



The



Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

Volume XXXII • Number 47

Established in 1970

Committed to Cultural Diversity

www.portlandobserver.com

Wednesday • November 27, 2002

Week in The Review

Warning on laptop burns

Doctors are warning that laptop computers may inflict burns even through clothing. The British medical magazine *The Lancet* has reported a bizarre case of a Swedish scientist who scorched his penis and testicles while writing a report in his armchair. The unnamed 50-year-old had balanced the computer on his lap while he wrote the report at home, taking about an hour to do so. The following day he developed painful blisters.

Where's Iraq?

A survey by National Geographic has found only one-in-seven Americans between the ages of 18 and 24 can find Iraq on a map. It also revealed only a little over 50 per cent knew the Taliban and Al Qaeda were based in Afghanistan. The world-wide study asked 56 questions relating to geography and current affairs. Americans scored an average of 23 right answers. Thirty-four per cent of those surveyed knew the island setting of the last series of TV show "Survivor."

Car buyer scores big bonus

A man trying to fix a car he bought at a police auction discovered more than he paid for: bundles containing about 9.7 pounds of cocaine. The man, whose name was not released, bought the 1992 car in Las Cruces, N.M., a vehicle he knew had been forfeited in June 2001. He notified the Pecos Valley Drug Task Force on Nov. 12 that he found packages of drugs under the vehicle's console when he started to repair the emergency brake.

Elderly robber strikes again in Viagra crime wave

An elderly man in southern France has robbed a pharmacy in the city of Marseille for the fourth time in less than a year, each time making off with its full stock of the anti-impotence drug, Viagra.

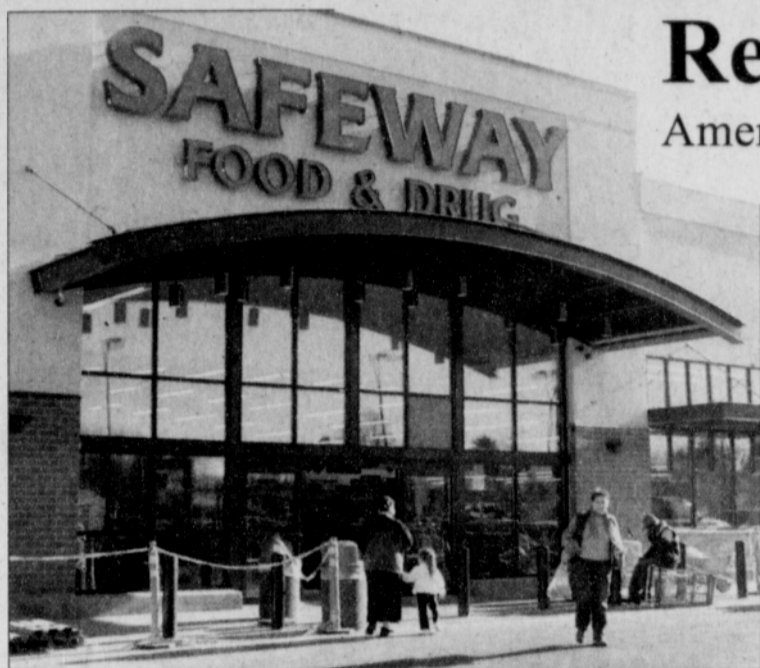
Messing with the mystical

Dozens of mystical creatures that disappeared in the suburban Chicago village of Bartlett, Ill., have been found, but several have yet to find their way home. An assortment of almost 60 lawn gnomes, leprechauns and dwarfs are at the Bartlett Police Department. They were confiscated over the weekend from the garage of one of three teenage boys charged with stealing them.

Business Slide Show Includes Nude

A businessman and former pastor in Fort Worth, Tx., was charged with possessing child pornography after a photo of a nude boy appeared during a computer slide presentation he gave at work, officials said. Employees at Exel Inc. told police that James Andrew Smith had finished a PowerPoint slide show Sept. 4 when he tried to open another document on his laptop computer. The image of the young, nude boy appeared on screen, according to the co-workers. Smith blamed the ir computer virus.

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Safeway Store at 5920 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Remodel Boosts Neighborhood

American Chamber and community partners welcome additions

Safeway officials have announced the completion of a multi-million dollar expansion and remodeling of the Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Ainsworth Safeway Food and Drug Store.

Friends and neighbors in the north and northeast community are invited to attend a special ribbon cutting ceremony in partnership with the African American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon and the Oregon Business Network on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at the store at 5920 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Store Manager Troy Steele is

eagerly awaiting the final details as the massive remodeling and expansion project comes to a close.

"Safeway is thrilled to offer our customers what a brand new store. We hope our friends and neighbors will agree, it was worth the wait. We'd like to thank everyone for their support and patience during the remodel."

Many people are unaware that Safeway first began doing business in the Pacific Northwest. The very first store to open its doors under the Safeway banner was in 1926 in downtown Portland.

Safeway began operating in the

King Neighborhood in 1936.

Today, Safeway operates 118 stores in Oregon and Southwest Washington, employs over 12,000 employees and is Oregon's 4th largest employer.

The new Martin Luther King Jr. and Ainsworth Safeway Food and Drug will create 30 new jobs. Its 115 employees will stock over 40,000 items.

With the addition of 6,300 square feet, the remodel that began 8 months ago increased the store's size to 39,000 square feet. Through

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That girl had no reason to die. The only thing she ever worried about was getting to her job on time or getting home to her kids. — A neighbor of murder victim Asia Bell

Violence Claims Mother



Perlia Bell holds a portrait of her daughter Asia, with husband Tyrone Lee James and their four children.

Friends say Asia Bell was not a gang member

BY WYNDE DYER
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Of three fatal shootings that took place within three miles of each other in north and northeast Portland over a span of six days, the death of Asia Bell, a mother of four children with no criminal record, appears the hardest for family, neighbors and police to comprehend.

Bell, 24, was shot to death last Wednesday evening on the front porch of her home on the intersection of North Mississippi and Jessup. Her husband, Tyrone Lee James, 26, was seriously injured with gun-

shots to his head and hip, and a third victim, Robert Millhouse, 28, was treated for graze wounds to his arm.

Bell was celebrating James' birthday when the gunfire erupted.

"People say she was in the wrong place at the wrong time," Bell's mother Perlia Bell said. "But I say it was the wrong time for her to be in the right place — she was in her house, with her husband and her kids."

Perlia said she usually talked to her daughter three or four times a day and had

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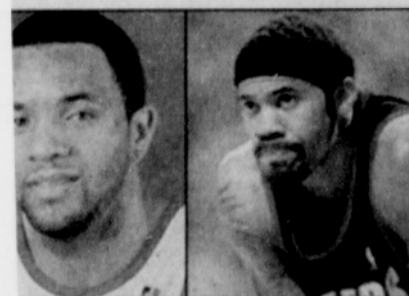


Family and friends investigate the North Mississippi Avenue crime scene Thursday morning.

PHOTOS BY
WYNDE DYER/
THE PORTLAND
OBSERVER

Blazers Bounce into Judicial Court

Damon Stoudamire, Rasheed Wallace cited for marijuana



Stoudamire Rasheed Wallace

Damon Stoudamire and Rasheed Wallace of the Portland Trail Blazers apologized to their families and fans Friday after being cited for marijuana possession after a traffic stop for speeding.

The players and the driver of the car were ticketed just after midnight Friday near Centralia, Wash., about midway between Seattle and Portland. A police report said Stoudamire and Wallace admitted to smok-

ing marijuana and both failed to pass field sobriety tests.

"The trooper got the strong smell of marijuana coming from the vehicle so he initiated an investigation," Washington State Patrol spokesman Garvin March said.

The trooper requested assistance from local police, who sent a drug-sniffing dog to help search the vehicle, March said. A small amount of marijuana was found, making it a

Ruben Patterson charged with domestic assault
See story, page A2

misdemeanor instead of a felony. After the tickets were issued, the three men continued on their way, police said.

The players were returning to Portland after the Trail Blazers beat the Seattle SuperSonics 89-85 Thursday night in Seattle.

Friday evening, both Stoudamire and

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