



## Strong Minds

Local mental health clinic gets new director.  
See story on page A6

## Spoken Words

Poets create atmosphere of openness, honesty  
See Metro section page B6



# The



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## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

### Oops—Wrong Car

Firefighters in Framingham, Mass., who were practicing with the Jaws of Life ended up making a big mistake - by cutting up the wrong car. Antonio Rocha parked his car Friday behind the fire department's headquarters, next to two other cars that firefighters planned to use for their drill. When Rocha returned, he found his 1998 Honda Accord minus a roof and doors.

### NY couple plagued

Two tourists were hospitalized in New York City after they likely contracted bubonic plague in their home state of New Mexico, health officials said. Plague is found in large rodent colonies, such as groundhogs in the southwestern United States.

### bin Laden Clothing Banned

Liberia's president banned clothing showing Osama bin Laden's likeness Tuesday and warned that citizens flouting the measure faced certain arrest. Following a meeting with leaders of Liberia's Muslim minority, Charles Taylor ordered all garments featuring bin Laden's picture surrendered to authorities for burning.

### Turkey terrorizes town

A 15-pound wild turkey has been pestering residents of Oberlin, Ohio and eluding trappers who want to capture it. The bird has chased after schoolchildren and pets, trapped people in cars and left its droppings on porches. Animal trapper Thorn said the bird may be roosting in the chimney of Prospect Elementary School, where it has been swooping on the playground.

### Oregon City sewage spill

Nearly 2 million gallons of raw sewage spilled into the Willamette River after a mechanical failure at the Tri-City Waste Water Treatment Plant. More than 60 county and private employees worked to contain the spill. Officials said fishermen and others shouldn't use the river until late afternoon today.

### Around the U.S. on a trike

Dan Price saw his first Tadpole Trike in Corvallis in 1992 and has wanted one ever since. Price got his wish and plans to ride the 33-pound, 27-speed tricycle across the United States in celebration. The 45-year-old started the 8,500-mile journey this week and plans to arrive in San Diego in a month. From there, he will cycle to Austin, Texas, Key West, Fla., and Washington, D.C.

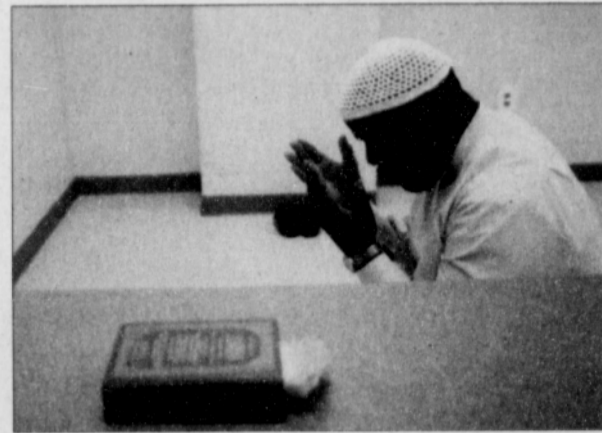
### Duke to take down unflattering gargoyles

The gargoyles perched atop the doors to Duke University's new Gothic dormitory were meant to surprise and honor two wealthy donors. Aubrey and Kathleen McClendon, who gave \$5.5 million to build the dorm, were shocked to find their own likenesses staring down from the hall that bears their name. They demanded they be taken down.

"I go in there ...to free people from a mental prison."

—Chaplain Derek Rasheed

## SPIRITUAL FREEDOM



With a Qur'an on the table to his side, Volunteer Chaplain Derek Rasheed kneels to lead a prayer service at Inverness Jail.

PHOTO BY DAVID PLECHL  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Muslim inmates engage in traditional Islamic prayer rituals before Chaplain Rasheed begins a Friday afternoon service at Inverness Jail.

## IN THE COUNTY JAIL

Muslim Chaplain Derek Rasheed helps inmates find peace through traditional Islamic belief and faithful practice

BY WYNDE DYER/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Muslim Derek Rasheed sets out on a spiritual pilgrimage each week.

Instead of thousands of miles across the Atlantic to the dry desert of Makkah, Saudi Arabia, his journeys take him hundreds of miles around the rainy Pacific Northwest.

As a volunteer chaplain, Rasheed offers religious services for Muslims incarcerated in county, state and federal jails. Along with the three other chaplains who comprise the Oregon Islamic Chaplain Organization (OICO), Rasheed makes daily trips to 10

correctional facilities in Oregon and southern Washington. For prisoners - including the five suspected Al-Qaida coconspirators in Portland's - he leads the traditional Friday service of Jummah, provides advocacy, counseling and prayer services during their incarceration.

"I go in there with a mission - to free people from a mental prison," Rasheed said.

The OICO chaplains started off almost three years ago with a mission of their own. Chaplains Wali Lucas, Muhammad Ra'oog, Habibullah Green and Rasheed had been providing similar services independently at medical, educational and military facilities for a few years without any kind of organizational network. They noticed that Christian and Jewish services were offered in Multnomah County Jails, but the Islamic faith was not represented. So they enlisted in the help of Mikal Hammad Shabazz, an Imam with 25 years of experience at the Muslim Community Center.

"The popularity of the Islamic Faith was growing rapidly," Imam Shabazz said. "And

honestly, ministers and other religious providers were just not qualified to provide the particular and peculiar rituals our faith requires us to practice."

Shabazz held a meeting with members of the Muslim community to address the issue. Committee members decided that in order to provide a successful reentry into the Muslim community, inmates needed guidance and advocacy on the inside if they were to be faithful and productive on the outside.

"Many times people get out of jail looking for an utopian society," Shabazz said. "When it isn't there, they tend to fall back into some of the same difficulties."

So he discontinued his services at the Muslim Community Center and became Imam and Head Chaplain for the OICO. Along with Rasheed, Lucas, Ra'oog and Green, Shabazz organized chaplain services for Multnomah County's Inverness Jail, the Federal Justice Center in downtown Portland, Clark and Washington County Jails, Sheridan Federal

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## UNIVERSITY PARADE



A member of the Heritage High School Marching Band performs in the rain during the Vancouver Veterans Day Parade on Saturday. The parade included more than 100 military, veteran and civic organizations and almost 2,500 participants.

PHOTO BY DAVID PLECHL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## Racism Deleted

Measure passes, but 'no' vote brings new questions

BY JOSEPH B. FRAZIER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In 21st Century Oregon it might have seemed a no-brainer: Should voters remove racially offensive language from the state constitution, where it had lurked forgotten for nearly 150 years?

The measure passed, but in a state awash in liberal tradition, 31 percent still voted "no."

One passage wiped out by last week's election reads, "No free Negro, or mulatto, not residing in this state at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall come, reside, or be within this State, or hold any real estate."

Over the decades, racist provisions in Oregon's constitution and statutes have been as hardy and stubborn as the pioneers who wrote them.

Whether those who voted "no" on Measure 14 were reluctant to tamper with a historical document or whether there were hidden racial feelings is unclear.

Other objectionable language and provisions in the constitution have been removed gradually. That which remained has survived a century of opportunities for change through the

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