

Week in The Review

Prison Warden Leaving

Max Williams announced this week he is stepping down as director of Oregon's prison system at the end of the year. Williams will run the Oregon Community Foundation, which is a Portland-based charity that hands out millions of dollars to social causes. A successor will be chosen by Gov. John Kitzhaber.

Ducks Fly Up in Rankings

The Oregon Ducks traveled to the Bay area last weekend where they battled Stanford for the biggest win of the season in a 53-30 victory. The win moved the team up in the national rankings to No. 4, where they will sit for their next game at Autzen Stadium against No. 18 USC this weekend.

Obama Health Grants

Oregon health providers are hopeful after the Obama Administration announced Monday it will award grants in March to programs which rapidly hire and train health care workers. Funded from the health care reform package Congress passed in 2010, between \$1 million and \$30 million will be made available over the next three years to

individual health organizations.

Occupy Wall Street

More than 70 people were arrested and dozens of Occupy Wall Street protesters evicted after hundreds of police officers in riot gear raided Zuccotti Park in New York City on Tuesday. The park has become known as the epicenter of the worldwide movement protesting corporate greed.

Cain's Support Down

After a hard month for Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain, who has been accused of sexual harassment by four women, data suggests the allegations have had real resonance with the public. An ABC News/Washington Post poll showed Cain's "unfavorability" rating increased to 44 percent, up 17 points since the accusations erupted.

Weak Forecast in Oregon

Oregon lawmakers expect bad news on Thursday, when the next quarterly economic forecast is released. State Senate budget co-chairman, Sen. Richard Devlin of Tualatin, said he expects the forecast will be down after smaller tax collections, which could result in even greater spending cuts when the next session begins in February.

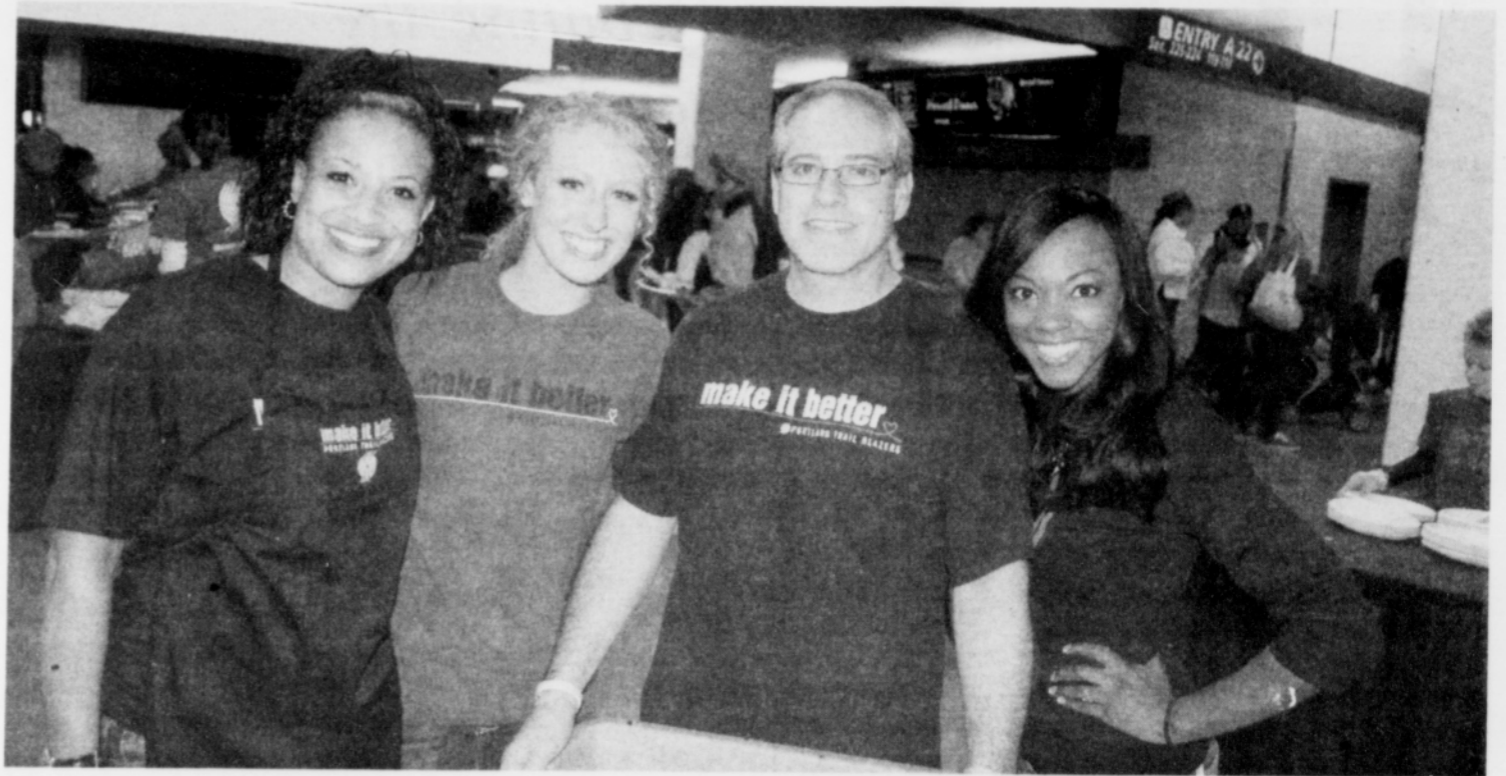


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Blazers Performance Team Manager Michelle Burch (from left) with Blazers dancers and the team's Computer Support Manager Brain Conkle help out at the 16th annual Harvest Dinner where more than 5,000 homeless and underserved members of the community enjoyed a hot meal provided by the basketball team, local organizations and agencies.

Harvest Dinner Serves 5,000

The Portland Trail Blazers teamed up with several community organizations at the Rose Garden on Thursday for the 16th annual Harvest Dinner where more than 5,000 homeless and underserved individuals shared in a warm meal.

The free public event offered a holiday-style meal and services, including flu shots, podiatry, haircuts, pet care, family photography, a children's play area and live musical performances made possible through the collaboration of the Blazers, Providence Health & Services, Central City Concern and several community and corporate partners and local agencies.

"Our goal each year with Harvest Dinner is to provide as many services in one place as possible for our guests, while helping call attention to the tremendous need," said Traci Rose, Trail Blazers vice president of communications and community relations.

The team also hosted an inaugural East County Harvest Dinner at the Police Activities League Youth Center, where Trail Blazers Assistant Coach Kaleb Canales and Strength & Conditioning Coach Bob Medina conducted a basketball clinic for 100 youth before they shared warm meals with the kids and their families.

"What an amazing opportunity the Trail Blazers provided for so many youth and families in East County," said Britt Fredrickson, PAL Youth Center Program Director. "The kids had so much fun playing basketball, and I know the parents really appreciated the opportunity for a hot, sit-down dinner together."

Leisure Hour Junior Golf Program Presents

2011 New Year's Eve Party-Fundraiser

*Featuring
Julianne R. Johnson and Ambroxia
With DJ Michael Morris*

**\$45 per person
\$60 at the door**

*Reserved Tables Around the Dance Floor
Available at \$600 each*

SEMI-FORMAL EVENT - NO JEANS PLEASE

Includes:
Door Prizes, No Host Bar, Noise Makers, Thank You Gift,
Hors D'oeuvres, Photographer, Balloon Drop, Champagne Toast

December 31

8pm - 2am

E Embassy Suites
7900 NE 82nd Ave
Portland, OR 97220
(503) 460-3000

**Too tired to drive?
Take the elevator home!**

Stay Two Nights (Friday and Saturday)
Only \$77.63 Each Night.
Stay One Night (Saturday)
Only \$88.88.

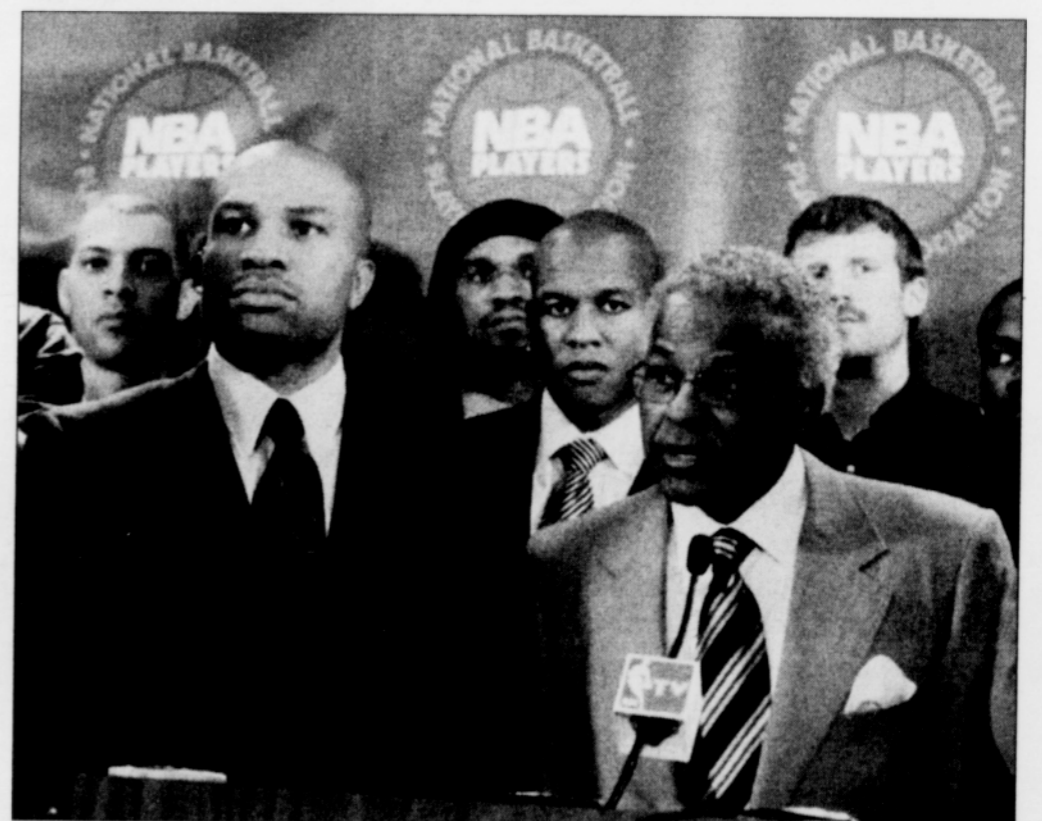
Includes tax. Spacious two-room Suite with refrigerator and microwave. Managers Reception 5:30pm-7:30pm.
Breakfast. Late checkout Sunday 2:00pm.

For Hotel Reservations: (503) 460-3000 or 1-800-363-2779
Ask for Leisure Hour Golf Rate
One Night code: ONO Two Nights code: NYE
www.portlandairport.embassysuites.com

Contact & ticket information:

Johnnie Mayfield - (503) 282-5809
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*Seating: First Come,
First Serve*



National Basketball Players Association President Derek Fisher (left) and Executive Director Billy Hunter, speak to the media after the players rejected the league's latest offer. (AP photo)

NBA Season Looks Doubtful Players reject offer; will go to court

(AP) — Two years at the bargaining table led nowhere, so NBA players are ready to take their chances in a courtroom.

The players' association rejected the league's latest proposal for a

new labor deal Monday and began disbanding, paving the way for a lawsuit that throws the season into jeopardy.

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