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Week in The Review

Suicide Bombings Kill Many

A man wearing a belt packed with explosives blew himself up outside a bank in northern Iraq on Tuesday, killing 23 people and wounding nearly 100, including child street vendors and pensioners waiting for their checks. In Baghdad, the bodies of 24 men killed in ambushes were brought to a hospital. A suicide car bomber also rammed his vehicle into an Iraqi army checkpoint in Kan'an, killing five soldiers and wounding two others.

Memo Tied to Kofi Annan



Investigators of the U.N. oil-for-food program said Tuesday they are "urgently reviewing" new information that suggests U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan may have known more than he revealed about a contract that was awarded to the company that employed his son.

Graduate Killed in Attack

A University of Oregon student died from injuries suffered in an attack that happened a day before he was to take part in commencement ceremonies. Three men confronted Phillip Gillins in an alley about a block from a campus-area bar he had just left. One of the men punched Gillins in the face. He fell to the ground and hit his head on concrete, never regaining consciousness. Police are looking for his attackers.

Portland Police Cleared in Sex Prank Lawsuit

A federal jury determined that the sexually charged antics of the Portland Police Bureau's elite tactical team did not create a hostile work environment for its first female member. Officer Liani Reyna, 36, who joined the team in 1999, accused the police bureau of allowing the team's rituals to go unchecked for years, then retaliating against her when she complained. The jury heard about the team's nude hot-tubbing, pornography-viewing, strip club outings and explicit skits in which team members simulated having sex and masturbating.

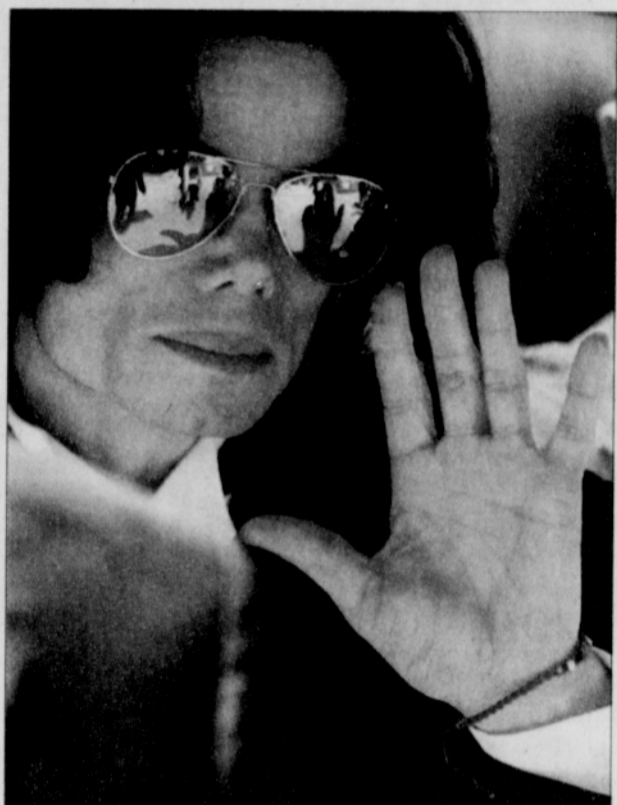
Boy, 4, Dies After Epcot Ride

A four-year-old boy died after passing out aboard Walt Disney World's "Mission: Space," a ride so intense that it has motion sickness bags and several riders have been treated for chest pain. Daudi Bamuwame passed out Monday afternoon on the attraction, which simulates a rocket launch and trip to Mars. Paramedics and a theme park worker tried to revive him, but he died at a local hospital.

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Free on All Counts



Michael Jackson waves as he leaves court Monday in Santa Maria, Calif. Jackson was found not guilty on all counts against him. (AP photo)

Jackson website hails verdict as 'historic'

(AP) — Michael Jackson's Web site trumpeted his courtroom vindication Tuesday, linking it with such historic events as the birth of Martin Luther King Jr., while his lawyer vowed his client wouldn't be sharing his bed with boys anymore. "He's not going to do that anymore," attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr. said. "He's not going to make himself vulnerable to this anymore." Jackson was acquitted Monday of child molestation, conspiracy and other counts by jurors who said the accusations of a young boy and his family were not credible - a legal victory that triggered jubilation among the pop star's fans and embarrassment for the district attorney's office. The Jackson Web site mjjsource.com featured graphics declaring "Innocent" and showing a hand giving a victory sign as a fanfare plays. A scrolling calendar highlights historic events such as "Martin Luther King is born," "The Berlin Wall falls," "Nelson Mandela is freed," and finally, "June 13, 2005, Remember this date for it is a part of HISStory." The reference was to Jackson's 1995 album "HIStory: Past, Present, and Future Book I." Mesereau said Jackson didn't eat during the trial, didn't sleep and lost weight. "It was a terrible ordeal for him," Mesereau said.

"He's going to take it one day at a time. It's been a terrible, terrible process for him," Mesereau said Tuesday. A raucous welcome greeted Jackson as he returned to the Neverland Ranch on Monday afternoon. As a convoy of black SUVs carrying him and his entourage pulled through the gates, his sister LaToya rolled down a window, smiled widely and waved. The crowd responded with a euphoric cheer. The acquittals marked a stinging defeat for Santa Barbara County District Attorney Tom Sneddon, who displayed open hostility for Jackson and had pursued him for more than a decade, trying to prove the rumors that swirled around Jackson about his fondness for children. Sneddon sat with his head in his hands after the verdicts were read. Some jurors noted they were troubled by Jackson's admission that he allowed boys into his bed for what he characterized as innocent sleepovers. "We would hope first of all that he doesn't sleep with children anymore and that he learns that they have to stay with their families or stay in the guest rooms or the houses or whatever they're called down there," jury foreman Paul Rodriguez said. "And he just has to be careful how he conducts himself around children." Some jurors acknowledged they flatly disliked the accuser's mother, portrayed by the defense as a welfare

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Popular African-American Nightclub Forced Closed

Helena's calls treatment unjust

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Helena's Place, a northeast Portland restaurant and lounge popular with local African Americans, shut its doors last week in the wake of severe law enforcement action against it. "We were treated unfairly," said Helena's owner and manager Cindy Davison-Harmsen. The establishment at 535 N.E. Columbia Blvd. was known to pack in crowds on weekends for danc-

ing. But it has been in a fight for survival because of some violent history in and outside the club, including fighting, a shooting and a stabbing death. Davison-Harmsen claims that a good club has been maligned by local law enforcement that twisted facts to make false accusations against the bar. She feels there was racism behind the actions. The Oregon Liquor Control Commission cancelled Helena's license to serve alcohol, under the premise that there was no demonstration to control the premises and patrons in its vicinity, particularly with the stabbing death of patron Aaron Crews.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Helena's Place, a popular club with African Americans at 535 N.E. Columbia Blvd. has closed in the wake of OLCC enforcement against its liquor license.

A stay was granted Wednesday under the petition that the order could cause irreparable financial harm to the business, that there was a colorable claim of error in the order, and that granting the stay would not result in substantial public harm. But Davison-Harmsen said so many restrictions were imposed on the business that she couldn't afford to open its doors. She has filed a tort claim against the city for falsifications and is considering a lawsuit against the OLCC. In early 2003, Helena's had agreed to implement a 21-point com-

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Keeping an Eye Out for Predators

Qwest gives tools for safe web searching

BY KATHERINE BLACKMORE
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Giving your child a computer is a great tool for learning, but it can also be a haven for trouble if you're not paying attention. Exposure to inappropriate content and people can have harmful effects on youth, including abduction or victimization. Together with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Qwest is working on a campaign to give parents and guardians the resources they need for safer online use in and outside their homes.

An interactive quiz and tips are safety tool with at a new website called www.incredibleinternet.com. The site allows instant feedback on how to protect children from internet predators. "A lot of times, parents themselves don't know about the risks," said Bob Gravely, public relations manager for Qwest in Oregon. Gravely noted that with adults growing up in a different time than their children, technology has far surpassed what they had to deal with as youth. But having a basic understanding of how to be safe on the internet is essential for children and their parents, said Judy Peppler, Qwest president for Oregon. "If you're going to have a computer in your home, take time to educate yourself," Peppler said. The information highway has changed

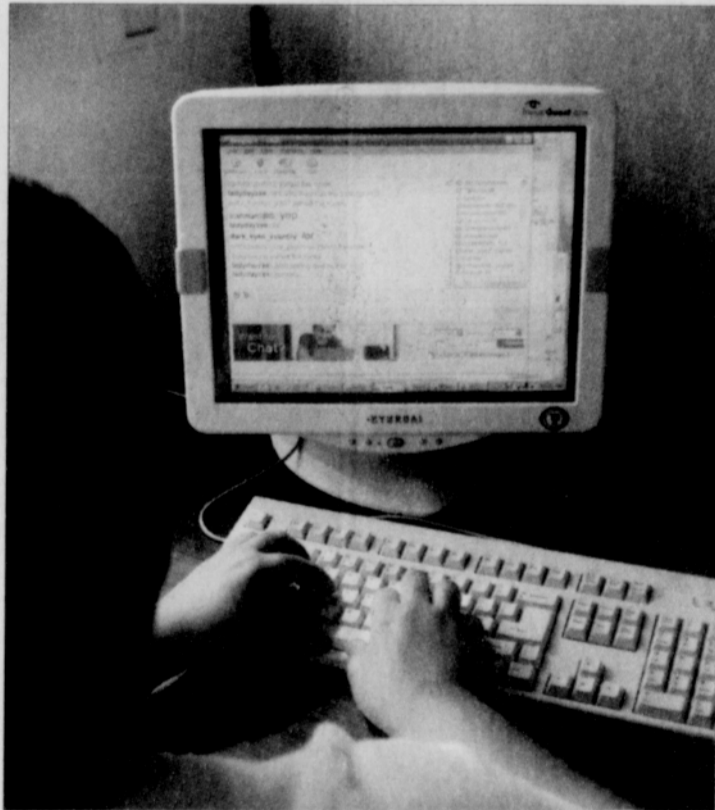


PHOTO BY KATHERINE BLACKMORE/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Internet chat rooms are a haven for sexual predators looking for vulnerable victims.

When I started talking to my kids, my rule was if I come up and you close down the screens, you're obviously doing something you're not supposed to do.

— Judy Peppler, Qwest president for Oregon

the way people communicate, how they research topics, even how they shop. It's an integral part of modern life, but it's also made it easier to find out about harmful subjects. Something as simple as opening an attachment or unknown e-mail can bring about an expensive computer virus or accidental viewing of pornographic and racist websites. Recent studies show that 62 percent of teenagers believe that most of their peers do things online they'd rather not have their parents see and 63 percent of parents agree. "When I started talking to my kids, my rule was if I come up and you close down the screens, you're obviously doing something you're not supposed to do," Peppler said. Sure, teens want their privacy, but at what cost? Beyond sexual predators, web surfers also need to look out for fraud and identity theft. All the right information in the wrong hands could lead to damaged creditor or a lack of money next time

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Portland Celebrates Juneteenth

Festivities at Yam Yam's

Considered to be the African American Independence Day, this year's Juneteenth marks the 140th anniversary of freedom for many when on June 19, 1865, word of the Emancipation Proclamation reached the enslaved in Galveston, Texas. This is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. "It reminds Americans of the human spirit and the cruelty of slavery," said Kandie Berry, event coordinator. "It's not just for African Americans - it's for everybody. It represents the joy and freedom and a chance for a new beginning. I really hope that the community supports the cause." Local celebrations will span the weekend in the parking lot of Yam Yam's at 7339 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., primarily hosted by Women of Successful Choices and other volunteers. Festivities will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, June 17, with a brief introduction and history of Juneteenth by Reflections and Talking Drum Bookstores, as well as the Multnomah County Library. An ice cream social and live music will follow the opening ceremony. A parade, beginning at 1 p.m., will be held on Saturday, June 18, with entertainment and a Yam Yam feast. Several bands and musicians are scheduled to perform. Suggested donation is \$3 adults, \$2 children. Finally, on Sunday, June 19, gospel music with a variety of choirs will begin

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