



Newly elected Pope Benedict XVI, the former Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany waves to the crowd Tuesday from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican. (AP Photo)

## Conservative Cardinal Elected Pope

**Calls himself 'simple, humble worker'**

(AP) — Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany, the Catholic Church's leading hard-liner, was elected the new pope Tuesday in the first conclave of the new millennium. He chose the name Pope Benedict XVI and called himself "a simple, humble worker."

Ratzinger, the first German pope since the 11th century, emerged onto the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica, where he waved to a wildly cheering crowd of tens of thousands and gave his first blessing as pope. Other cardinals clad in their crimson robes came out on other balconies to watch him.

"Dear brothers and sisters, after the great Pope John Paul II, the cardinals have elected me - a simple, humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord," he said after being introduced by Chilean Cardinal Jorge Arturo Medina Estivez.

"The fact that the Lord can work and act even with insufficient means consoles me, and above all I entrust myself to your prayers," the new pope said. "I

entrust myself to your prayers." The crowd responded by chanting "Benedict! Benedict!"

If the new pope was paying tribute to the last pontiff of that name, it could be interpreted as a bid to soften his image as the Vatican's doctrinal hard-liner. Benedict XV, who reigned from 1914 to 1922, was a moderate following Pius X, who had implemented a sharp crackdown against doctrinal "modernism."

On Monday, Ratzinger, who was the powerful dean of the College of Cardinals, used his homily at the Mass dedicated to electing the next pope to warn the faithful about tendencies that he considered dangers to the faith: sects, ideologies like Marxism, liberalism, atheism, agnosticism and relativism - the ideology that there are no absolute truths.

Ratzinger served John Paul II since 1981 as head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. In that position, he has disciplined church dissidents and upheld church policy against attempts by liberals for reforms. He turned 78 on Saturday.

## Rosa Parks, OutKast settle lawsuit

**Band will work to develop civil rights programs**

(AP) — Rosa Parks and the music group OutKast have settled

a 1999 lawsuit over an OutKast song that used Parks' name in a title.

OutKast and their record labels will work with the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development, according to Parks' guardian, Dennis Archer. He says

they will develop educational programs for youth about Parks' role in civil rights.

OutKast will also perform on a Parks tribute CD with other contemporary artists.

Archer says the settlement implies no fault by the defendants.

Parks gained a place in history for refusing to give up her seat to a white man on a segregated city bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955. Her arrest triggered a 381-day bus boycott by blacks organized by the Reverend Martin Luther King Junior.

## Rock Legend Johnnie Johnson Dead at 80

**Master of boogie woogie remembered**

(AP) — Rock 'n' roll legend Johnnie Johnson, an African-American known as the master of boogie-woogie died April 13 at the age of 80.

Chuck Berry, his longtime friend and collaborator, went directly to Blueberry Hill nightclub in St. Louis, where Berry and Johnson had played together as recently as a year ago, to remember "the man with a dynamite right hand" with whom he shared a half-century of music and memories.

Johnson was "my piano player who no one else has come near," said Berry, 78, who teamed with Johnson for hits like "Roll Over Beethoven" and "No Particular Place to Go."

Johnson, a self-taught pianist with a low-key persona, never won the fame heaped upon Berry. But he eventually became known as the "Father of Rock 'N' Roll Piano" and



Johnnie Johnson, a rock 'n' roll pioneer teamed with Chuck Berry for hits like "Roll Over Beethoven" and "No Particular Place to Go." (AP photo)

was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2001 in the "sidemen" category.

Johnson's and Berry's long

collaboration helped define early rock 'n' roll and put St. Louis on the music map along with the budding team of Ike and Tina

Turner. Each performed at clubs on both sides of the nearby Mississippi River.

On New Year's Eve 1952 at The Cosmopolitan in East St. Louis, Ill., Johnson called Berry to fill in for an ailing saxophonist in his Sir John Trio.

Their collaboration formed the bricks of rock 'n' roll as the two stirred hillbilly and blues in one pot to create a unique sound.

Johnson often composed the music on piano, then Berry converted it to guitar and wrote the lyrics. Berry's "Johnny B. Goode," was a tribute to Johnson.

Berry said he would perform a tribute concert in Johnson's honor, ideally at downtown St. Louis's roughly 70,000-seat Edward Jones Dome.

"We'll fill that sucker," he said. Though Berry said he'll miss his friend and his music, he's not melancholy.

"My turn is coming very soon," he said. "Would you shed a tear for Chuck? I hope not, because I don't see why one should weep when something inevitable must come."

"At 78, I'm glad to be anywhere, anytime."

## Journalist Pay Found Legal by Administration

(AP) — Senior Education Department officials showed poor judgment in hiring conservative commentator Armstrong Williams to promote Bush Administration programs, a department investigation found Friday.

However, the department's inspector general said there was no evidence of legal or ethical violations.

The department paid \$240,000 to Williams, a commentator with

newspaper, television and radio audiences, to promote President Bush's "No Child Left Behind" law. The deal was part of a \$1.3 million contract the department had with Ketchum, a public relations firm.

Williams, who is black, was hired to conduct "minority outreach" about Bush's law by producing ads with then-Education Secretary Rod Paige. Records show Williams was also hired to provide media



Armstrong Williams

time to Paige and to persuade other blacks in the media to talk about the law.

"We did find that department officials made some poor management decisions and exercised poor judgment and oversight," the inspector general said. "As a result, the department paid for work that most likely did not reach its intended audience and paid for deliverables that were never received."



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## Huge Wave Hits Cruise Ship

(AP) — The Norwegian Dawn, carrying about 2,000 passengers, returned to New York Harbor Monday after being damaged by a huge wave at sea and docked at its berth on the Hudson River. About 300 other passengers - many from cabins flooded by the seven-story wave - decided to leave the ship early in Charleston, S.C., and drive or fly home.

The 965-foot white ocean liner left New York on April 10 and was sailing back to New York from the Bahamas when it was pounded with heavy seas over the weekend. Norwegian Cruise Line said 62 cabins were flooded and four passengers had cuts and bruises. The wave



The Norwegian Dawn cruise ship sails up the Hudson River in New York on Monday. The ship was damaged by a freak seven-story wave on Saturday while returning to New York from the Bahamas. (AP photo)

reached as high as deck 10 on the ship, company spokeswoman Susan Robison said. Passengers got

a refund of half the trip's cost and a voucher for half the price of a future cruise, Robison said.

## Victory for Black Homeowners

The Law Offices of Adrian J. Moody P.C. secured a solid victory on earlier this month for 24 west Philadelphia homeowners whose homes were destroyed by fire following the bombing of the anti-government group, MOVE's headquarters, in 1985.

A federal jury awarded \$12.8 million in damages to residents after finding that the City of Philadelphia, Mayor John Street, and other city officials violated residents civil rights when in July 2000, Mayor Street stopped repairs on the rebuilt homes telling the residents that there homes were imminently dangerous and that they would be taken by the City of Philadelphia and destroyed if the residents did not take a buyout.

In May 1985, former Philadelphia Police Commissioner Gregore Sambor ordered a package of explosives dropped on the rooftop of the

*The plaintiffs in this case have waited 20 years for justice to be served.*

MOVE headquarters in a west Philadelphia neighborhood. Officials were trying to remove the rooftop bunker the MOVE members had constructed.

The ensuing fire spread across the neighborhood destroying 61 homes. Many of the homeowners who lived in the neighborhood for several decades watched their homes burn to the ground as fire officials refused to immediately extinguish the blaze.

"The plaintiffs in this case have waited 20 years for justice to be served," said lead attorney Adrian J.

Moody. "We are pleased with the verdict because it finally brings justice to the homeowners who have suffered from the senseless decisions by some of our city leaders."

The 24 plaintiffs are among 61 African American homeowners whose row houses on the 6200 block of Osage Avenue were leveled by the bombing, fire and gun battle that killed 11 people including a police officer on May 13, 1985. The confrontation is considered one of Philadelphia's most notorious and deadly conflicts with police.

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