

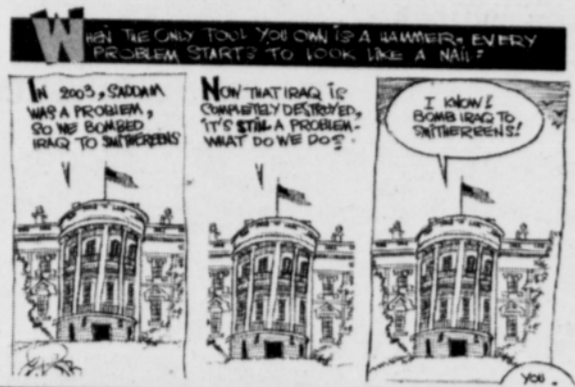
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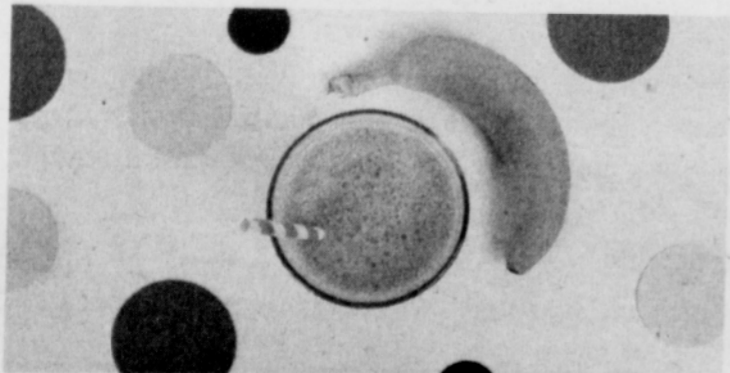
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What's on your list today?.

LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sickle Cell Awareness Walk

A large group of young people, including students at Self Enhancement, Inc., join Pastor Marcia Taylor for Saturday's Sickle Cell Awareness march in northeast Portland. The event included music, food and special t-shirts for participants thanks to the generous contributions of supporters.

Taser Takes Down Teenager

Police reviews of St. Johns disturbance ordered

The use of a Taser gun by Portland police to subdue a black teenager and the actions of police to make the arrest will be investigated by Portland's Independent Police Review Division as well as an internal police review, officials said Monday.

The 16-year old male, a sophomore at Roosevelt High School, fought with a group of police officers who were investigating reports

of vandalism and attempted to place him into handcuffs just after midnight Sunday in the vicinity of North Philadelphia Avenue and Ivanhoe Street in the St. Johns neighborhood.

Officers said they grabbed the teenager by the arm when he attempted to walk away and deployed the Taser to overcome the teenager's aggressions, including his choking of a female officer in-

involved in the struggle.

The violent encounter sparked an outcry at the scene. It was captured on two videos that have been posted to Facebook from eyewitnesses. One of the videos was from the juvenile's brother, 20-year-old Giovanni Dmitri Gurule, who could be heard on the recording yelling at the officers in

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Forum on Racial Disparities Law

Mechanics of legislation goes before public

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A forum was held in Salem Tuesday aimed at educating lawmakers and members of the public about a new law that can delay and possibly prevent future legislation that causes racial disparities in our criminal justice and child welfare systems.

The Oregon Legislature passed

racial impact legislation in the 2013 session as a relatively new tool to estimate the impacts of proposed child welfare and criminal sentencing legislation on people of color. It works in the say way that fiscal impact statements describe budgetary effects, or environmental impact statements assess ecological impacts.

The bill sponsored by Sen. Chip Shields, a Democrat representing north and northeast Portland and



Sen. Chip Shields

Sen. Jackie Winters, a Republican and African-American lawmaker representing Salem, won broad bipartisan support.

"What's most important is for the community to know that this tool is here," Shields said. "We were only one of two states

that had the guts to pass this."

Shields said lawmakers on both sides of the isle agree that there are

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