

Kidz On Da Track

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over to USABMX.com, to find a local track near you, and the first race is pro bono.

In an effort to get more "inner-city" kids and people of color involved in the sport, Ridge is looking to start an after school offshoot of the team called "Kidz on Da Track" The program will be offered this fall at schools in north, northeast and southeast Portland.

His nephew, who is still with the team, says as time has passed, his passion for the sport has grown, and he's literally picked up speed

along the way.

"It was just kinda a fun thing to do. But as you progressively do it, it starts getting more serious and serious, then you start going faster and faster, and it gets funner and funner!" the now 16-year-old rider says.

"You don't always have to go pro," he says, "You can just do it for fun on the weekends, that's the best part. You can still get a job, be productive, and do this on the weekends."

Big brother and co-coach Kevin Ridge says the opportunity in the sport broadens the horizons and social circles of both parents and

kids.

"Some kids gotta play basketball or football. This is an alternative. You can do other sports, too, cause it keeps your stamina up," he says. "I think this is a good sport for a lot of inner city kids to get out and see that there's other things to do besides what the schools offer."

Ultimately the brothers say, they are sticking to their original blueprint of creating a winning spirit with a familial attitude for their BMX team.

For information about joining up, call Harold at 503-449-5208. For families interested in getting involved or a business looking to sponsor the program, email kidzondatrack@yahoo.com.

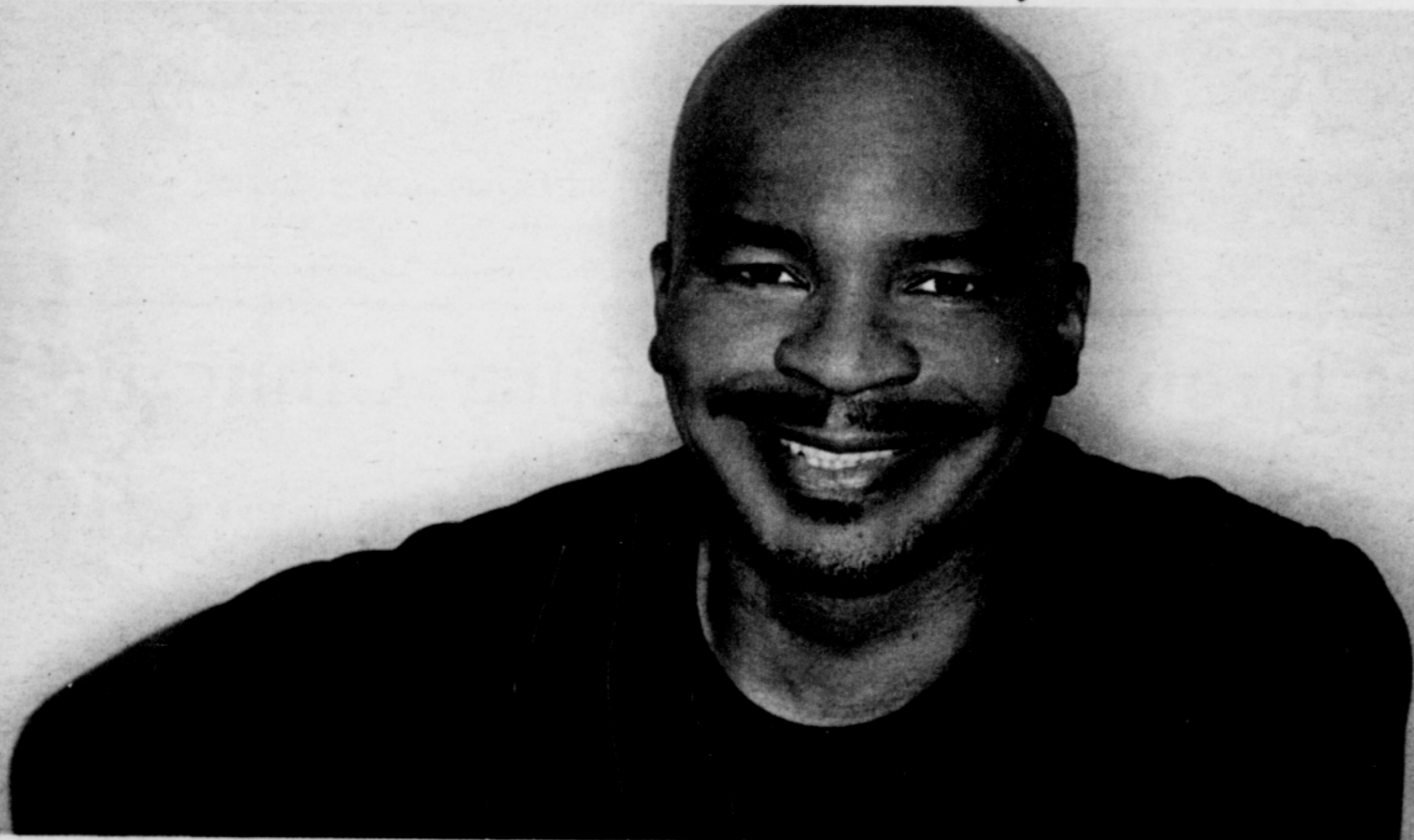


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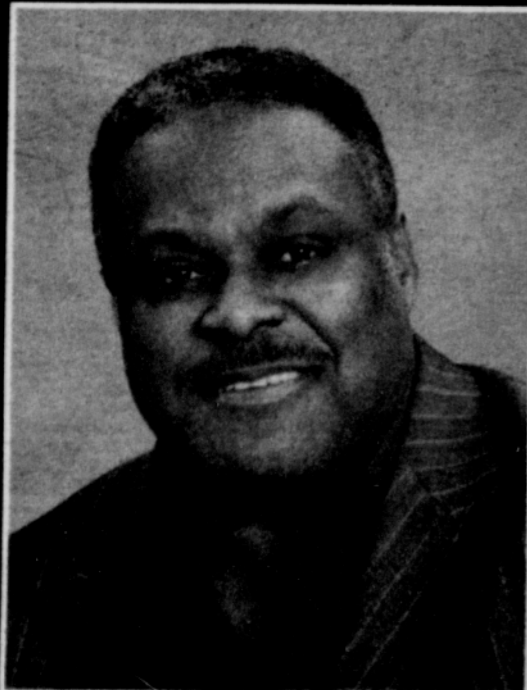
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