

## SPORTS

## Sharing Memories with Freeman Williams

Basketball great back on campus to preview film about his life

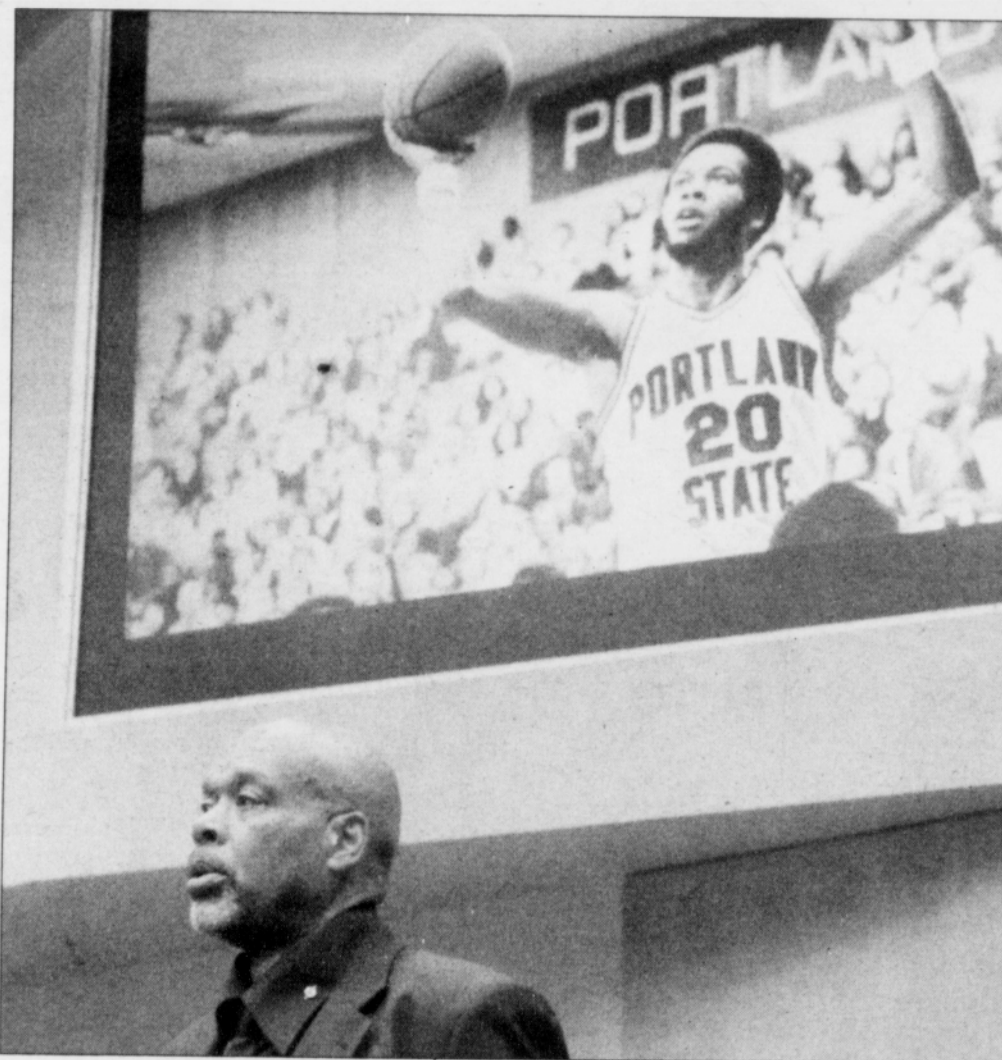
A recent screening of "Inner City of Champions" took place on the Portland State University campus and allowed Viking fans, boosters, teammates, athletes and staff to express their affection for legendary PSU basketball star Freeman Williams.

The movie tells the story of Williams and his teammate Dwayne Polee at Manual Arts High School in south central Los Angeles where they were able to put aside inner-city adversities and overcome the obstacles of drugs, abuse, family poverty and violence. More importantly, years later after careers in the NBA, they return to become coach and role models at the very same high school where their hoop dreams began.

Williams and movie creator and producer Frederick Hawthorne attended the July 15 screening that was viewed by some 200 people at Hoffmann Hall.

After many handshakes and photos, the film was screened, then Williams and Hawthorne took part in a question-and-answer session that remembered Freeman's 81-point game (official Howard Mayo who worked that game was also in attendance and spoke) among other career highlights at Portland State and throughout his career.

Freeman Williams played basketball at Portland State from 1974-78. He scored 3,249 points in his career - second only to Pete Maravich in NCAA history. Williams was a first team All-American



in 1978. He went on to play six seasons in the NBA for the San Diego Clippers, Atlanta Hawks, Utah Jazz and Washington Bullets.

Inner City of Champions won the Los Angeles Underground Film Festival Award last year.

Legendary Portland State University basketball star Freeman Williams returns to the PSU campus for a preview of "Inner City Champions," a documentary film about his life in south central Los Angeles.

PHOTO BY ANTHONY VU

## The Struggle of Black Athletes in Oregon

History brought to light in new book

BY OLIVIA OLIVIA  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portlander Herman L. Brame is taking on sports history in his new book, *The Long Ebony Line: The First 100 Years of African American Athletes in Oregon, Circa 1860 - 1960*.

Brame got immersed in the subject early this year when he started offering live presentations about the early history of African American football players in Oregon for the Oregon Historical Society. He took his lectures to the University of Oregon and Oregon State University, where he discovered that the subject would be useful as a full book that might be available to everyone.

Brame hopes that his book and lectures will provide the foundation for a documen-

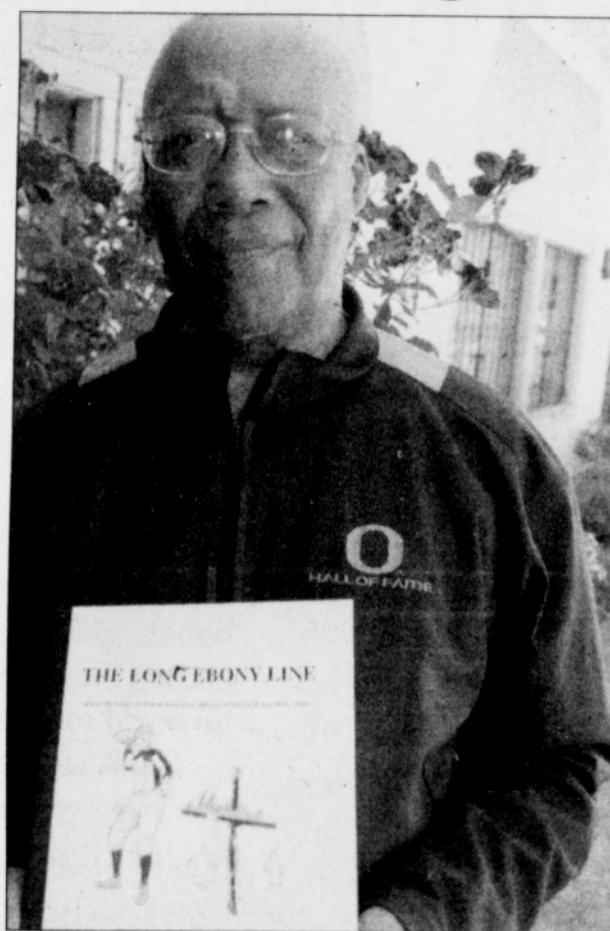
tary on the same subject, and said that his target audience are young people and specifically teenage youth. He said the graphics-based book could also provide easy-reading material for adults in search of the same information.

Brame also plans to follow up *The Long Ebony Line* with a second book that focuses specifically on the 60s and 70s.

"The 1960s in particular provided a historically significant confluence of the Civil Rights Movement and athletics," he said, and for this reason he feels like a second book exclusively focusing on the time period could be especially informative.

Brame himself was a track and field runner and the University of Oregon during the 60s, and graduated from Jefferson High School in Portland.

*The Long Ebony Line* takes us through the great Black athletes of Oregon, and shows us everything from the lynching of young



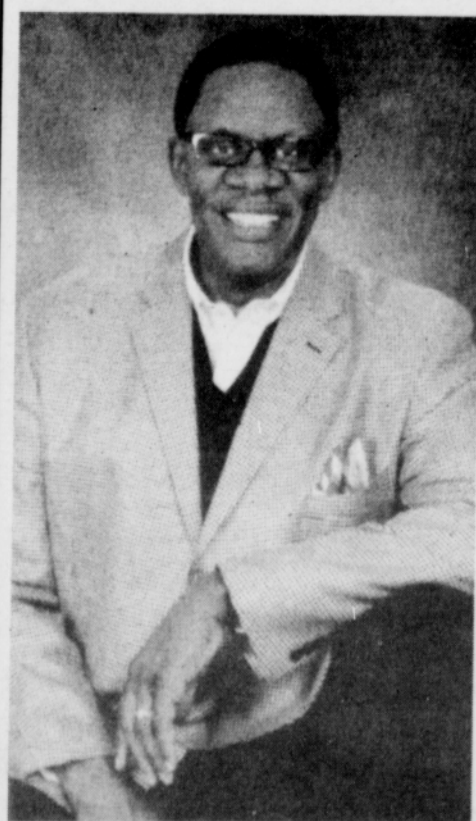
boxer Alonzo Tucker in 1902 to the appointment of Vera Johnson to the Roosevelt High School team in Portland, as she became Oregon's first Black female varsity high school athlete in 1959.

"Racism in athletics is often countered by the objective measurement of ability found most often in athletic competition," said Brame of these moments in Black athletic history. "Sometimes you benefit from things that were hard won and you don't even realize it," he said. "Like a baseball game, staying at a hotel, or joining a team. I wanted people to know. My hope is that young people reading this will be a new vessel for this history and that they'll carry it forward."

For updates on Brame's lectures and news on his book, follow him at Oregonstars.com.

Herman L. Brame of Portland and his new book *The Long Ebony Line: The First 100 Years of African American Athletes in Oregon, Circa 1860 - 1960*.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON/  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Dr. Billy R. Flowers

## THE SPINA COLUMN™

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that often keeps both babies and parents up all night.

**Q:** I have a friend who takes her children to a Chiropractor even when they aren't sick. Why would she do this?

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than an average adult. This is one of the most common reasons people bring their children to a Chiropractor. But the best reason of all is so that with regular Chiropractic care, children can develop a nearly perfect spine. Not only to help them do

better in school, but to gain increased strength, health and vitality throughout their adult lives. To find out all the ways Chiropractic can help your children experience a lifetime of good health, please call us at the number below.

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