

## The Week in Review

### Fireworks Ban Rejected

In a late night decision Monday, the Vancouver City Council abandoned plans to keep residents from setting off aerial fireworks. By a 6-1 vote, council members came out against the ban, which would have aligned with laws in Oregon. More than 30 people lined up to give testimony Monday night.

### 'It Gets Better'

The Portland Police Bureau on Friday debuted their new film 'It Gets Better' at the Q Center located on Mississippi Avenue, when officers led by example in the 10 minute video to show support and inspire LBGTQ youth with their own experiences.

### Pitcher Not GUILTY

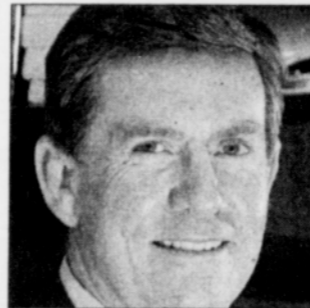


A jury acquitted Major League Baseball pitching great Roger Clemens on Monday of all six criminal counts against him in a trial on charges that he lied to Congress when he denied using performance-enhancing drugs. Clemens' lawyer said "justice won

out" in the closely watched trial.

### New UO President

Michael Gottfredson, the executive vice-chancellor and provost at the University of California, Irvine, was named the new president of the University of Oregon on Friday. The state Board of Higher Education



unanimously voted to give him the job. Gottfredson succeeds interim President Robert Berdahl, who was appointed after the termination of Richard Lariviere.

### Teen Flash Rob

A mob of about 30 to 40 teens targeted a Troutdale Albertson's Saturday night, when they stole goods and trashed the grocery store, located at 25691 S.E. Stark St. Investigators said the teens were about 13 to 16-years-old.

### Black Commissioners Fired

Gov. John Kitzhaber dismissed two long-time members of the Oregon Commission on Black Affairs late Thursday. In a two-sentence letter, Kitzhaber told Clifford Walker and Willie Woolfolk they were terminated effective immediately. The two volunteer commissions said they were given no reason for the dismissals.



## Embracing Community

Edwina Wasson (from left), Isaac Wasson, Barbara O'Hare and Francesca Blom-Cooper present a handmade quilt honoring the Jefferson High School Class of 2012 on the last day of the north Portland school's 11th annual community-wide Multicultural Film Festival.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## Safety Issues on Williams

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The left hand travel lane will be shared by both bikers and cars alike from Fargo to Skidmore.

"So this includes a left side buffered bike lane and changes in the number of automobile lanes," said Anderson. "Sometimes it is two lanes, and sometimes it is one lane."

Many residents remained concerned over the safety of the current design.

According to resident Tam Alem, co-owner of Williams Street Market, which rests on the corner of Fremont, the new

design is okay, as long as the bikers will be safe, although he thinks the street is fine the way it is.

Alem said, however, he believes the city should wait until all development in the area is completely occupied. "The street is changing really quickly," he said.

New Seasons Market announced plans in January to open a new location in the Eliot Neighborhood on a vacant lot located at North Cook and Fremont. The locally-owned grocer said the store will have 30,000 square feet of space and sit adjacent to North Williams by 2013.

Resident and bicyclist Anne Lauerman who lives nearby

said she is concerned about the way the city plans to switch around the lanes.

"I know there are a lot of residents who use this street, but my thought is more bikes lanes, or a widened bike lane taking away from a lane of traffic, is going to create more car traffic issues," she said.

Lauerman, who was riding her bike during a recent evening of rush hour traffic, said she is worried about the bikers getting hurt because the plan pushes bikers to turn into traffic. She also was concerned about future developments adding to the street's congestion.

Others, however, said the design change to the neighborhood is positive.

Elliot Neighborhood resident Shepard Griffin dropped his bike off at the Abraham Fixes, a local bike maintenance shop located around the corner on Fremont. "It is important there are enough lanes," he said. "There are a lot of bicycles in the city, so it makes sense for this to happen."

Long time resident Lee Bradley agreed. "I think it is a beautiful thing they are going to reconstruct this neighborhood," he said. "I believe it is going to make the neighborhood better."

Michael Brendle, who lives a block west of Williams, said as a neighbor, even with the new design he remains concerned about safety. "They are trying to bring a freeway and off ramp, four lanes of traffic going two ways, hundreds of bicyclists and five to ten businesses in the same block," he said. "I am not saying I don't want it, but I would hate to be the person trying to figure out how to do it."

Still, Anderson said, the current bike lanes are stressful and feel unsafe for both bus drivers and cyclists.

Although no final decisions have yet to be made, Anderson said they hope to get some work done before the end of the year.

The committee recommendations are expected to be fine-tuned come the summer months.

Take the  
**TEST**  
Take  
**CONTROL**

**Every Tuesday**  
5:30 - 7:15 pm

**Just walk in**  
Northeast Health Center  
5329 NE MLK Jr. Blvd.  
2nd Floor

Bring or mention this ad to get a  
**FREE & ANONYMOUS** or  
**CONFIDENTIAL** test for HIV!

