



See Metro, inside

Week in The Review

Bush Sneaks Into Iraq

President Bush assured Iraqis in a surprise visit to Baghdad on Tuesday that the United States stands with them and their new government.

Congress Antes Up for Wars

The House passed a \$94.5 billion bill Tuesday to pay for continuing U.S. military operations, hurricane relief, bird flu preparations and border security at home.

Cleveland's Grace Crowned

Grace Neal of Cleveland High School was crowned Rose Festival Queen at Memorial Coliseum Saturday morning.

just before the start of the Grand Floral Parade. The 18-year-old student athlete is on her way to a career in journalism.

Rove Won't Get Charged

Top White House aide Karl Rove has been told by prosecutors he won't be charged with any crimes in the investigation into the leak of a CIA officer's identity.

Coffee Counteracts Alcohol

Coffee may counteract alcohol's poisonous effects on the liver and help prevent cirrhosis, researchers say. In a study of more than 125,000 people, one cup of coffee per day cut the risk of alcoholic cirrhosis by 20 percent.

Beer Fights Prostate Cancer

Researchers from Oregon State University found that an ingredient in beer seems to help prevent prostate cancer, at least in lab experiments.



The Rose Garden Arena, the house that billionaire and Portland Trail Blazer owner Paul Allen built and then lost in bankruptcy, is up for sale as part of a plan to sell the NBA franchise.

Would You Buy This Franchise?

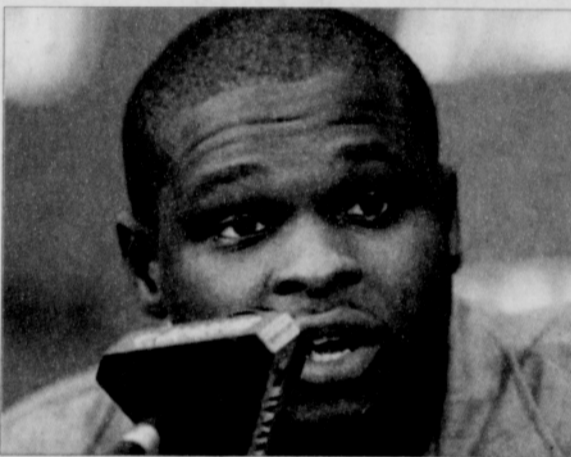
Blazer, arena for sale with buyers beware

BY SARAH BLOUNT THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Portland Trail Blazers and Rose Garden Arena are officially for sale - but with falling revenues, a dwindling fan base and players who continue to exercise poor off-the-court behavior, buyer beware.

Call it a multi-million dollar two-for-one - owner Paul Allen officially put the National Basketball Association team on the market last week, along with the mammoth Rose Garden with its attractive luxury suites and club seating.

Allen has lost money with the Blazers and their home court since he declared the Rose Garden bankrupt in 2004, handing it over to bondholders. Last February, he initiated a series of discussions with city, county and state officials, vaguely referencing a possible public and private partnership to save the franchise.



Zach Randolph, one of the blazer's biggest stars and most recent player to hurt his reputation for off-the-court behavior.

But the city wasn't ambiguous in their response: The billionaire, who estimates a \$100 million loss over the next three seasons, won't get any public assistance.

The "We'd love to help but we can't" response came as no surprise. After years of lackluster performance, the Blazers wrapped up the 2005-2006 season with a 21-61 record, one of the worst in the NBA.

The losing streak, paired with players' rap sheets, has caused these once loved sons of Portland to free-fall even further from the public's favor. Since their future has fallen into tumult, scores of basketball fans have reacted to the shakeup by rolling their eyes in exasperation, rather than holding their breath in anticipation.

The big questions now: Who will buy

continued on page A6

Pleas Support After School Program

Trio on county panel propose cuts

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Hundreds of people served by an after school program for low income and minority children have rallied before the Multnomah County Commission and sent emails to individual commissioners after a proposed 50 percent cut to the Schools Uniting Neighborhoods program.

SUN schools provide critical preventive services to thousands of low-income people in our community and has tremendous support from schools, parents and community members, said Tony Hobson Sr., a local African-American leader and founder of Self Enhancement, Inc.

"These reductions, if passed would have a very serious impact on SEI services," Hobson said.

SEI is a high-achieving academic institute of learning and social progress for mostly minority children in north and northeast Portland.

But Hopson said 1,000 low-income children could be affected by the cuts across the county. He said the reduced services could include outreach services from north Portland to Gresham and cuts at Gresham High School, Ockley Green and Tubman Middle schools in north and northeast Portland.

The proposed cuts are not part of a public budget process being led by Commission Chair Diane Linn, but were made public last week in a press release by the three commissioners who have collectively and repeatedly opposed Linn on other issues.

Commissioners Lisa Naito, Maria Rojo de Steffey and Serena Cruz Walsh called the cuts administrative to create a "leaner and meaner" SUN program that would put emphasis on after school "components that are proven to meet the needs of children."

The trio, which has the majority on

continued on page A3

Listening Sessions Acknowledge Profiling Police, activists and residents share testimonials

BY SARAH BLOUNT THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A listening session on racial profiling didn't end with a stalemate, but rather in a rare state: Local residents and police officers didn't engage in heated debate, and both groups got a honest explanation of why people do the things they do.

The emotional two-hour meeting June 8, part of a five part-series organized by the advocacy group Oregon Action and led by Open Meadows Middle School students, managed to break through the surface of accusations, frustration and denial. A group of about 50 gathered at the north Portland school to share their personal experiences. Collectively, the various accounts showed that for many people of color, police encounters are often unjust and unnecessary. Conversely, the session allowed police officers to explain how policy, administration and instinct influence their actions.

One speaker, Michael Chuol of Vancouver, said that while walking near his school in downtown Portland one day, police stopped him because he fit the description of another man. The officers confiscated all of his U.S. identification except his Green Card.



Police officers and residents share their own often battling perceptions of racial profiling, during a community listening session held June 8 at Open Meadows Middle School.

To this day he doesn't have the ID, he said. Acting Police Rosie Sizer acknowledged that police do make mistakes, including her. Sizer told her own story of racial profiling: a man fit a certain description, but after

detaining and interrogating him and finding a clean record, he was released. Afterward, Sizer, who said she was surprised he'd never been arrested, thought to herself 'you can't judge a book by its cover'. Jo Ann Bowman, Oregon Action's Asso-

ciate Director, said the listening sessions, which began last month, have been very successful, driven by last month's data released by the police bureau, indicating racial

continued on page A3

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