



James Brown

## James Brown Still Not Buried

A full month after his death, the Godfather of Soul's gold casket remains in an undisclosed location after spending most of January in a climate-controlled room at his home in Beech Island, S.C.

At issue is the handling of James Brown's estate by his three trustees, whose actions have already led to lawsuits by the singer's former companion, Tomi Rae Hynie and, in a separate suit, his six adult children.

The said trustees were allegedly seen filming the home and removing documents from it, while also placing Brown's assets in a trust despite a year 2000 will that states they should be divided equally among his children. The will was drawn up before the birth of his youngest son who may also be entitled to assets from the estate.

# Demolition Begins at Iris Court

Progress is coming along at Humboldt Gardens, the 130-unit apartment complex that will replace Iris Court, an aging public housing development at the corner of North Vancouver Avenue and Sumner Street.

Through a federal HOPE VI grant, the Housing Authority of Portland launched the revitalization project last summer by relocating residents. By April, crews will start construction of a new Sumner Street to manage storm water on site rather than direct it into the sewer overflow system.

By July 2008, former residents of Iris Court will make the move back into the brand new housing, joining new families as well. Other planned highlights include a Head Start on Alberta Street and a small retail storefront on the corner of Vancouver and Alberta.

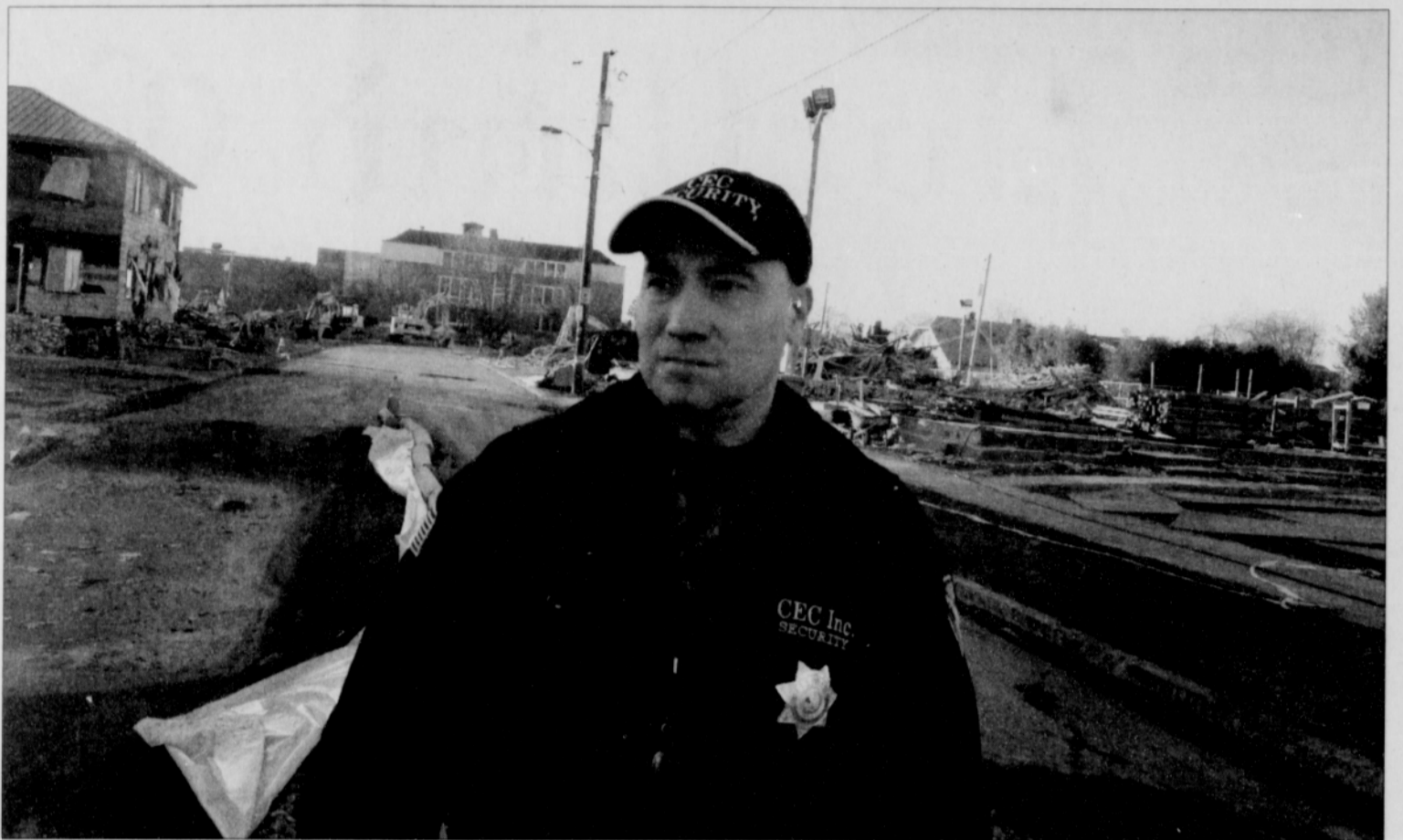


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
CEC Security officer Jim D'Andrea watches over the Iris Court, where crews recently began a four-month demolition.

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## Brandy May Get Charged in Deadly Crash

(AP) -- The California Highway Patrol recommended Monday that actress-singer Brandy be charged with misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter in a

freeway crash that killed a woman motorist last month.

The charge carries a maximum sentence of one year in county jail and a \$1,000 fine.

Brandy, whose real name is Brandy Norwood, has publicly expressed condolences to the victim's family. She wasn't under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of the crash.

The 27-year-old was driving a Land Rover on Interstate 405



Brandy

on Dec. 30 when traffic slowed and her vehicle struck the back of Honda driven by Awatef Aboudihaj, 38, according to a CHP report.

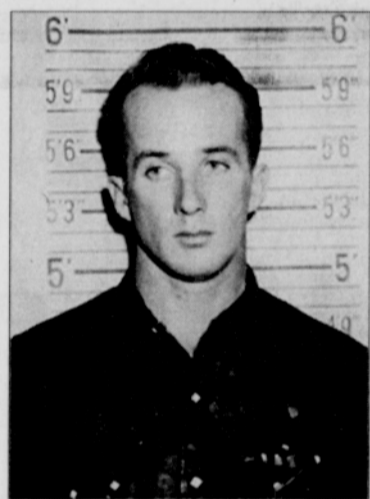
Aboudihaj's car hit another vehicle, slid sideways into the center divider and was then hit by another car, the report said. Aboudihaj, a Los Angeles waitress, died at a hospital from blunt-force injuries, according to the coroner's office.

## Arrest Made in 1964 Slayings

(AP) -- A reputed Ku Klux Klansman and former sheriff's deputy accused in the 1964 slayings of two black men pleaded not guilty Thursday, and in a measure of how things have changed across the South, the judge he stood before was a black woman.

With his wrists and ankles shackled, 71-year-old James Ford Seale repeatedly addressed the judge as "ma'am," a social courtesy whites typically denied to blacks in Mississippi 43 years ago.

Seale was arrested Jan 24 on



James Ford Seale in a 1964 photo.

federal charges of kidnapping and conspiracy. Prosecutors said Charles Eddie Moore and Henry Hezekiah Dee, both 19, were seized and beaten by Klansmen, then thrown into the Mississippi River to drown.

Seale was arrested in the case in 1964. But the FBI, consumed by the search for three civil rights workers who had disappeared that same summer, turned the case over to local authorities, who promptly threw out all charges.

The U.S. Justice Department reopened the case in 2000.

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