

Weekin

Police Consider Selling Ad Space on Patrol Cars

Cash-strapped police departments around the country are considering selling advertising space on their patrol cars - an idea that has some officers in North Brunswick, N.J. worried they will get stuck driving around with a really embarrassing ad.

Father Sues Amateur Hockey League

A Canadian father is suing the New Brunswick Amateur Hockey Association after his 16year-old son failed to win the league's most valuable player award. Michael Croteau is seeking about \$200,000 in psychological and punitive damages from the association. He also demands that the MVP trophy be taken from the winner and given to his son, Steven.

Rock-Paper-Scissors Champ Crowned

Give Pete Lovering a hand - for being the worlds best Rock, Paper, Scissors player. The jobhunting Web site operator has won the World Rock Paper Scissors Society's first open international championship. He was among more than 250 grownups who took part in the competition over the weekend in Toronto.

High Court Refuses Inmate Sperm Case

The Supreme Court showed no sympathy Monday for a California inmate who wants to become a long-distance father. Justices rejected William Reno Gerber's claim that he should be allowed to ship his sperm to his wife. The Supreme Court ruled 60 years Committed to Cultural Diversity

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ON HUNGER'S

PHOTO BY DAVID PLECHL/ THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Ross Russell receives emergency food assistance for his family from Salvation Army employee John Schauer. "I didn't know of any other place I could go," said the local resident who recently was laid off from a job at the Rose Garden.

Salvation Army finds more and more people trying to make ends meet

BY DAVID PLECHL THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Economic woes are pushing more families into desperation when it comes to putting food on the table.

Oregonians are finding it harder and harder to make ends meet, according to Howard Erlich, director of family services for the Salvation Army.

lies will be going withou tood," Erlich said. "Our state is ranked the hungriest in the country right now."

A survey by the Oregon Food Bank shows that 60,000 children in Oregon need emergency food in an average month.

"It's difficult to see families with hungry children at any time of the year, but it's especially hard on everyone during the holi-

Oregon Health Plan.

Erlich says the typical person in need works at or near the minimum wage. Sometimes that person is a single parent with one or two children. Some are on welfare or disabled.

Erlich says upwards of 75 percent of those that seek out assistance from the Salvation Army are paying over half their income to

"A lot of people are on the edge of hunger," he said.

Jesse Dunn was recently laid off from a job as a remodeler and maintenance man. He is a single parent with a two-year old son. He picked up a food box Friday and a gas voucher to help look for work.

"It's just us two," he said, holding his son, Jesse Jr. "This is really important to us

ago that inmates cannot be sterilized, but it's never said they have a constitutional right to procreate from behind bars.

Now on Sale: Official **School Coffins**

For fans whose enthusiasm for the home team refuses to die, even after they do, the University of Missouri-Columbia has the solution. Those looking to extend school spirit beyond the grave can now purchase an officially licensed Missouri coffin.

Eminem's \$1M Home

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Bidding for one of Eminem's boyhood homes has surpassed \$1 million on an Internet auction site. The modest Warren, MI. home with three bedrooms and two bathrooms, was sold by Eminem's uncle for \$45,000 earlier in the month and has been listed on eBay since Thursday. Bidding opened at \$120,000, and by Tuesday afternoon, the high bid was just over \$1 million.

PETA activists ask state to change from milk

National animal rights activists are "udderly" unimpressed --- in fact, un-moo-ved by Oregon's state drink. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals have asked Gov. John Kitzhaber to pull the plug on milk, Oregon's official state beverage for five years, because of objections to animal c' the dairy industry.

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The relief agency is expecting to serve nearly 4,500 low-income households this holiday season with food boxes and a variety of services.

"The need for food assistance continues to grow, which means more and more famidays," Erlich said.

The Salvation Army tries to help people coming through their doors with two weeks worth of food, energy assistance, counseling services, welfare applications, food stamps and instructions on applying for the rent

"That leaves very little left over in the way of disposable income," Erlich said.

He also says that downturns in the economy have pushed recently laid off folks into the Salvation Army.

right now.

Erlich says the need for services is running about 15 percent higher than last year. He said service agencies are calling other

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No More War! Thousands criticize possible war with Iraq

BY DAVID PLECHL THE PORTLAND OBSERVER "Violence breeds violence."

"No war." "Pray and Act for Peace." "Free Palestine." Those were some of the cries

from demonstrators on Sunday as they marched through downtown Portland streets.

Some of the protestors called for an end to government policies that put corporate interests above basic human rights.

Laurie Knightly of Americans United for Palestinian's Human Rights thinks the U.N. Security Council, which recently issued Iraq an ultimatum to hand over any weapons of mass destruction, has been strong armed by the American government.

"We're not within our rights to bomb Iraq," she said.

Police estimated the crowd at more than 2,000, while protesters put the figure closer to 10,000.

'Saffire,' a local musician and performer, said the peace rally was the first he had ever attended.

The peaceful demonstration drew people of all ages. Couples walked hand in hand. Families strolled with dogs trailing behind.



"Saffire" ponders the prospect of another war during a downtown peace rally Sunday. He was among thousands of demonstrators who took to the streets to call for an end to violence in the Middle East.

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PHOTO BY DAVID PLECHL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Former heavyweight champ Muhammad Ali visits a girl's school in Kabul as part of his U.N. goodwill trip to Afghanistan.

Muhammad Ali **Visits Afghanistan**

(AP) -Schoolgirls in Kabul, Afghanistan showered Muhammad Ali with flower petals Monday during the former heavyweight champ's visit to a U.N.-sponsored school in Afghanistan's capital. Ali, who made the trip to Kabul as a "U.N. Messenger of Peace," signed autographs and handed out volleyballs and jumping ropes. Ronald A. Dinicola, who served as the boxing legend's

hal attorney for 15 years, said Ali came because he d to help focus world attention on Afghanistan's ve humanitarian needs - which might be overwed if the United States goes to war with Iraq. nts to keep the spotlight of international attention on s going on here," DiNicola told The Associated "Especially in light of other world events."

: 60-year-old former heavyweight champion, who s from Parkinson's disease, walked slowly and spoke as he toured a girls' school in western

t his sense of humor was intact. As he positioned continued V on page A6

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