January 4, 2006

The Portland Observer

Powerful Lobbyist Admits Guilt

Bribed members of Congress

(AP)-Embattled lobbyist Jack Abramoff pleaded guilty Tuesday to federal charges of conspiracy, tax evasion and mail fraud, agreeing to cooperate in an influencepeddling investigation that threatens powerful members of Congress.

Abramoff agreed with U.S. District Court Judge Ellen Huvelle when she said he had engaged in a conspiracy involving "corruption of public officials." The lobbyist also agreed when she said he and others had engaged in a scheme to provide campaign contributions, trips and other items "in exchange for certain official acts."

Huvelle and lawyers in the case said Abramoff had agreed to make an estimated \$25 million in restitution to his victims and pay \$1.7 million to the Internal Revenue Service for taxes he evaded.

According to the plea agreement, prosecutors will recommend a sentence of 9 1/2 to 11 years,



Lobbyist Jack Abramoff (center) leaves federal court in Washington, D.C. Tuesday after pieading guilty to conspiracy, tax evasion and mail fraud, agreeing to cooperate with prosecutors investigating powerful members of Congress. (AP photo)

providing he cooperates with federal prosecutors in a wide-ranging corruption investigation that is believed to be focusing on as many as 20 members of Congress and aides.

Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher said the Justice Department will pursue the investigation "wherever it goes."

Abramoff's travels with former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay are already under criminal investigation. The lobbyist's interactions with the Texas Republican's congressional office frequently came around the time of campaign donations, golf outings or other trips provided or arranged by Abramoff for DeLay and other lawmakers.

Court papers released Tuesday also detailed lavish gifts and contributions that Abramoff gave an unnamed House member, identified elsewhere as Rep. Bob Ney, R-Ohio, chairman of the House Administration Committee, in return for Ney's agreement to use his office to aid Abramoff clients.

Bush Loses Military Support

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An annual poll by a newspaper group that caters to the military shows support for President Bush and Iraq war is declining.

The 2005 Military Times Poll associated with the family of newspapers that includes the Army Times says 54 percent of the active-duty military respondents support the Iraq war, down 9 points from last year. Support for Bush overall fell from 71 percent to 60 percent.

The majority - 64 percent - agreed that the military is stretched "too thin to be effective.'

Half said the civilian leadership of the military does not have military personnel's best interests at heart.

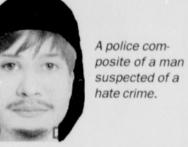
The survey was conducted by mail between Nov. 14 and Dec. 23. Because it was voluntary response rather than a random sampling, its findings may not be representative of the military as a whole.

According to the Military Times, the respondents are older, more likely to be officers, and more likely to be career military.

Hate Crime Suspects Wanted

Four white males are accused of assaulting a 15-year-old Hispanic male in a hate crime attack on Dec. 26 in Vancouver.

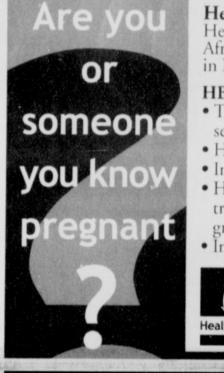
Police said it happened at the C-Tran Transit Mall located at the Westfield Shopping Center. The victim told police a white male dished out racial slurs before the at-



tack. The suspects were de- assaulter described as 6 feet tall, major Crime Unit Detective Stuart scribed as being in their late teens heavy set with chin hair, mus- Hemstock at 360-735-8832 and early 20's with the primary tache and long brown curly refertocase V05-25452.

bangs. The suspect was also wearing a black hooded sweatshirt with a Shorty's logo and DC shoes. The other suspects were also wearing skateboarding apparel.

If anyone has information regarding this case, they are urged to contact the Vancouver Police Department



21st Annual

Healthy Birth Initiative can help.

Healthy Birth Initiative (HBI) is a program for African American women and their families living in N/NE Portland.

HBI offers:

- Transportation to medical and social service appointments
- Home Visits
- Incentives
- · Health education classes (free childcare and transportation when attending any HBI group or class)

A Production of World Arts Foundation, Inc.

Information and referrals to community services



For more information contact: Healthy Birth Initiative 5329 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Portland, Oregon 97211 503-988-3387 x22242

Making New Year Resolutions

For example, if success: Find your motivation by your overall goal remembering why you made the is to be healthier, a resolution in the first place and it specific New will keep you going on the tough Year's resolution days. Have a plan and be clear might be to start about what it will take to reach

Every year comes New Year's resolutions that will make our lives better. Then we struggle for the next 12 months to accomplish our

provides tips

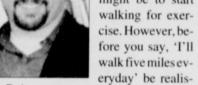
Psychology

professor

goals or we simply forget John Ruiz about them. John Ruiz, assistant professor at

Washington State University's department of psychology, says the key to accomplish a New Year's alistic.

tions about your abilities," Ruiz resolution that you can do." said.



enough shape to walk five miles? Does your lifestyle including work, marriage, etc, allow you time to walk everyday?

"A more realistic goal might be resolution is to be specific and re- to walk one mile a day, three days a previous seven days of success. week for a month until you get in "Choose a specific behavior to shape," he said. "Being specific work on and have realistic expecta- and realistic gives you a New Year's

Ruiz recommends six tips for through the tough times.

your goal. Anticipate challenges, be realistic, reward small goals and don't buy into "all or nothing" thinking.

Everyone has a weak moment. Successful people get back up and keep going.

Ruiz says to keep things in perspective - if you are successful for a whole week and have one slip-up - it doesn't take away from the

Finally, find support: Surround yourself with others who believe in you and your goal. This helps maintain motivation and gets you

Cascade Hosts Open House

lege is getting hands on with the Killingsworth St. community.

The Trades and Industry depart- Technology Education Building at and fiber optic programs. ment at Portland Community Col- the Cascade Campus, 705 N.

The public is invited to attend an showcase hands-on lab training training site. open house for the department from in facilities maintenance, heating 1 to 4 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 6 in the and air conditioning, electrical 978-5651.

Attendees can also learn about becoming a mentor, administering PCC staff and faculty will internships or providing a co-op

For more information, call 503-

reports are lost or delayed," said

OR 97208

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Submit Accident Reports to DMV Only

Drivers and owners of veports directly to DMV, as part the DMV. of several new laws taking effect Jan. 1.

Previously, accident reports ber of people who handle a rehicles involved in traffic crashes could be submitted to law en- port before it reaches us, which will need to submit accident re- forcement agencies, as well as should reduce the chances that

"This new change in law re- DMV Administrator Lorna quirements will reduce the num- Youngs.

The Hortland Observer Established 1970 Send address changes to Portland Observer, PO Box 3137, Portland, USPS 959-680 4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97211 Subscriptions are \$60.00 per year EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, PUBLISHER: Charles H. Washington 503-288-0033 FAX 503-288-0015

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Live Broadcast/Simulcast

Portland Community Media (PCM)

Jefferson High School

Television Dept. / Television Services (PPS), Channel 28

KBOO 90.7 FM

Donation: \$3.00 or 3 cans of non-perishable food

For program information & event schedule log onto: www.worldartsfoundation.org

Monday January 16th, 2006 When? 12:00P.M. - 6:00P.M.

Jefferson High School Where?

School of Champions ~ School of Pride The Robert G. Ford Memorial Theater 5210 N. Kerby, Portland, Oregon

- Nationally acclaimed, Dennis Springer, Janice Scroggins, Linda Hornbuckle, Jeffrey Minnieweather and Friends
- Eddie Faye Gates (Civil Rights, holocaust and political economic speaker)
- A Royal Priesthood (Seattle, WA)
- Jefferson Dancers
- Kukatonon Woodlawn Elementary School
- University of Oregon Gospel Choir
- Inspirational Sound (Eugene, OR)
- Kappa Steppers

Sponsors include:

Who?

Portland Public Schools, Portland Association of Teachers, McDonald's of Oregon and SW Washington, Dignity Memorial Locations, Safeco Insurance, Oregon Education Association, Providence Health System, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Portland General Electric, African American Chamber of Commerce

"Keep Alive The Dream" Tribute to: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

fore you say, 'I'll walk five miles everyday' be realistic. Are you in good