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Week in
The Review

Assisted Suicide Upheld

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld Oregon's one-of-a-kind physician-assisted suicide law Tuesday, rejecting a Bush administration attempt to punish doctors who help terminally ill patients die. See story, page A3.

Mayor Nagin Apologizes



Mayor Ray Nagin apologized Tuesday for a Martin Luther King Day speech in which he predicted that New Orleans would be a "chocolate" city once more. The mayor he really meant to convey that blacks were a vital part of New Orleans' history and culture and should be encouraged to return. See story, page B5.

Students returned to New Orleans colleges Tuesday for the first day of school since Hurricane Katrina. The start of classes at Tulane, Xavier and Southern Universities marked a welcome return to routine. See story, page A2.

New Orleans Students Back

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Troubled Drug Benefit Plan

Since the Bush administration's prescription medicine program began on Jan. 1, tens of thousands of elderly people have been unable to get medicines promised by the government. Some 20 states, including Oregon have had to jump in to help them. See story, page A2.

Beaten Girl May Die

Massachusetts's highest court ruled Tuesday that the state can withdraw life support from an 11-year-old girl who was badly beaten by her stepfather. The man asked the Supreme Judicial Court last month to block the state from taking her off life support. He is already charged in her beating and if she dies, could face a murder charge.

Groups Sue to Stop Spying

Federal lawsuits were filed Tuesday seeking to halt President Bush's domestic eavesdropping program, calling it an "illegal and unconstitutional program" of electronic eavesdropping on American citizens. The lawsuits were filed by the Center for Constitutional Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Hostage Standoff Ends

A couple surrendered peacefully in Statesboro, Ga., Tuesday after holding an attorney hostage for more than 24 hours and telling authorities they were armed with an explosive device.

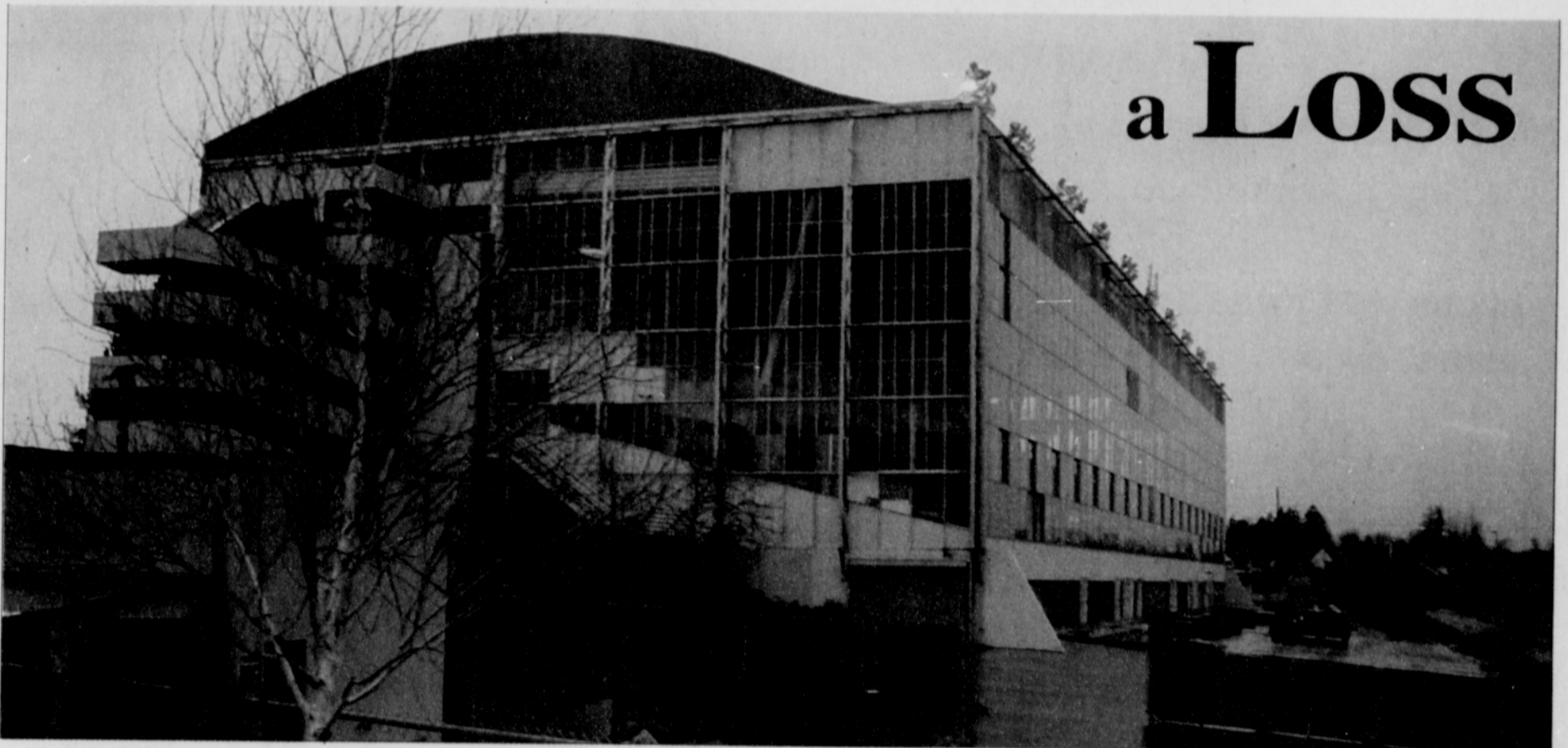
Portland Casino: a Win or
a Loss

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
The defunct greyhound racing track in Wood Village could become a casino if a plan to open off-reservation casinos is approved through the ballot box.

Could help state
budget, add to
gambling woes

BY SARAH BLOUNT
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Oregon has spent the past 20 years using lottery funds to balance cash-strapped budgets for schools, stimulate economic development and pay for state parks. All the while the state's nine federally recognized tribes have enjoyed exclusive rights to operate casinos on tribal land.

Now two Lake Oswego men are hoping to extend the slot machine's arm by proposing a private gambling facility on

Portland's edge.

Chief petitioners Bruce Studer and Matthew Rossman are proposing the state's first private casino at the former Multnomah Kennel Club greyhound racing track in Wood Village. The proposal comes soon after the Warm Springs Tribe's application for an off-reservation casino located in the Columbia Gorge. There is significant opposition to a casino in the gorge, which is a National Scenic Area.

Depending on whom you talk to, a new casino on Portland's outskirts would create more money for schools and roads, as well as thousands of new family wage jobs. Others say the casino would drag Oregon government into a deeper dependence on betting revenue, creating more gambling addicts and the social problems that ensue.

The Oregon Lottery is proud of "doing good things" with their gaming revenue since it's creation in 1984, when Oregonians voted for the state lottery during a severe recession. In 1995, a Constitutional amendment allowed lottery profits to fund public schools.

Studer and Rossman have created the Good For Oregon Committee to promote a new measure to amend the Constitution to remove a casino gaming prohibition on non-reservation lands.

They're asking for no tax breaks to build and operate the center and are dedicated to giving back 25 percent of adjusted gross revenue to the state, which they anticipate will break \$100 million.

"We are asking Oregonians to take a thoughtful look at our proposal and its positive impact on the Oregon economy and our schools," Studer said.

If all goes as planned, the casino would

"We are asking Oregonians to take a thoughtful look at our proposal and its positive impact on the Oregon economy and our schools."

—Bruce Studer

continued ▼ on page A

Council Hopeful Brings Progressive Agenda

Tate injects
grassroots
activism into
campaign

BY SARAH BLOUNT
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Lucinda Tate feels the Portland City Council needs a different perspective. She'd like to see more of her neighbors involved in government and more business and housing assistance for people of color.

Tate is bringing passion to her campaign for City Council. She's gathering signatures to qualify in Portland's first voter-owned election. Then public campaign finance ordinance levels the playing field, giving candidates who acquire 1,000 signatures with \$5 contributions city-financed campaign funds.

Tate, who is of African and Native American descent, would be the first woman of color to hold a council seat if elected city commissioner this November. She would replace Dan Saltzman who is seeking reelection.

This is Tate's first run for public office, but she's been involved in grassroots politics for nearly 20 years. She is currently chair of the Portland Rainbow Coalition and an active member of the Jobs with Justice Faith/Labor Committee and Metro-



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Community Food Basket volunteers gather collections at St. Andrew Church in northeast Portland, including City Council Candidate Lucinda Tate (center), Bernice Disney (left) and Dolores Montgomery. If elected during the upcoming primary and general elections, Tate would be the council's first woman of color.

politan Alliance for Common Good. Tate met with her supporters on a recent night at the Alberta Arts Pavilion. The street where new shops are springing up like mushrooms overshadows the dwindling older storefronts. It was an appropriate place for her to sound off on issues she promises to address in office.

On gentrification she said, "We need to identify and find out the needs of people of color."

"Instead of helping people re-

locate, we need to help them stay. Columbia Villa is a prime example."

On employment: "Small business is the foundation of every community, as well as the city. We need programs to help small businesses hire one more employee to help

stabilize them."

Tate noted a particular need for small businesses of color.

"One perception is that they aren't being supported as much as out-of-state businesses, like boutiques," she said.

On housing: "My intent is to look at how the council can be a proactive force in housing assistance, as well as provide living-wage jobs."

On neighborhood investment: Tate charges that economic redlining is alive and well in Portland.

"Look at it through the eyes of the Portland Development Commission," she said. "Look at how much is being invested in new, versus established business."

Tate is excited to shake up City Hall, but her inspiration comes from current and former council members, most notably Gretchen Kafoury, past city commissioner and champion for low-income housing, and Mayor Tom Potter.

She pledges to support Potter's initiatives on community policing and workplace diversity. Tate also gives credit to Neil Goldschmidt's early tenure, commenting on his impact to promote employable, livable and sustainable lifestyles.

"He brought in people who weren't afraid to risk," she said. "I'd like to bring that back."

Tate has until May to gather 1,000 signatures and contributions. Upon qualifying, she'll begin canvassing for elections in November.

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