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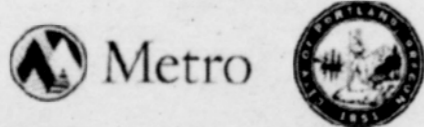
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Port of Portland

Black History and Hip Hop Culture

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Scholar Khalid el-Hakim brought his Black History 101 Mobile Museum to Jefferson High School Thursday to help shine a light on how black history plays into the lyrics and images of hip-hop culture.

The museum features artifacts from the past, ranging from actual chains once used to enslave people, hoods worn by Ku Klux Klan members, to more uplifting images from black-owned publications like Jet and Ebony magazines.

One student was heard saying he got "chills" while taking in some of the racist images.

El-Hakim says that sentiment is a familiar reaction for students who haven't been exposed to some of the more raw artifacts from the past.

"There were some uncomfortable parts of American history they were confronted with," he says.

While a black history museum alone won't end white supremacy and racism in the United States of America, el-Hakim says it's important in terms of raising and maintain-



PHOTO BY DONOVAN M. SMITH/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Jefferson High students take in scholar Khalid el-Hakim's Black History 101 Mobile Museum. El-Hakim brought the museum to Portland Thursday as part of his nationwide effort to educate students, educators, and parents alike about the depth of African-American history and how it plays into the lyrics and images in hip-hop music.

ing awareness for a more just society.

"I think it's very important for African-American students especially to realize that they have to be responsible for changing the condi-

tion they are in," he says. "I want them to be empowered to make those changes and understand we can't wait around for someone else to make those changes we have to make those changes ourselves."

The Week in Review

Bakery Violates Rights

Under the Oregon Equality Act of 2007, a Gresham bakery did violate the law last year when they refused service to a same-sex couple, the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries ruled Friday after an investigation. Sweet Cakes by Melissa cannot discriminate based on sexual orientation, just as they cannot legally deny service based on race, sex, age, disability or religion, officials said.

Novick on Crossing Guard

City Commissioner Steve Novick opened the school day at Prescott Elementary Monday serving as a crossing guard, helping students and parents traverse new city sidewalks connecting two schools and a park. The new pavement improves safety and public access along 11 blocks from Northeast Prescott from 105th to 116th Avenues.



Listeria Infected Cheese

Oregon health and agriculture officials issued a warning Monday after a particular cheese from Mexico was found to be tainted with Listeria. The cheese was

imported illegally and is believed to be responsible for sickening an infant in December, officials said.

Obama Speaks on Marijuana

In an interview with the New Yorker, President Obama spoke on his past drug use, saying marijuana is no more dangerous than alcohol and called marijuana legalization in Colorado and Washington "important."



\$1 Billion Tournament Prize

Quicken Loans in partnership with Berkshire Hathaway announced Tuesday that it is offering a \$1 billion prize to any qualified entrant who correctly predicts the winner of every game in the 2014 NCAA Basketball Tournament. Submissions are limited to one per household.

Remembering the Professor

The actor who played the professor on Gilligan's Island, Russell Johnson died Thursday at 89. His agent, says he died at his home in Washington state of natural causes.



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