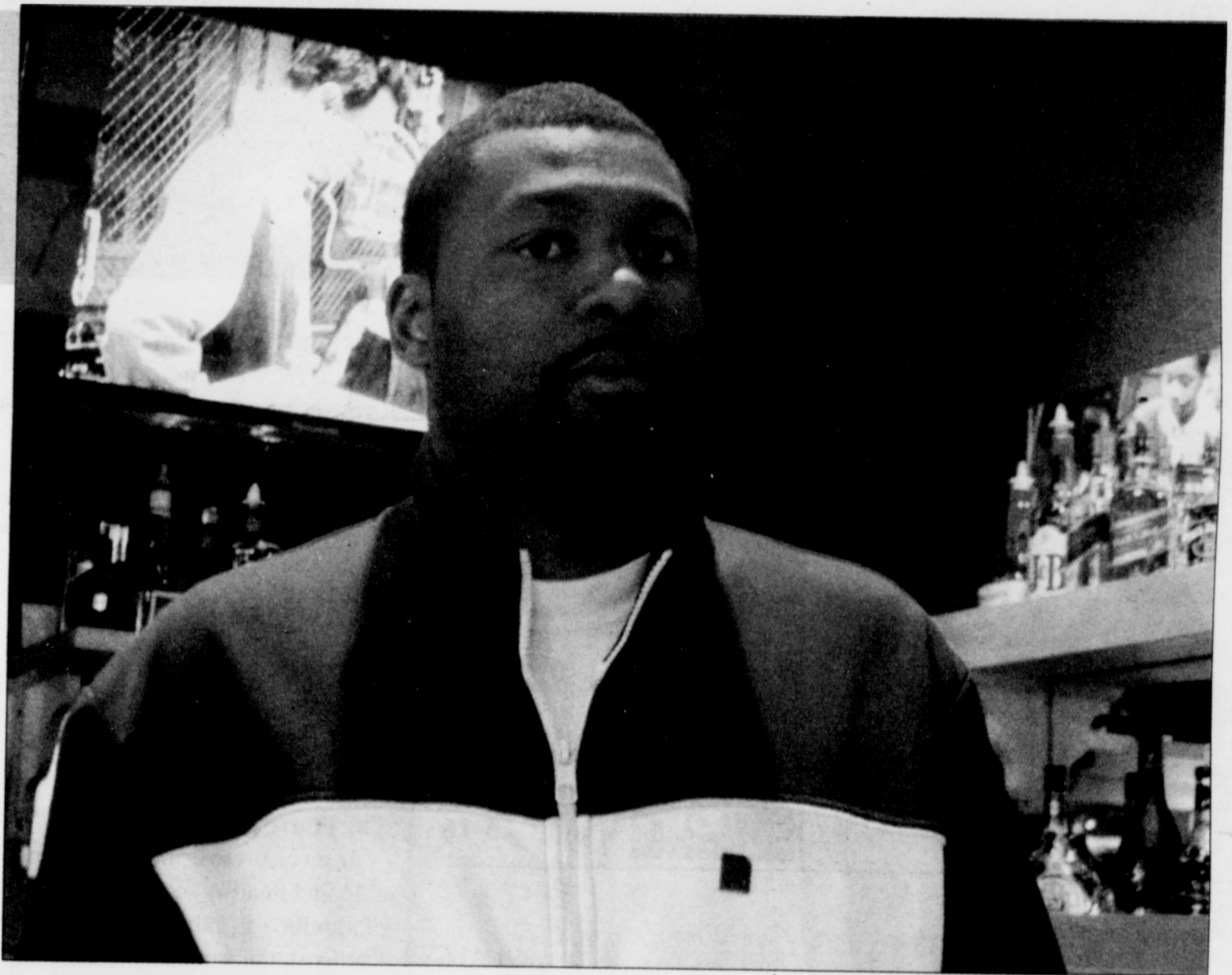
Thompson, who opened the bar in March of this year, said he believes OLCC is using his bar as a "scapegoat", instead of focusing on the true issues going on within the community. "They are using Seeznin's as an example in their feeble attempt to curve gang violence," he said.

OLCC said the seven emergency restrictions placed on the bar were issued as a result of a high level of violence and gang activity permitted within Seeznin's walls.

Thompson, however, said violence is not welcomed at his bar.

He said after visiting the Irving family's home the day of the funeral, he received the restrictions order at the bar.

The OLCC notice said, "This Order of Immediate License Restrictions is being issued because continued operation of your premises represents a serious danger to the



Samuel A. Thompson, the owner of Seeznin's Bar and Lounge in Northeast Portland, stands inside his bar last week after closing his doors to business because of recent restrictions put in place by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

public health and safety."

They stated Thompson permitted disorderly activities on the li-

quor premises. On the night of Irving's murder, "known gang members fought inside the premises. The fight moved outside the premises

continued ▼ on page 22

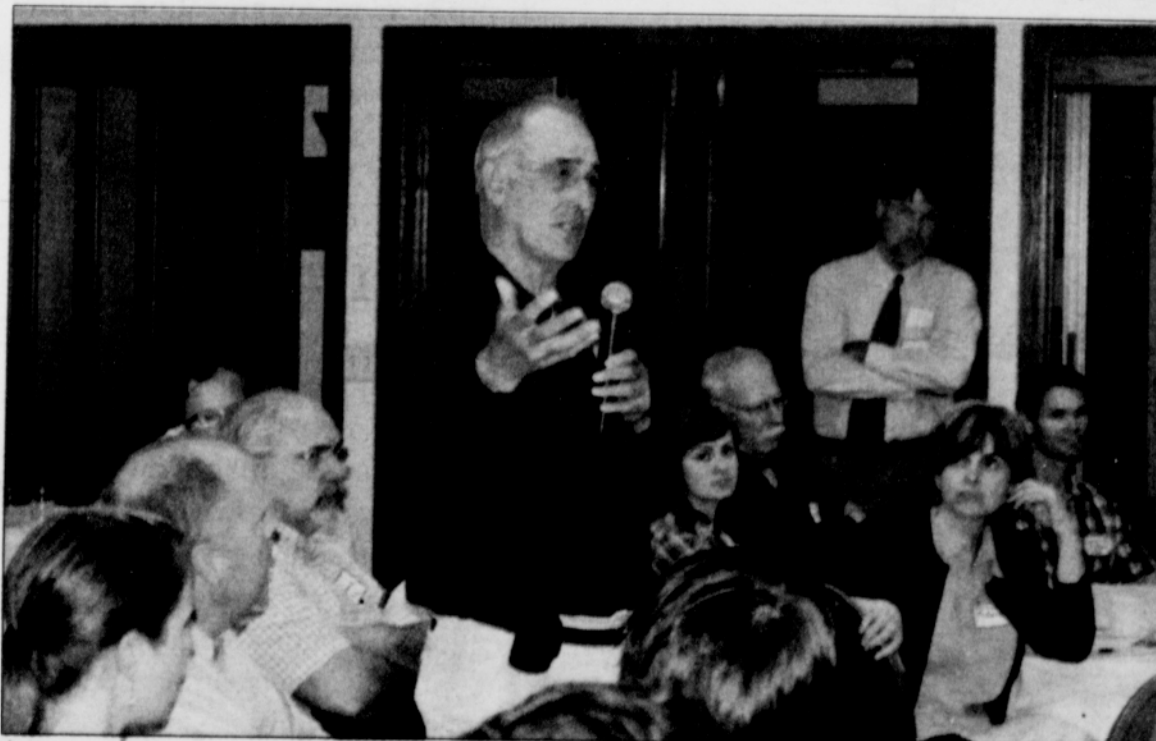
Allied for Ocean Stewardship

Tribal leaders committed to healthy oceans policy

BY CARI HACHMANN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
In cooperation with the National Ocean Council, tribal leaders from Oregon and nearby re-

gions were among the prominent voices in support of regional planning for the future of our oceans,

continued ▼ on page 20



Tom H. Younker, vice chairman of Coquille Indian Tribal Council gives a voice to reason, presenting the argument that if human intelligence can overcome greed and people work together, we can fix the ocean's problems and the livelihoods that depend on the worldwide resource.