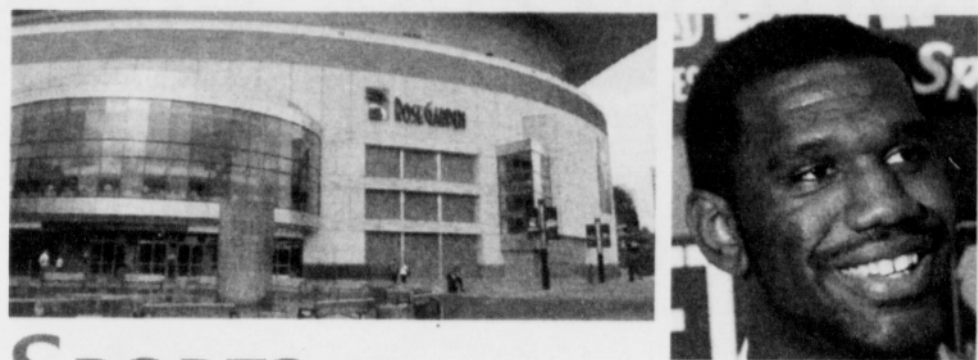


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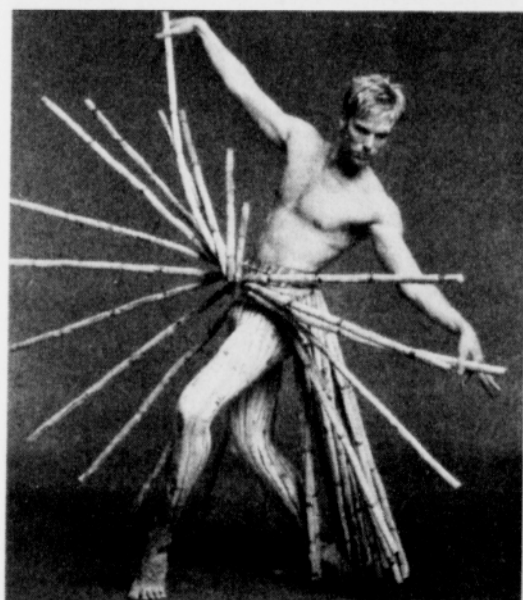
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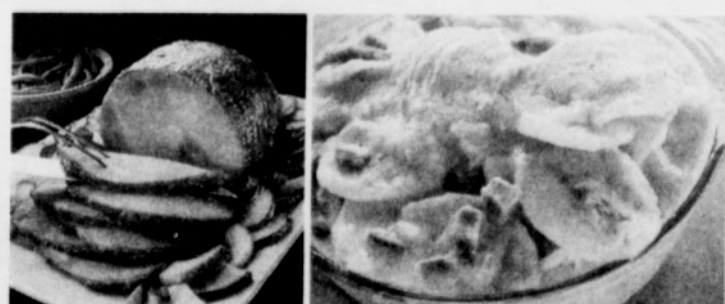
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What's on your list today?.

LOCAL NEWS

UO President Fired

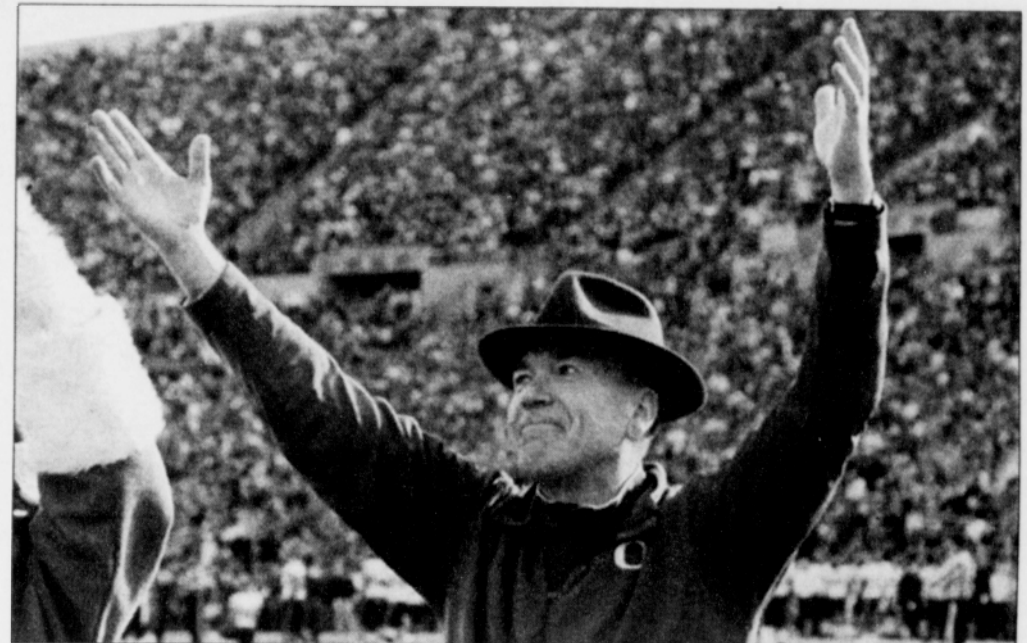
His work for diversity had supporters

The President of the University of Oregon won praise from members of Portland's African-American community for his work to increase diversity at Oregon's largest public university, but that wasn't enough to keep his job.

The state Board of Higher Education voted to relieve Richard Lariviere of his position on Dec. 28, saying he fought to advance UO at the expense of the state's other universities.

Last spring, Lariviere won accolades from local African American leaders for a new program guaranteeing free tuition to the UO for low and middle school graduates at Jefferson High School. He also worked to bring diversity to the UO by relying less on test scores and more on a student's life experience.

"Oregon is silencing one of the exceptional voices in this state that has worked hard for inclusion," Portland African-American business leader Faye Burch said Monday. "Education can be one of those things that divides us or brings us together, and we are all better off because President Lariviere has



University of Oregon President Richard Lariviere acknowledges the student section at Autzen Stadium before their NCAA football game against Oregon State in Eugene on Saturday. (AP photo)

chosen the latter."

The board's unanimous vote came after passionate pleas from faculty, students and other supporters who begged board members to delay a decision.

Lariviere listened quietly and did not show emotion as board members read statements explaining their decision.

"I have never understood the argument that a strong University of Oregon was bad for the university system," he said.

Lariviere had hoped to stay on until his contract expires at the end of June, but Oregon University System Chancellor George Pernsteiner recommended that he be terminated

sooner, and the board agreed.

More than a dozen Lariviere supporters told board members that the president has improved the university tremendously in his 2 1/2-year tenure, and his ouster would halt progress, resigning the university to mediocrity.

Lariviere has said he's being targeted because of a difference of opinion over the future of what he views as Oregon's flagship university. He's butted heads with the board and the governor this year over his fight to give the school more independence.

Several of Lariviere's supporters

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Community Forum to Address Gangs

BY MINDY COOPER
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Youth gang violence will be the subject of a public forum at Jefferson high school on Thursday, Dec. 1.

The goal is to give citizens, parents and students an opportunity to share their experiences, speak their minds and discuss possible solutions to gang-related violence that has taken the lives of nine young people in the last year.

"Ultimately it is going to be the ideas bundling up from the community that will help solve this problem in the long run," said Henry Stern, a spokesperson for Multnomah County. "The forum is trying to find a

bunch of ways to connect people throughout the community under one roof."

The event has been organized to foster networking opportunities where people can learn how to support a safe future for youth and get connected with community groups that organize anti-gang outreach efforts, like prayer and support groups, foot patrols, removing graffiti, and mentoring and coaching young people.

"Fear is something that needs to be addressed from the standpoint of what we can do positively to find ways to productively put people into situations where they can feel like they are powered to do something," said Stern. "Hopefully the forum will

help residents say, 'Rather than being scared, maybe I can work with people or become a coach of young men and women.'"

All are welcome to attend the forum, which is organized by Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, the city of Portland and several community partners.

"Gangs are our entire community's problem," said Carl Goodman, assistant director of the Multnomah County Department of Community Justice. "And solving the complex problem of gangs will require all of us to work together on finding solutions."

The event will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the JHS auditorium.