

The Portland Observer

New Co-op Grocery Opens on Alberta

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Man Kills Wife, Son at Children's Baseball Game

ST. LOUIS — A man opened fire during his son's baseball game, killing his estranged wife and the 10-year-old boy as players and parents fled for cover. The man later killed himself, authorities said.

Security Threat Worries Athletes

JERUSALEM — Under tight security after a bomb explosion, thousands of Jewish athletes from around the world gathered in Jerusalem for the start of the Maccabiah Games, known as the Jewish Olympics. More than 20,000 people attended the festive contests in Teddy Stadium.

Bush Hopes Americans Spend Refunds

WASHINGTON — The Treasury will begin mailing 91 million tax rebates. President Bush is urging taxpayers to spend their checks to boost the economy. But like many Americans, the architects of the tax plan aren't all following that advice.

Oregon Farmers Defy Federal Order

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. — Farmers rigged an irrigation line into a canal in defiance of a federal order that has blocked water for crops to save endangered fish. No farmers had been arrested because no fish were being sucked through the head gate and the Upper Klamath Lake's water level had not dropped, a spokeswoman for the Fish and Wildlife Service said.

Septuplets Given 95% Chance of Survival

WASHINGTON — Septuplets born last week to a Saudi couple have a 95% chance of survival, their doctor. Also, the father of the septuplets, who lives in nearby Falls Church, Va., said he and his wife have lost two other children in the last five years.

Olympics Could Help U.S.-China Diplomacy

WASHINGTON — In the months since a U.S. surveillance plane and a Chinese fighter collided over the South China Sea on April 1, diplomats in Washington and Beijing have tried to restore a sense of calm to U.S.-China relations. Both sides say the decision to award Beijing the bid for the 2008 Summer Olympic Games clears the agenda and allows the two countries to focus on cooling U.S.-China relations.

China Appears Close to Joining WTO

GENEVA — Boosted by Beijing's selection as host of the 2008 Olympics, Chinese negotiators returned to the table to try to wrap up another move onto the world stage — membership in the World Trade Organization.

'Sopranos' Leads Emmy List

LOS ANGELES — *The Sopranos* received a leading 22 Emmy nominations, the most ever in the three seasons of the cable hit about the angst-filled life of a suburban mob family. The show's chief competition again will be NBC's White House series *The West Wing*, which received 18 nominations.

Clashes in N. Ireland

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — Rioters hurled firebombs and bottles at police Thursday night as violent street clashes erupted in the wake of the biggest parades of the year by the province's Protestants. At least five police officers were injured.

Beijing Awarded 2008 Olympic Games

MOSCOW — Beijing was awarded the 2008 Olympics today, winning the games for the world's most populous country for the first time. The International Olympic Committee picked China over rival bids from Toronto, Paris, Istanbul and Osaka.

Streetcar to Open With Parties, Free Rides

First modern streetcar to begin service Friday with a parade, weekend of celebrations



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

One of Portland's new streetcars follows the tracks from Portland State University downtown to Good Samaritan Hospital on Northwest 23rd. Fares for the new transit will be the same as Tri-Met and the system will accept Tri-Met passes, tickets and transfers.

A parade of streetcars, streetcar supporters, elected officials and the Lions of Batucada, a local Brazilian Samba marching band, will officially open Portland's new streetcar for service on Friday, July 20th.

The event begins at 9:45 a.m. at Portland State University's Urban Plaza.

The Oregon Symphony Brass Ensemble will be performing "Fanfare for Streetcar," which was specially composed for the opening.

The first public ride on the streetcar will be leaving from Northwest 22nd and Lovejoy shortly after noon. Free rides will be available through Sunday, July 22 in conjunction with grand opening activities all along the streetcar's alignment from Portland State University downtown to Good Samaritan Hospital on Northwest 23rd.

Five cars are currently running on the tracks. Another two are expected sometime next year.

Built in the Czech Republic by Skoda, the 660-foot streetcars have a modern look with large windows and low floors.

Fares on the new service are the same as Tri-Met and are transferable to Tri-Met's 1-2 zone routes. There will be no charge to riders who travel only within Tri-Met's Fareless Square.

IRS Errors in Tax Notices

(AP) - The IRS sent about 523,000 notices to taxpayers informing them they will get the maximum possible tax cut refund check — when in fact they won't.

Internal Revenue Service officials placed the blame Tuesday on a computer program that initially neglected to take into account certain tax credits in figuring the check amount for these taxpayers. The checks are correct, but some people could get a notice promising the maximum and a check for much less.

"What we're doing now is working to get a corrected notice out to the taxpayers," said IRS

spokesman Don Roberts.

The IRS hopes to get the proper notices out to the affected taxpayers by next week, which is when the first batch of tax refund checks should begin arriving. The estimated 112 million notices — the vast majority of them correct — were mailed Monday.

The checks of up to \$300 for a single taxpayer, \$500 for a head of household and \$600 for a married couple filing jointly reflect this year's payment for the new 10 percent income tax bracket created by the 10-year, \$1.35 trillion tax cut signed into law by President Bush.

Police Shootings, New Survey Draw Concern

(AP) - Several high-profile police shootings and a new survey have triggered concerns about police procedures, training and judgment.

The survey, done by the Washington Post, ranked Portland eighth out of the 50 largest local U.S. law-enforcement agencies in the number of fatal shootings per 1,000 sworn officers, with 25 fatal shootings

from 1990 to 2000. Of the five police shootings this year, two have been fatal, including the death of a Mexican national in a psychiatric hospital in April.

But despite the apparent surge in police violence, the number of officer-involved shootings in Portland is actually down from the early part of the decade. In 1992, for

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Summer Camp Serving Native American Youth Begins



The Native American Youth Association's fourth annual summer science and math camp began this week in Portland's historic Mississippi neighborhood, serving 25 students, representing more than 15 different tribes.

The camp aims to boost science and math scores among Native American students by providing hands-on and culturally relevant curriculum.

Students will trace the history of tribes native to the Portland area and their methods for managing resources. They also will analyze and assess the health of local wetlands and propose recovery plans.

Aside from organized field trips, classes meet at the association's Youth and Family Center, 4000 N. Mississippi Ave., from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

The camp concludes with a barbecue on Aug. 17.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Instructor Joe Ball (from left) draws on the history of tribes native to the Portland area to help Jean' Luc Aguire, Kim Boyles and Leora Vanantwerp boost their science and math skills at a summer camp for Native American students.