

**Job Hiring Stagnation**

State officials say Oregon's unemployment rate was essentially unchanged last month at 9.4 percent, marking four months of stagnation in hiring. The figures suggest that Oregon's rate is tracking with the national economic slowdown.

**Harry Potter Epic Finish**

Harry Potter finished his Hogwarts

**Week in The Review**

school days this week with box-office highs around the world as "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2," hit the big screen over the weekend. Distributor Warner Bros. predicts the finale will easily top \$1 billion worldwide, joining only a handful of films that have reached that level.

**Policy to Protect Children**

The nation's largest pediatricians' group issued its first policy on protecting children from sexual abuse by doctors, urging medical facilities to screen employees for previous

abuse. The new policy came after a former Delaware pediatrician was convicted on 14 counts of rape and five counts each of second-degree assault and sexual exploitation of a child last month.

**Lottery for Gay Marriages**

Overwhelmed by marriage applications from gay and lesbian couples who can wed under a new state law starting Sunday, New York City is conducting a lottery to decide who will be allowed to marry that day.



Officials said that 764 couples were expected to be married Sunday, more than the city's previous single-day high of 621 on Valentine's Day in 2003.

**Injured Timbers Defender**

Defender Kevin Goldthwaite of the Portland Timbers will miss the rest of the season after he ruptured ligaments in his left knee during the team's victory, and first road win, over the Chicago Fire on Saturday.

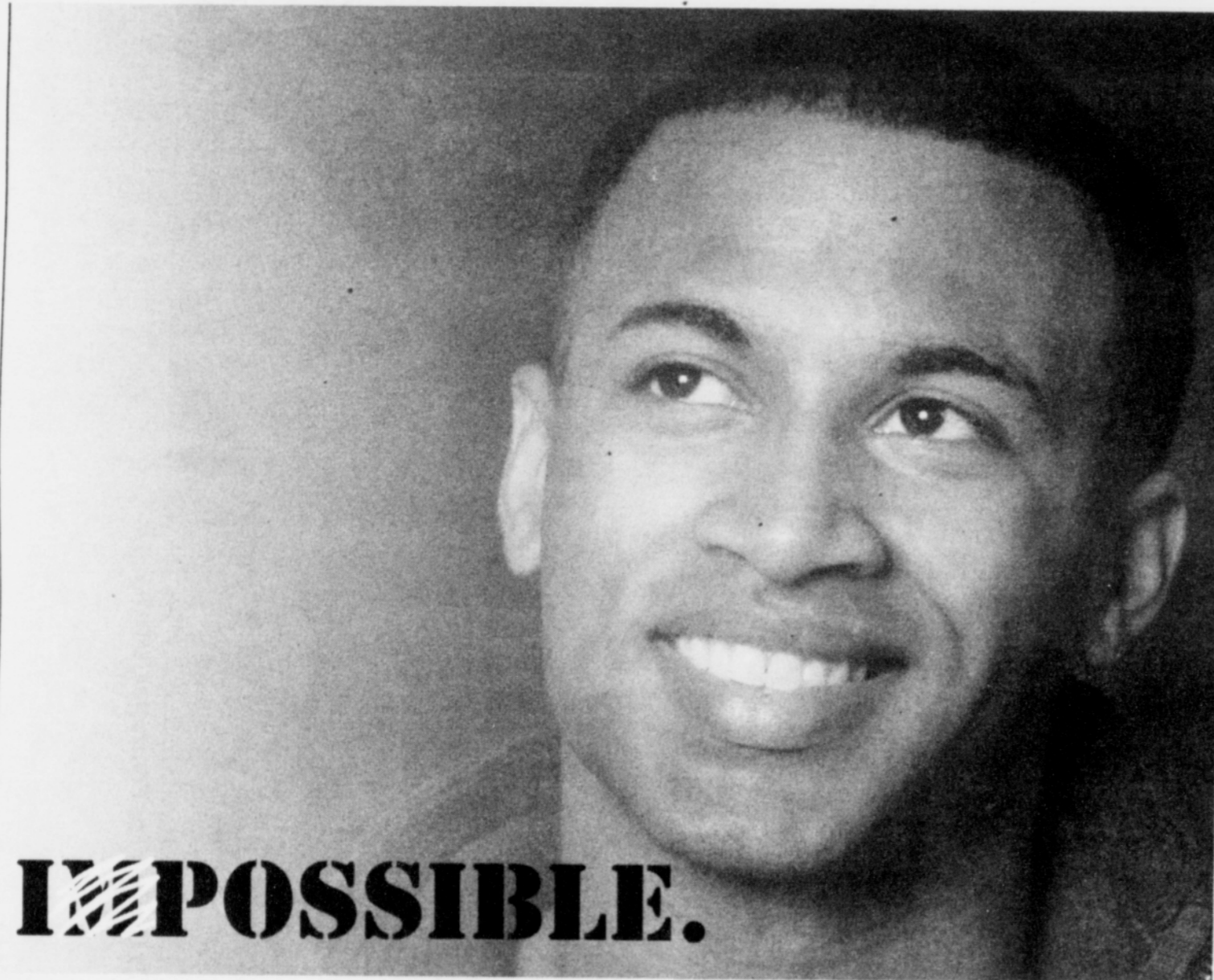
**Flu Vaccine Decided**

The FDA has approved the flu vac-

cine lineup for the upcoming fall and winter influenza season, which experts said are identical to the vaccines produced last year. The agency determines the three strains of flu they believe will be most likely to cause illness during the upcoming season based on virus samples and patterns collected worldwide.

**Special Olympics**

The 2011 Special Olympics Oregon Summer State Games were held over the weekend in Newberg, bringing in thousands of athletes, coaches, volunteers and fans. Police throughout the state joined in the ceremonies by participating in the game's torch run as Guardians of the Flame.



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## Property Tax Deferrals Limited

### Poor economy blamed for changes

The Oregon Department of Revenue has announced significant changes made by the 2011 Oregon Legislature to the Senior and Disabled Property Tax Deferral program.

Most of the changes, which will affect property tax payments starting in November, make qualifying for the program more difficult.

Created in the 1960s, the program allows qualifying seniors and people with disabilities to defer paying property taxes while they're living in their homes.

Currently about 10,500 Oregonians are enrolled in the program that pays their property taxes and charges interest, which they repay as they leave the program or sell their homes.

"The poor economy and struggling housing market resulted in more program participation, but less capacity to pay," said program manager Bram Ekstrand. "The Legislature had to make pretty deep

changes to the program to bring things into balance."

Amongst the many changes include: a limit to household income and personal net worth limits, home value limits, a five year minimum occupancy, proof of homeowner's insurance, and changes to how interest is calculated when the payment is due.

Participants must also re-certify for the program every two years. "These changes won't affect the property taxes the state has already paid," Ekstrand said. "But they will affect property taxes paid from November on."

On Thursday, the Department of Revenue sent letters to all current participants and new applicants that explained changes and included a certification application required to be returned by July 25.

For more information and an application, visit [oregon.gov/dor/SCD](http://oregon.gov/dor/SCD) or call 503-378-4988.

## Shots Fired Lead to Arrest

A 19-year-old male who police said was known to them as gang member was arrested Monday night at Unthank Park after authorities responded to a shots fired call at North Shaver Street and Kerby Avenue.

Authorities said Timothy Gaines appeared to be holding a handgun in his waistband when police arrived on the scene. While trying to make contact, Gaines took off running and threw the handgun which was recovered by officers.

According to Gang Enforcement Team investigators, Gaines was possibly the intended victim of the shooting, and the recovered hand-

gun was not used in the shooting.

Police said witnesses described how a large, black SUV drove by a group of gang members, which included Gaines, when someone in the vehicle fired multiple shots at the group.

Gaines was taken to jail on charges of being a felon in possession of a firearm and unlawful possession of a firearm.

No one was hurt during the shooting.

Anyone with information about this shooting is encouraged to call Detective Anthony Merrill at 503-823-2092 or email [Anthony.Merrill@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Anthony.Merrill@portlandoregon.gov).

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