



SEASIDE KIDS OFFERS FREE PLAY
SPORTS • 7A



FRIDAY EXTRA • 1C

Insider: Culture, blunders doomed Cover Oregon



Tom Walsh

Debacle wasted \$300 million

By NICK BUDNICK
Capital Bureau

Take a week off, wade through thousands of pages of court filings in Oregon's long-running

court battle with software giant Oracle, and you still won't have the real story of how Cover Oregon failed and wasted more than \$300 million, according to Tom Walsh, a longtime technology specialist and veteran of the project.

Hundreds of thousands if not millions of words have been writ-

ten about Cover Oregon in the two years since the state project to enroll Oregonians in the federal Affordable Care Act imploded. However, an insider's account has never been published until now. Other top consultants and former managers have routinely declined to comment, often citing the pending litigation.

But Walsh is ready to speak out because of continued public confusion around Cover Oregon.

"I think people should understand why it failed," Walsh says matter of factly, given how many people worked so hard on the ambitious project, and how much was spent.

He'd also like to prevent

another debacle when the state launches its next big-ticket, taxpayer-funded IT projects.

"I don't think Oregon knows that it (has) a problem," Walsh says.

Hint: it has to do with management.

See INSIDER, Page 8A

ASTORIA REGATTA

REGATTA ROYALTY



Knappa's princess wins the crown as festival opens

By ELI STILLMAN
The Daily Astorian

As the Astoria Regatta crown was placed on Aubrey McMahan's head Thursday evening, her first act as queen was to declare the 122nd Regatta Festival open.

McMahan was one of four princesses in the Regatta court leading up to the coronation ceremony at the Liberty Theater. Alongside her were Kristen Travers and Victoria Holcom, of Astoria, and Brenna Borup of Warrenton. They were scored by on personal presentation and public speaking by a panel of judges to decide who would wear the queen's crown for 2016. "It

See CROWN, Page 10A



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

TOP: Aubrey McMahan from Knappa High School reacts as her name is called as queen during the 2016 Regatta Queen's Coronation on Thursday at the Liberty Theater. ABOVE: McMahan is crowned the 2016 Regatta Queen.

US won't reclassify pot, OKs research

Move rebuffs growing support across country

By ALICIA A. CALDWELL
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration has decided marijuana will remain on the list of most dangerous drugs, fully rebuffing growing support across the country for broad legalization, but said it will allow more research into its medical uses.

The decision to expand research into marijuana's medical potential could pave the way for the drug to be moved to a lesser category. Heroin, peyote and marijuana, among others, are considered Schedule I drugs because they have no medical application; cocaine and opiates, for example, have medical uses and, while still illegal for recreational use, are designated Schedule II drugs.

The Drug Enforcement Administration said the agency's decision came after a lengthy review and consultation with the Health and Human Services Department, which said marijuana "has a high potential for abuse" and "no accepted medical use." The decision means that pot will remain illegal for any purpose under federal law, despite laws in 25 states and District of Columbia that have legalized pot for either medicinal or recreational use.

Advocates for change

Advocates have long pushed for the federal government to follow suit.

"If the scientific understanding about marijuana changes — and it could change — then the decision could change," DEA acting administrator Chuck Rosenberg wrote in a letter to the governors of Rhode Island and Washington, who sought the review of marijuana's classification in 2011. "But we will remain tethered to science, as we must, and as the statute demands. It certainly would be odd to rely on science when it suits us and ignore it otherwise."

Rosenberg said designating marijuana a Schedule I drug does not necessarily mean it is as dangerous as other drugs.

See POT, Page 10A

Will Donald Trump energize the Latino vote?

This story is part of *Divided America*, AP's ongoing exploration of the economic, social and political divisions in American society.

By SERGIO BUSTOS and NICHOLAS RICCARDI
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — It's a paradox in American politics: Many Hispanic families have an immense personal stake in what happens on Election Day, but despite numbers that should mean political power, Hispanics often can't vote, aren't registered to vote, or sit it out.

Enter Donald Trump,



and the question that could make or break the election in key states. By inflaming the anti-immigrant sentiments of white, working-class men, has the Republican nominee jolted awake another group — 27.3 million eligible Hispanic voters?

"A lot of times you hear this rap about how politics doesn't affect their life," says Yvanna Cancela, political director of Las Vegas' largely immigrant Culinary Union. "But that changes when it's personal, and there's nothing more per-

sonal than Donald Trump talking about deporting 11 million immigrants."

Largest ethnic group

Hispanics now represent the nation's largest ethnic community with some 55 million people. More than one-third of them are U.S.-born, and the others immigrants who are citizens, legal residents or here illegally. Most trace their familial roots to Mexico, one of Trump's favorite targets.

A cornerstone of Trump's platform is building a wall along the Southwest border — and forcing Mexico to pay

See TRUMP, Page 10A



AP Photo/John Locher

Fabiola Vejar, right, registers Stephanie Cardenas to vote in front of a Latino supermarket in Las Vegas. Shielded from deportation under an Obama administration program that protects those brought to the country illegally as children, Vejar, 18, cannot vote.

