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# The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

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Karl Keeton's dedication to  
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See story, Metro inside



## CHOOSING A MAYOR

### Reinventing Jim Francesconi

City commissioner proud of his record

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Jim Francesconi is fighting an image.

Lawn signs for his opponent, Tom Potter, are now dense in any of a number of Portland's diverse neighborhoods and the media has hammered Francesconi hard on campaign contributions run amok, dubbing him the "million dollar candidate," referring to high-dollar donations he received in the primary election.

"An image has been created of me that's frankly not true. No one has ever said that I've voted for something because of any campaign contributions. You don't belong in this business if you can't do the right thing and I'm proud of my reputation," he said.

He insists that if Portland voters would open their minds to his long list of accomplishments, they'd see that he outperforms his opponent, Tom Potter, a former police chief.

So, he's reinventing himself through a directed campaign with testimonials from residents whom his work has touched.

Francesconi came to Portland 30 years ago, as a Jesuit volun-

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PHOTO BY MICHAEL RUBENSTEIN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
City Commissioner Jim Francesconi stands by a long record of achievement in his race for Portland Mayor.

### Tom Potter Prepares to Lead

Keyed to issues, but may not have road map

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

As Mayor Vera Katz inches toward retirement, Tom Potter is creeping back into public life.

Potter hasn't squinted in the light of public scrutiny in a decade, but now he finds himself in a hotly contested mayoral race that includes top-rate endorsements, a gritty campaign and back-to-back debates, logging in more time with his opponent at public forums and debates than with his own family.

Potter is a Portland native, graduate of Cleveland High School and University of Portland.

"I always wanted to get a job where I worked with other people and helped people," he said. He found that job in police work.

Accredited with creating community policing in Portland, Potter was on the Portland Police Bureau for 27 years; police chief from 1990 to 1993. At that time, he worked under Mayor Bud Clark, known as a people's leader, not a politician. Clark owned a tavern before taking office in 1984.

Potter, too, lacks experience in City Hall, but that doesn't mean he hasn't been political.

Since retiring in '93, Potter directed a homeless youth program in  
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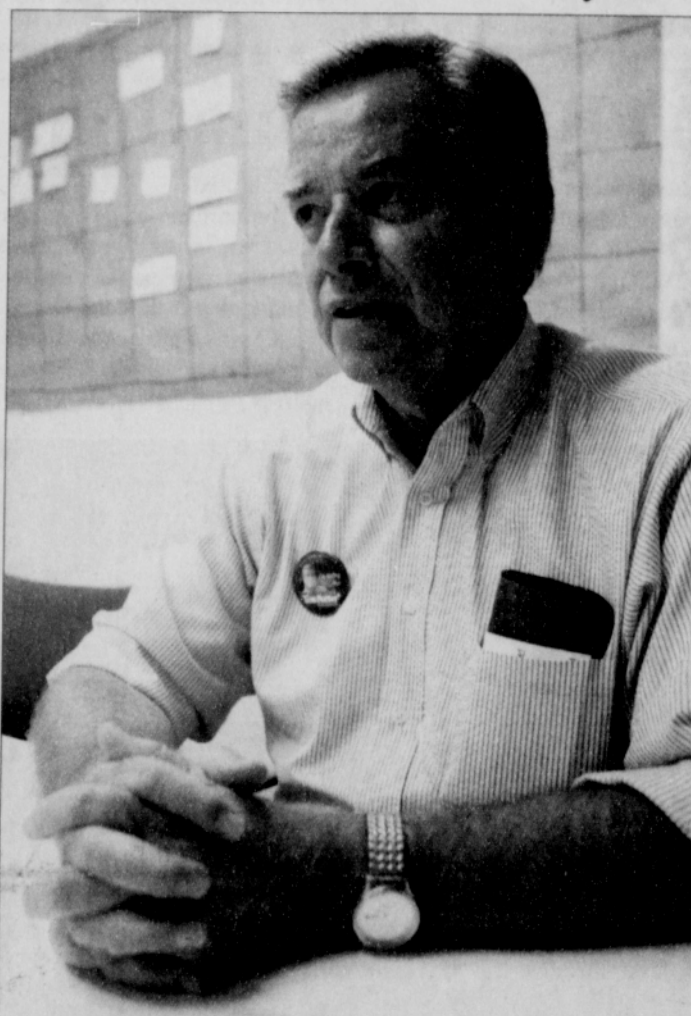


PHOTO BY MICHAEL RUBENSTEIN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Former Police Chief Tom Potter says he wants to fill a "leadership vacuum" if elected Portland mayor.

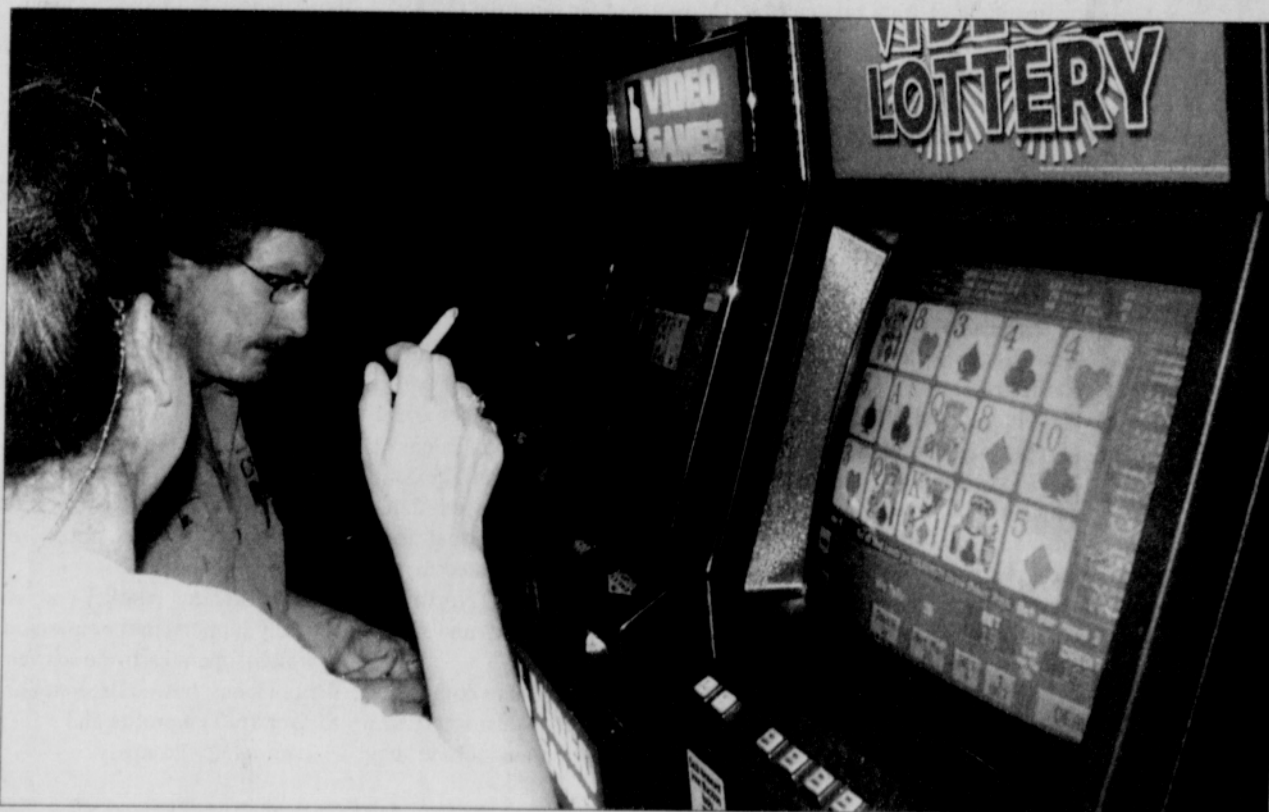


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Thesesa Day and Kevin Patterson play the Oregon Video Lottery machines at the Lung Fung Restaurant on North Lombard Street.

## Gambling Obsession

Problem gambling grows in record numbers

People seeking treatment for problem gambling has grown phenomenally over the past eight years, according to a new report by the Oregon Dept. of Human Services.

During that time, the share of women entering treatment increased from 37 percent to 46 percent. People who said they gambled in casinos increased from 10 percent to nearly 18 percent, and 70 percent of gamblers entering treatment reported playing video poker at bars and taverns.

"While gambling's popularity and availability are growing, so are direct costs to individuals, families and communities," said DHS Problem Gambling Service Manager Jeffrey J. Marotta. "The people we see in our treatment programs look like

ordinary, hard working people. Most worked full-time, had families and good paying jobs and many owned their own home. They started out gambling for fun but when the fun ran out the gambling continued."

According to the report, 27 percent of the 1,504 gamblers who received treatment in 2003 said that gambling cost them a marriage or other significant relationship. Twenty-four percent said they committed illegal acts in order to gamble or pay back gambling losses, 15 percent reported problems on the job and 23 percent were having suicidal thoughts in the months prior to entering treatment. Their total gambling-related debt exceeded \$29.5 million - or an average of more than \$19,000 per person.

"Fortunately for Oregonians, we have a very effective and well-developed gambling treatment system," said Marotta. "Our treatment programs are helping hundreds of people get their lives back and in the process is saving families and strengthening communi-

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## Week in The Review

way to execute prisoners than the firing squad, hanging, the gas chamber or even the electric chair. Now death penalty opponents are challenging that notion based on the Constitution's Eighth Amendment, which prohibits "cruel and unusual punishments."

### Bush Defends War in Iraq

President Bush delivered an unapologetic defense of his decision to invade Iraq, telling the United Nations Tuesday that his decision "helped to deliver the Iraqi people

from an outlaw dictator." Later, Bush condemned the beheading of a U.S. hostage by an Islamic militant.

### Annan Condemns Global Violations

Before a vast assembly of world leaders, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan criticized the violation of basic laws around the globe - from cold-blooded massacres and prisoner abuses in Iraq to the seizing of children in Russia and widespread rape in Sudan.

### Sniper Judge Recuses Himself

The judge presiding over the sec-

ond prosecution of convicted sniper John Allen Muhammad has removed himself from the case after prosecutors claimed he improperly conducted his own investigation into whether Muhammad had been denied a speedy trial.



Kofi Annan

### CBS Can't Prove Guard Records

Within the next few days, CBS News expects to name an independent panel of experts to scrutinize its reporting of President Bush's National Guard service after its defenses for airing the explosive story crumbled. The network can't prove that the guard records it used in the

report are genuine.

### CIA Says Zarqawi Is on Tape

The Central Intelligence Agency has determined with a "high degree of confidence" that the voice on the tape of Monday's beheading of U.S. contractor Eugene Armstrong in Iraq is that of Islamic militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

### Sharon Faces Critics, Vows Pullout

Defiant Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon faced down detractors in his own party, insisting that he would implement his embattled Gaza pullout, as rebellious settlers filed suit against a plan to give advance payments to families who leave their West Bank and Gaza homes.

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