

## Ford to Cut 25,000 Jobs

### Rough patch of road for automaker

Ford Motor Co. announced Monday it would cut 25,000 to 30,000 jobs and close 14 facilities in North America.

The automaker has been hurt by falling sales of its profitable sport utility vehicles, growing health care for its employees, materials costs, and labor contracts that have limited its ability to close plants and cut jobs.

The United Auto Workers union will have to agree to some of the changes Ford wants to make, a spokesperson for Ford said. The automaker's CEO William Clay Ford, Jr., said his company "will retake the American roadway," in an attempt to reassure the public that this is not the end for the Ford automaker.

The job cuts represent 20 percent to 25 percent of Ford's North American work force of 122,000

people. Ford has approximately 87,000 hourly workers and 35,000 salaried workers in the region.

"These cuts are a painful last resort, and I'm deeply mindful of their impact," said Ford, the automaker's CEO. "They're going to affect many lives, many families and many communities."

Ford reported earnings of \$2 billion in 2005, down 42 percent from last year's profit of \$3.5 billion. It was the third straight year the automaker has reported a profit, but gains in Europe, Asia and elsewhere were offset by a loss of \$1.6 billion in North American operations.

Ford also has seen its U.S. market share slide as a result of increasing competition from foreign rivals. The company suffered its 10th straight year of market share losses in the United States in 2005.



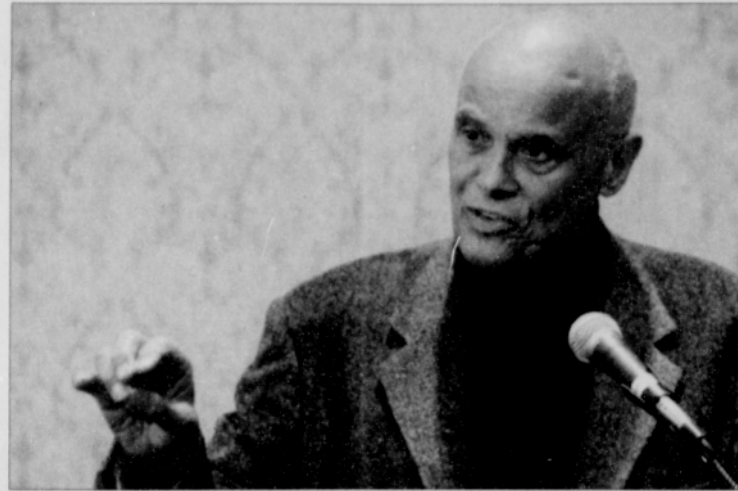
William Clay Ford Jr.

## Belafonte Keeps Pressuring Bush

### Attacks president and his policies

African-American entertainer Harry Belafonte, one of the Bush administration's harshest critics, compared the Homeland Security Department to the Nazi Gestapo on Saturday and attacked the president as a liar.

"We've come to this dark time in which the new Gestapo of Homeland Security lurks here, where citizens are having their rights suspended," Belafonte said, in a Saturday speech to the annual meeting of the Arts Presenters Members Conference.



Singer and activist Harry Belafonte is keeping up his opposition against President Bush.

"You can be arrested and not charged. You can be arrested and have no right to counsel," said Belafonte.

The remarks were greeted with a roaring standing ovation from an audience which included singer Peter Yarrow of the folk group Peter, Paul and Mary, and members of the arts community

from several dozen countries. Messages seeking comments from Homeland Security and White House officials were not returned.

Belafonte, 78, had called President Bush "the greatest terrorist in the world" during a trip to Venezuela two weeks ago. He made that comment after a meet-

ing with Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez.

The Harlem-born Belafonte, who was raised in Jamaica, said his activism was inspired by an impoverished mother "who imbued in me that we should never capitulate to oppression."

He acknowledged that the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks demanded a reaction by the United States, but said the policies of the Bush administration were not the right response.

"Fascism is fascism. Terrorism is terrorism. Oppression is oppression," said Belafonte, who served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Bush, he said, rose to power "somewhat dubiously and ... then lies to the people of this nation, misleads them, misinstructs, and then sends off hundreds of thousands of our own boys and girls to a foreign land that has not aggressed against us."

## Pickett Shaped Blues Music

### Veteran soul singer remembered

(AP) — Veteran soul singer Wilson Pickett is being remembered after his death Jan. 19 at the age of 64.

He was known as "Wicked Pickett" for his unique singing style as well as his intensity both on and off the stage. And he is considered one who helped shape modern rhythm and blues.

Two of his hits, "Mustang Sally" and "In the Midnight Hour" were included in a "Rolling Stone" list of the greatest 500 songs of all time.

Pickett was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of



Legendary musician Wilson Pickett, performs on July 14.

Fame in 1991.

"He did his part. It was a great ride, a great trip, I loved him and I'm sure he was well-loved, and I just hope that he's given his props," Michael Wilson Pickett, the fourth of the singer's six children, told WRC-TV in Washington after his death.

"In the Midnight Hour" made the top 25 on the Billboard pop charts in 1965 and "Mustang

Sally" did the same the following year.

Pickett was defined by his raspy voice and passionate delivery. But the Alabama-born picket actually got his start singing gospel music in church. After moving to Detroit as a teen, he joined the group the Falcons, which scored the hit "I Found a Love" with Pickett on lead vocals in 1962.

## Deputy Shooting Justified

(AP) — The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office Shooting Review Board has determined that Deputy Dave Willard acted within existing rules and regulations when he fatally shot a naked and bloody Gresham man last fall, officials said Saturday.

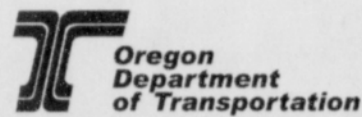
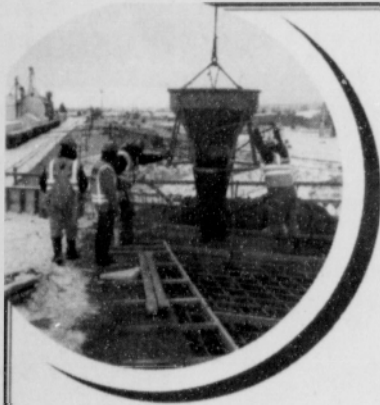
Willard and a Sandy police officer fired eight shots at 27-year-old Fouad Kaady.

Seven rounds hit the unarmed

man, who had reportedly growled at the officers, bared his teeth and yelled that he was going to kill them.

Kaady had been suspected in at least three hit-and-run crashes in the hours before his death.

Though the review board found no violation of sheriff's office policy, Sheriff Craig Roberts said he will assess the department's procedures, training and tactics.



### ODOT IN THE NEW YEAR: NEW CONSTRUCTION AND NEW JOBS

In addition to projects already under way on numerous Oregon highways, the Oregon Department of Transportation is beginning an unprecedented level of construction along Interstate 5 in 2006. Much of the work falls under the OTIA III State Bridge Delivery Program, which is repairing or replacing hundreds of aging highway bridges throughout the state.

The surge of construction in 2006 and beyond is bringing opportunities for contractors and workers. Current construction has already helped boost Oregon's economy. At its peak, the bridge program is expected to sustain more than 5,000 jobs.

To learn more, visit ODOT's web site at [http://egov.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/OTIA/bridge\\_delivery.shtml](http://egov.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/OTIA/bridge_delivery.shtml).

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