



PHOTO BY KATHERINE BLACKMORE/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

An overabundance of concrete and lack of security degrade the living conditions of Iris Court in north Portland. A new plan would renovate the housing cluster for low-income residents.

Rebuilding Lives

continued from Front

fully with relocation specialists. They find a place for the families, work with utility companies and with the landlords and get them lined up in the schools. We tracked and kept in touch with those families. It was important to keep in touch with them. At New Columbia, 282 families are still saying they'll move back."

When residents return, they'll find 129 brand new rental units, up from 108 previous. Public housing will take up 100 of these, with affordable housing units as the remainder. Duplexes, townhouses, traditional apart-

ments and a mixed-use building for community services will be built.

"I'm hoping and praying that it'll come through," said Nichole Padilla, a resident within the Iris Court Cluster. "It'll be a new start, another step up."

Padilla is expecting a baby boy in October, and already has two daughters, ages 2 and 9. For Padilla, her fiancé, and her children, having more space to play and an upgraded home will be "good for us," she said.

Day-to-day necessities like plumbing and electricity will be improved greatly, as well as access to those with disabilities. Residents will be made to feel secure in their surroundings with a new layout.

In the meantime, HAP is crossing its fingers for the \$16.4 million Hope VI grant. Only six grants are awarded nationwide, so competition is high. They'll be submitting the grant application by the end of July, awaiting a response by fall of this year. Regardless of whether they receive the funds, however, Iris Court will be revitalized - just with a more modest plan.

"We're at the very beginning at what we hope will be a long journey," Keating said. "We've worked on this on very short timeline. The more that we have met with residents, we've found they're extremely excited and really want this to happen."

NRA Considers Portland

The National Rifle Association recently announced that its 2007 convention won't be held in Columbus, Ohio, because the city has a ban on assault weapons.

Where to, then? It's a toss up between Reno and Portland.

A possible three-day convention

would bring 60,000 people to the Rose City with the potential of bringing \$20 million to businesses. But is it the kind of attention the city wants?

Columbus recently passed a ban on the sale or possession of semi-automatic rifles with pistol grips and detachable magazines.

Poll Finds Public Losing Trust in Bush

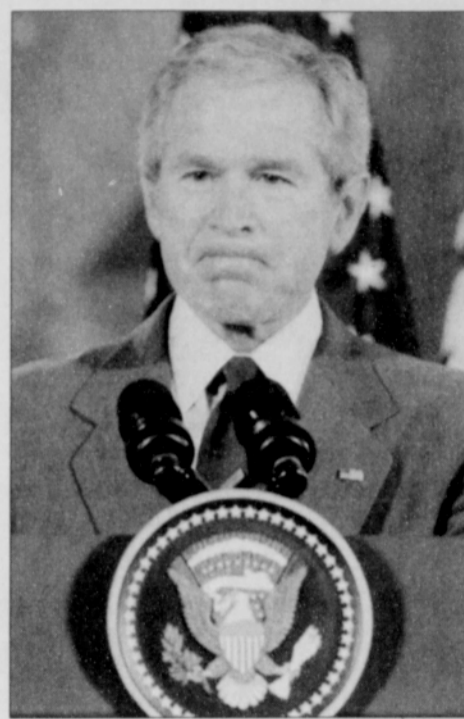
Nation doubting president's honesty

(AP) - Americans have growing doubts about President Bush's honesty and his effectiveness, according to a poll taken at a time people are uneasy with the war in Iraq, uncertain about the economy and nervous about the terrorist threat.

Half of those in the poll taken by the Pew Research Center, 49 percent, said they believe the president is trustworthy, while almost as many, 46 percent said he is not. Bush was at 62 percent on this measure in a September 2003 Pew poll and at 56 percent in a Gallup poll in April. One of Bush's strong suits throughout his presidency has been the perception by a majority of people that he is honest.

The slide in trust in Bush comes at a time the White House is answering questions about top aide Karl Rove's involvement in the public leak of the identity of a CIA operative.

"If the economy were doing better, the Iraq war wasn't as tenuous and people weren't as uneasy about terrorism, then they might be willing to cut Bush some slack on the Rove issue," said Robert Shapiro,



President Bush

licans said Rove shouldn't resign; about the same number said they were not sure.

Andrew Kohut, director of the Pew Research Center, said an analysis of the survey suggests the Rove controversy is contributing to the president's credibility problem. The belief that Rove has committed a serious offense is having an impact on Bush's ratings on believability, he said.

Only a fourth of people in an ABC News poll out this week said they believe the White House has been cooperating fully with the investigation of the CIA leak.

who specializes in public opinion at Columbia University. "And it's all tied back to how the war was justified, so it raises all those issues as well."

Only half the public is closely following the allegations that Rove leaked the identity of a CIA operative, according to Pew. Democrats are predictably more inclined to say Rove should resign than Republicans.

But GOP support for Rove is lukewarm. About four in 10 Repub-

About half, 49 percent, in the Pew poll said they approve of the job being done by Bush on terrorism - as low as he's been on that issue since Sept. 11, 2001. Many independents have abandoned support for Bush in this area.

Bush's job approval in the Pew poll was 44 percent, with 48 percent disapproving.

The poll of 1,502 adults was taken July 13-17 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Gunmen Kill at Least 13 Iraqi Workers

(AP) - Gunmen opened fire on a minibus carrying Iraqi workers to a U.S. airbase in central Iraq, killing 13, police said Tuesday. This follows a recent suicide blast on Saturday south of Baghdad that killed at least 60 people and injured 82.

Police Col. Mahdi Saleh, from the Khalis police force, said 13 people were killed when assailants in two cars attacked the bus on its way to al-Faris airbase in Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad.

Another police official, who declined to give his name, said 10 workers were killed. The bus driver slammed into a nearby car, killing three civil-



ians inside, he said.

In a separate account, Dr. Ahmed Fouad, head of Baqouba hospital morgue, said the morgue had received seven bodies, and that there were six others injured.

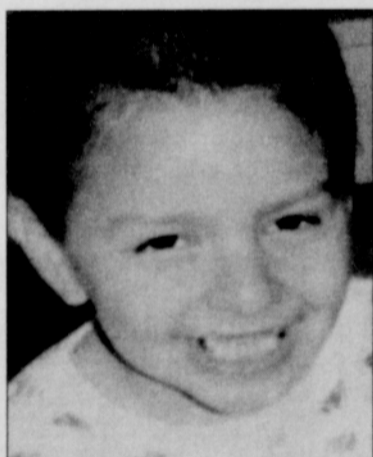
An Iraqi infant girl receives emergency care for a head wound from one of three bomb attacks over the weekend in Baghdad, Iraq. (AP photo)

Child's Death Determined

The ongoing case of the murdered 4-year-old Milwaukie boy, Matal Sanchez, revealed new information regarding the cause of his death.

Court documents allege that the boy's step-grandmother, Christine Coffman, struck the boy on the head with a rock and repeatedly choked him on June 29 after transporting him to a rural road.

It has not yet been determined why Coffman, who confessed earlier this month, killed the child. Her trial is set for October and she is currently being held at Clackamas County Jail.



Matal Sanchez



Christine Coffman

Suspect Wanted in Sexual Attack

Police are seeking the public's help in finding a man who sexually attacked a female pedestrian on June 29 around 10 p.m. at Southwest Fifth Avenue and Market Street.

The suspect hid behind bushes at the intersection, grabbed the female, exposed himself to her and tried to subdue her. She was able to fight off the attacker, but he fled the scene before police arrived.

The suspect is described as possibly Asian or Hispanic, 25 to 35 years old, 5 feet 1 with a thin build. He was wearing a polo-type shirt, dark baggy pants and a dark colored baseball cap and appeared to be a "clean cut col-



A police sketch shows the suspect of a sexual attack.

lege student." Anyone with information can call Detective Cheryl Waddell at 503-823-1081.

Man Shot Outside Strip Club

A suspect is being sought in an apparent gang-related shooting in southeast Portland recently.

The shooting took place outside Cocktails and Dreams, a strip club on 35th Place and Powell. The victim, 25, is expected to live despite being shot several times.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact authorities.

Panthers Launch 'Burn Baby Burn' Hot Sauce

(AP) - Former Black Panthers in Oakland, Calif. are hoping the phrase "Burn Baby Burn" will help their nonprofit organization market a new product - hot sauce.

The Huey P. Newton Foundation, named for the co-founder of the 1960s militant group, is seeking to trademark the phrase that for many brings to mind the racially

charged 1965 Watts Riots in Los Angeles that left more than 30 people dead, at least 1,000 wounded and hundreds of buildings in ashes.

The new line of hot sauce, called "Burn Baby Burn: A Taste of the Sixties Revolutionary Hot Sauce," is aimed at "anyone who wants to have an extra savory boost to their food," said David Hilliard, executive direc-

tor and original Black Panther. The foundation also plans to produce its own salsa, as well as a clothing line called "Spirit of the Sixties."

Hilliard said the group hopes to start selling the spicy condiment later this year to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the 1966 founding of the Black Panther Party.

Save \$3

CIRCUS CHIMERA

and McMinnville Rotary Club present

Magimystical

Laughs and Thrills All Around You!

in McMinnville by Patton Middle School

Friday August 5th: 7:30

Sat- Sun August 6-7th: 1:30, 4:30 & 7:30

in Portland by Clackamas Town Center

Mon August 8th: 7:30

Tues - Fri 9th- 12th: 4:30 & 7:30

Sat- Sun 13-14 th: 1:30, 4:30 & 7:30

Tickets start at \$7 w/ code #2005\$3G2

CALL NOW! 1-888-ONE-RING

WWW.CIRCUSCHIMERA.COM