



Portland Auto Show

Convention Center to feature hundreds of latest vehicles
See special coverage, page B6

African Accapella

Liberian singers who survived war and poverty spread message through music
See Metro section, inside



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Week in The Review

Black Performers Earn Oscar Nominations

It was the best year ever for black performers, who had five of 20 Oscar nominations announced Tuesday. Jamie Foxx scored two nominations — as best actor for the title role in "Ray" and supporting actor as a taxi driver whose cab is hijacked by a hit man in "Collateral." Foxx's dead-on emulation of Ray Charles has made him the front-runner in the lead-actor category. See story, page A2.

Bush Supports Anti-abortion Protestors

President Bush told abortion foes on Monday he shared their support for "a culture of life" and claimed progress in passing legislation to protect the vulnerable. Activists on both sides of the abortion issue marched in demonstrations across the country Saturday, the actual anniversary of the Jan. 23 Roe v. Wade, 1973 Supreme Court decision.

Comedy Legend Dies at 79

From the White House to Hollywood, the loss of Johnny Carson hit home. The 30-year host of the "Tonight Show" died Sunday at 79. Carson chose to let "Tonight" stand as his career zenith and his finale in May 1992, withdrawing into a private retirement that suited his nature and refusing involvement in other show business projects. NBC says Carson's death was the result of complications from emphysema.

Top al-Qaida Lieutenant in Iraq Arrested

A top lieutenant of al-Zarqawi's terror group, Sami Mohammed Ali Said al-Jaaf, also known as Abu Omar al-Kurdi, was arrested during a raid in Baghdad on Jan. 15, a government statement said Monday. Al-Jaaf was responsible for 32 car bombings that killed hundreds of Iraqis and was linked to the August 2003 bombing of U.N. headquarters in Baghdad that killed the top U.N. envoy in Iraq and 21 others.

Holocaust Survivor Questions United Nations

The U.N. General Assembly commemorated the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camps with a special session Monday, and survivor Elie Wiesel and world leaders confronted a question that has long haunted the United Nations: whether the world body has the will to stop future genocide.

'Tangoing with Tornadoes' at IFCC

Play dares to tell story of domestic violence

Award-winning writer, poet, playwright, actor and director S. Renee Mitchell, a featured columnist with "the Oregonian," joins two other distinguished women of color, in a community performance about the consequences of verbal abuse at the Instate Firehouse Cultural Center.

"Tangoing with Tornadoes," dares to tell the stories of women everywhere.

The two-act play uses poetry, monologues and music to teach women how to heal from emotional abuse, which is often more elusive than physical abuse because it leaves no marks.

The performance, co-produced by Sabin Community Development Corporation, shows at IFCC, 5340 N. Interstate Ave., beginning Friday, Jan. 28 through Saturday, Feb. 5 at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. It features original music by David Whatley.

A portion of the proceeds support local programs that empower domestic violence survivors.

Tickets are \$15 general and \$10 for students and seniors. For tickets, call 503-890-7032 or e-mail craig@sabincdc.org. For more information, visit the website at www.nappyrootspress.com.



Miss LaVerne Green is an instructor and mentor to kids discovering the arts in the culturally diverse Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center.

Cultural Center Fights for Vitality

IFCC looks toward future, not closure

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A cornerstone multicultural arts center in north Portland is fighting economically. The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center is pressing for \$100,000 in continued economic support from the city of Portland.

Some claim that without that funding, Portland may lose the IFCC forever.

The center, just south of Killingsworth on Interstate Avenue, brings multicultural art and theater to those typically outside of the downtown arts scene.

Most IFCC events are affordable and all of them are culturally diverse. Many of the actors, playwrights and artists are virtually

unknown in arts circles, but contribute tremendously in their communities.

The center's financial instability began after its champion and founder, Charles Jordan, resigned from city government.

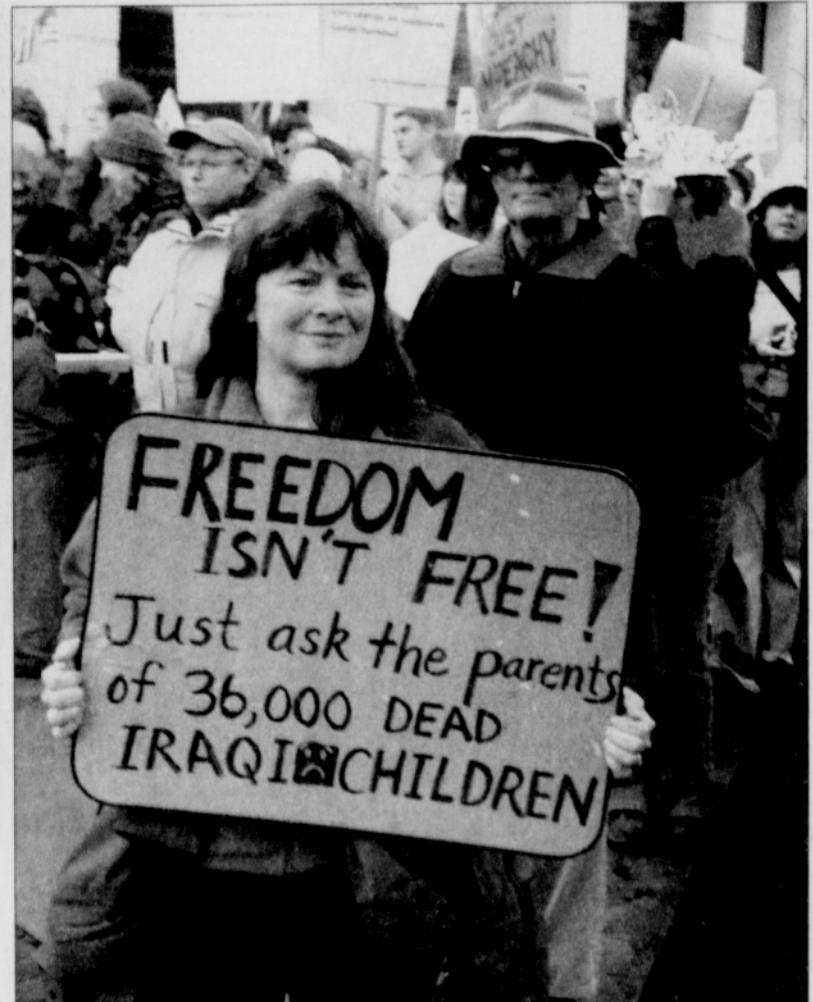
The center has survived with city support and grants from several foundations.

Jordan, a former city commissioner, advocate

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PHOTOS BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Inauguration Statement

Activists rally on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, the first of three protest marches on Thursday, to show opposition to President Bush's inauguration to a second term and criticize the war in Iraq. See story and additional photos on page A6.

Woman Killed on Her Porch, Brother Suspected Target

Marking Portland's first homicide of the year, 25-year-old Tameka R. Hartley was fatally shot Friday evening while standing on her front porch. The mother of an 8-year-old boy, she was shot multiple times in the chest and abdomen.

The shooting began around 7:15

p.m. with about 6 or 7 shots, according to neighbors near the single-family home at Northeast Ninth and Simpson Streets. Three bullets went through the front glass window of the home.

Portland police said Hartley's brother was a gang member and

was likely the intended target.

A little before midnight, a second round of gunfire erupted from an automobile in the same area, leading to the arrests of five men. Adha Rushdan, 30, Charles Jenkins, 27, Larry Green, 24 and Gerald Randle, 21, were charged with two counts

of attempted murder. Victor White, 20, had a probation violation and was taken into custody.

Anyone with information on the homicide is asked to call Detective Steve Ober at 503-823-4033 or Detective Brian Steed at 503-823-0395.

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