

The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

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Everybody Reads
Midnight at the
Dragon Café book
kicks off event
See Focus, page B3



**Academic
All-Stars**
Students credit
PCC instructors
See story, Metro front

Week in The Review

War Kills 3,000 Troops

As 2006 came to an end, the toll of U.S. troops in Iraq hit 3,000 dead, an unwelcome milestone for President George W. Bush. See story, page A2.



Police Charged in Deaths

Seven New Orleans policemen charged in a deadly bridge shooting in the chaotic aftermath of Hurricane Katrina turned themselves in Tuesday on charges of murder or attempted murder. Two people died and four people were wounded in the Sept. 4, 2005, shootings. See story, page A2.

Sliding into the Gulf

A new report by scientists studying Louisiana's sinking coast says the land is not just sinking, it's sliding ever so slowly into the Gulf of Mexico. The findings may add a kink to plans to build bigger and better levees to protect New Orleans and Cajun bayou culture.

James Brown Goodbye

Thousands of people danced and sang in the streets outside the Apollo Theater in a raucous celebration Thursday of James Brown's life. The Grandfather of Soul's body was displayed on the New York stage where he made his 1956 debut, one of three funeral celebrations after his death at age 73. See Focus, page B2.

Miracles Club Support

Facing money woes and eviction from their spot on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, the Miracles Club has won a \$495,000 grant from the city to keep their doors open to those recovering from drugs and alcohol. However, they likely will not remain in their current location. See story, page A3.

Denver Player Killed

Denver cornerback Darrent Williams was killed by a single gunshot wound to the neck, according to a medical examiner. Police had no motive and no indication why Williams was targeted in the drive-by shooting, which occurred after a party on New Year's Eve.

Demos' Goals Favored

People overwhelmingly support two of the Democrats' top goals — increasing the minimum wage and making it easier to buy prescription drugs from other countries — as the party takes control of Congress for the first time in a dozen years.

Farewell to a President

A military honor guard carries the casket of former President Gerald R. Ford in Washington, D.C. (AP photo)



Ford's character praised

(AP) -- The nation honored Gerald R. Ford on Tuesday in a high-powered fanfare for the common man who was summoned to the presidency in the Watergate crisis. He was remembered for what he didn't have — pretensions, a scheming agenda, a great golf game — as much as for the small-town authenticity he brought to high office.

"In President Ford, the world saw the best of America and America found a man whose character and leadership would bring calm and healing to one of the most divisive moments in our nation's history," President Bush said in his eulogy.

The elaborate service at the Washington National Cathedral was the final assembly in the

capital's portion of the state funeral for the 38th president, before Ford's interment Wednesday in Grand Rapids, Mich.

The elder President Bush, opening the eulogies, called Ford a "Norman Rockwell painting come to life" and pierced the solemnity of the occasion by cracking gentle jokes about Ford's reputation as an errant golfer. He said Ford knew his golf game was getting better when he began hitting fewer spectators. Former President Clinton and

Vice President Dick Cheney joined in the laughter.

Henry Kissinger, Ford's secretary of state, paid tribute to Ford's leadership in achieving nuclear arms control with the Soviets, in the first political agreement between Israel and Egypt and in helping to bring majority rule to southern Africa, among other achievements often overlooked in the modest man.

"In his understated way he did his duty as a leader, not as a per-

former playing to the gallery," Kissinger said. "Gerald Ford had the virtues of small town America."

Another eulogist, NBC newsman Tom Brokaw, said Ford brought to office "no demons, no hidden agenda, no hit list or acts of vengeance," an oblique reference to the air of subterfuge that surrounded Nixon in his final days.

In his homely, Episcopalian minister Robert G. Certain touched on

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Taunting Saddam Fuels Mideast Anger

Probe ordered after execution video surfaces

(AP) — Iraq's prime minister on Tuesday ordered an investigation into the conduct of Saddam Hussein's execution in a bid to learn who among the witnesses taunted the former Iraqi leader in the last minutes of his life, then leaked a cell phone video.

The video contained audio of some witnesses taunting Saddam with chants of "Muqtada" and of the former leader responding that his tormentors were being unmanly. It surfaced on Al-Jazeera television and the Internet late Saturday, the day Saddam was hanged.

The taunts referred to Muqtada al-Sadr, the radical Shiite cleric who is a main backer of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, the Shiite leader who pushed for a quick execution of Saddam.

Al-Jazeera said when it broadcast the video that it was exclusive to them. The pictures appeared on the Web at about the same time.

Sami al-Askar, a close al-Maliki political adviser, told The Associated Press that the Iraqi leader had "ordered



Iraqi executioners put a noose around Saddam Hussein's neck.

the formation of an investigative committee in the Interior Ministry to identify who chanted slogans inside the execution chamber and who filmed the execution and sent it to the media."

The video was particularly inflammatory not only because

the disrespectful chanting was clearly audible, but also because it showed Saddam's death as he dropped through the gallows floor and then swung by his neck, his eyes open and neck twisted dramatically to his right.

The clandestine video portrayed a much different scene than the official tape of the execution, which was muted. It did not show Saddam dropping to his death.

Munqith al-Faroon, an Iraqi prosecutor whose job was to convict Saddam Hussein of genocide, was one of the small group of witnesses at the hanging and defended Saddam's right to die in peace.

He said he knew that "two top officials ... had their mobile phones with them" at the execution, although other witnesses had their phones taken away beforehand.

Saddam's execution and the way it was conducted have provoked anger among Sunni Muslims, who have taken to the streets in recent days in mainly peaceful demonstrations in Sunni enclaves across the country.

On Monday, a crowd of Sunni mourners in Samarra marched to a bomb-damaged Shiite shrine and were

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KBOO Harassment Case All But Ignored

Volunteer challenges station conduct

By Sarah Blount
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Tyrone Hines was interested in recording the personal history of Portland's elderly community members, so he signed up for a volunteer training program at KBOO Radio to gain technical experience needed to produce his own program.

Before his training was complete, however, Hines says his instructor, a female volunteer, sexually harassed him. Hines said he only wanted an apology from the woman, but now plans to file a complaint after KBOO and station manager Arthur Davis took no action to resolve the issue.

During his first day of training in October, Hines, a 58-year-old African American man, said his instructor approached him after the session and asked him to dinner. He said that during that meal, and another one a few days later, she shared details of her personal life, complimented his "radio voice" and offered to have sex with him.

Hines said when he denied the proposition her praises immediately turned into criticism and insults. He says he didn't recognize the incident as sexual harassment until a few days later, when he called regarding the next step in his training.

Over the phone, the instructor told him she couldn't hear him and that she would call back, which Hines says never happened.

A week later Hines explained the incident to KBOO volunteer coordinator Ani Haines, who told him the station takes sexual harassment very seriously, but since they were in the middle of a fundraising event she would contact him later.

Hines called again, in November after the fund drive, and was put into contact with Davis, who was interim station manager at the time, who supplied Hines with the station's written policy on sexual harassment.

Hines and Davis met, along with KBOO board secretary Becky Chiao, who is also a practicing attorney. Davis also met one-on-one with the volunteer instructor.

During a second meeting, Davis told Hines the matter was a personal issue between the two parties, and suggested they work it out on their own.

Davis acknowledges the meetings and his suggestion.

"I can't go into specifics," Davis said, "but I will say we interviewed both parties

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Tyrone Hines, a former volunteer at KBOO Radio, wonders why his claim of sexual harassment from a volunteer coordinator went unanswered and unsettled.

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