

## NBA Season Looks Doubtful

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With All-Stars, role players, NBA champions and a new legal team crowding around them, union leaders announced the significant change in strategy, saying the collective bargaining process had "completely broken down."

"This is where it stops for us as a union," said Derek Fisher, president of the group.

"We're prepared to file this anti-trust action against the NBA," union executive director Billy Hunter said. "That's the best situation where players can get their due process."

And that's a tragedy as far as Commissioner David Stern is concerned.

"It looks like the 2011-12 season is really in jeopardy," Stern said in an interview aired on ESPN. "It's just a big charade. To do it now, the union is ratcheting up I guess to see if they can scare the NBA owners or

something. That's not happening."

Hunter said players were not prepared to agree to Stern's ultimatum to accept the current proposal or face a worse one, saying they thought it was "extremely unfair."

"We understand the consequences of potentially missing the season; we understand the consequences that players could potentially face if things don't go our way, but it's a risk worth taking," union vice president Maurice Evans said. "It's the right move to do."

Two years of bargaining couldn't produce a deal, with owners' desires for more competitive balance clashing with players' wishes to keep the salary cap system largely intact. The sides last met Thursday, when the league offered a revised proposal but told the players there would be no further negotiating on it.

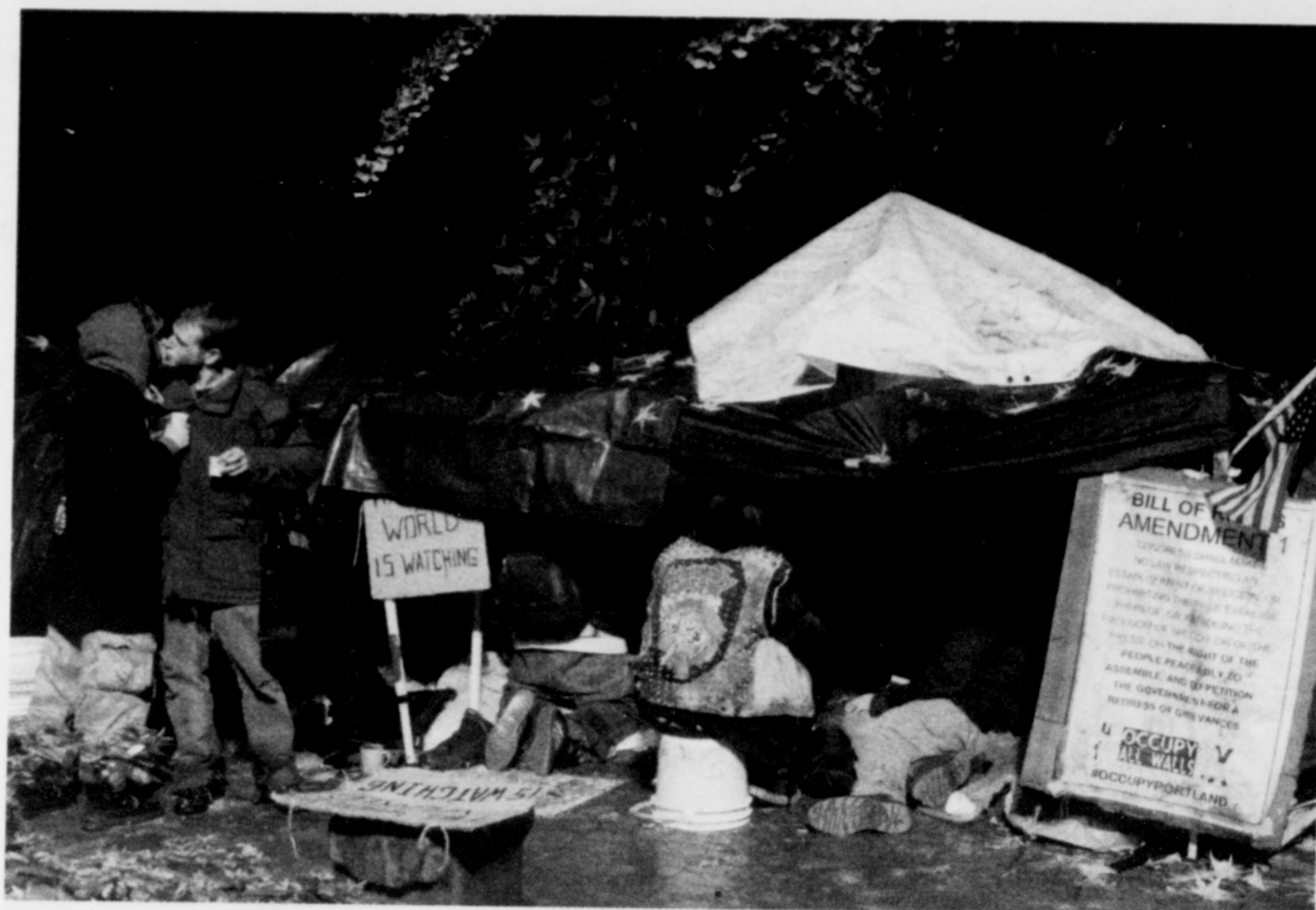


PHOTO BY MINDY COOPER/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Occupy Portland protesters chain themselves together inside a tent at Lownsdale Square where they have been living as a way to protest corporate greed and stand up for their First Amendment rights. Several people refused to leave the park by midnight on Sunday and were arrested.

Happy Birthday  
Shay Washington  
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## Occupy Protesters Regroup

continued ▲ from front

tion," he said. "And that didn't happen. We are very grateful for that."

Protestors agreed. Shortly before 5 a.m. on Sunday, an Occupy activist and leader climbed a tree and asked, "What is one more hour when we are seeking change indefinitely?"

Addressing the officers in full riot gear, she said, "Remember we are unarmed. We are the 99 percent. We are fighting for our families, our children and yours."

"We are peaceful," she said. "We hope you keep that in mind."

Hundreds of police officers, which cost the city thousands of dollars in overtime for their services throughout the weekend, displayed a powerful show of force with night-sticks and tear gas, which was never used.

Although there are several opin-

ions surrounding whether or not the parks are an appropriate place to occupy, there is a common consensus that the movement can't be evicted as long as there are demands for economic reforms.

Before Saturday's evacuation deadline, Jude Boatman, who has been down at Chapman Park since the beginning of the occupation, was ready to move on. She loaded a U-Haul with several objects, including tables, chairs, and tapestries. The furniture had been used for the information booth, and to make the park a more functional home.

"I have been camping here since the first day," she said. Boatman and her husband were homeless before the occupation began, and now, she said they would return to sleeping in her car.

Although she wondered what actions the police were going to

take, she said she felt optimistic.

"I don't really mind losing the physicality of the place because this is going to keep going," she said. "What we wanted to happen was to get people out in the open and connect with each other, and we totally have, and we will continue to do so."

Other individuals within the movement agreed. "It makes a political statement when you take what is yours back," said Jenny Pepper, who has been living in a tent downtown for the past month.

Although she said she hoped people would show up to lock arms so individuals didn't get evicted, she had been working all morning to pack up her belongings and move them to a safe and dry spot. "But we are going to be physically here," she said. "Public or private, there will be a new spot."

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