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Attorney General Driven from Office

Bush's Texas friend has few defenders

(AP) -- Alberto Gonzales, the nation's first Hispanic attorney general, was driven from office after a wrenching standoff with congressional critics over his honesty and competence.

Republicans and Democrats alike had demanded his departure over the botched handling of FBI terror investigations and the firings of U.S. attorneys, but President Bush had defiantly stood by his Texas friend for



Alberto Gonzales

months until accepting his resignation that was announced Monday. "After months of unfair treatment that has created a harmful distraction at the Justice Department, Judge Gonzales decided to resign his position and I accept his decision," Bush said from Texas, where he is vacationing. Bush said the attorney general's "good name was dragged through the mud for political reasons." Though some Republicans echoed the president's veiled slap at Democrats, Gonzales had few defenders

left in Washington. Many Republicans actually welcomed his departure, some quietly and others publicly so. Gonzales, formerly Bush's White House counsel, served more than two years at the Justice Department. In announcing his decision, Gonzales reflected on his up-from-the-bootstraps life story; he's the son of migrant farm workers from Mexico who didn't finish elementary school. "Even my worst days as attorney continued on page A3

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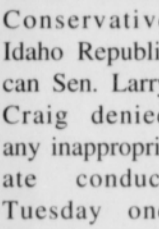
Week in The Review

Vick Apologizes



Michael Vick apologized to the NFL and his Atlanta Falcons teammates Monday for "using bad judgment and making bad decisions" and vowed to redeem himself of charges in a dogfighting case. See story, page B6.

Lewd Conduct Denied



Conservative Idaho Republican Sen. Larry Craig denied any inappropriate conduct Tuesday one day after word got out about his guilty plea to misdemeanor charges stemming from complaints of lewd conduct in the men's room at the Minneapolis airport.

Hostage Release Promised

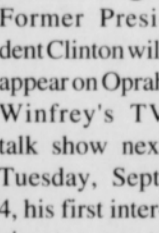
Taliban militants agreed Tuesday to release 19 South Korean church volunteers held hostage for six weeks after Seoul reaffirmed a pledge to withdraw its troops by year's end and prevent Christian missionaries from working in Afghanistan.

Klansman Guilty



James Ford Seale, a reputed Ku Klux Klansman, was sentenced Friday to three life terms in prison for his role in the 1964 abduction and murder of two black teenagers in Mississippi. The 72-year-old showed no emotion when the sentence was read. See story, page B3.

Clinton to go on Oprah



Former President Clinton will appear on Oprah Winfrey's TV talk show next Tuesday, Sept. 4, his first interview to promote "Giving," a book on philanthropy and civic action coming out the same day.

U.S. Most Armed

The United States has 90 guns for every 100 citizens, making it the most heavily armed society in the world, a report released on Tuesday said.

Fires Rage in Greece

Foreign firefighters and aircraft joined the battle Tuesday against blazes in southern Greece, which began about five days ago, and have killed at least 64 people.

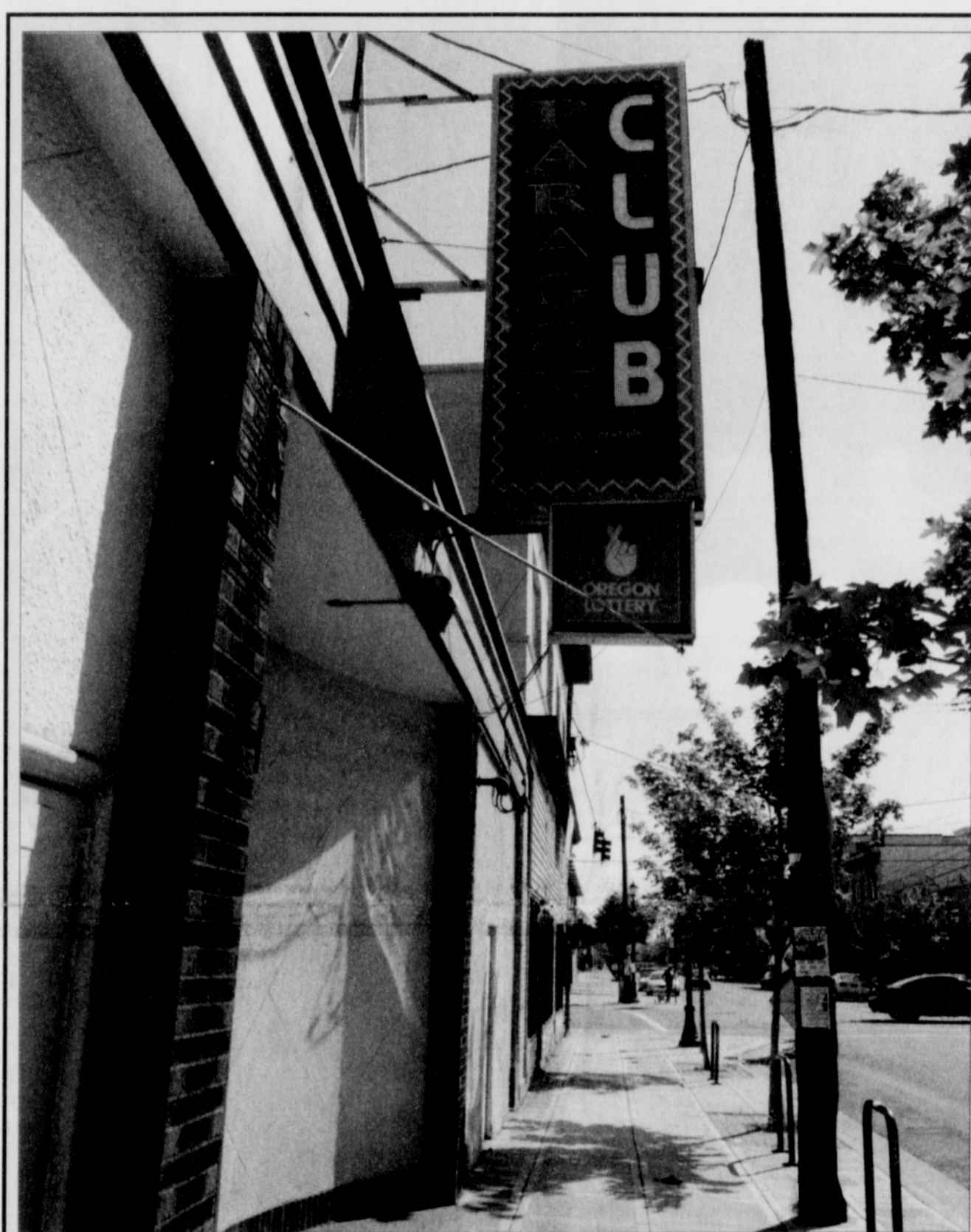


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Paragon Club at 815 N. Killingsworth St. sits closed after Portland Community College purchased the building for the parking lots behind the building.

College Buys Killingsworth Bar

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland Community College has purchased a bar on North Killingsworth Street but don't expect it to serve drinks.

The school says it purchased the Paragon Club for its parking lot. It has no plans to open the bar and won't

speculate on how the building will be used in the future. The \$750,000 sales price included two 5,000 square foot lots used for parking that are sandwiched behind the club and between Albina and Mississippi Avenues.

The college has been adding parking lots to its Cascade Campus since a 2000 bond levy cleared the way for

a near doubling of the north Portland campus.

The Paragon Club, a neighborhood establishment for decades, closed shortly after the July 31 sale and its employees were reportedly laid off without notice.

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Community Mobilizes Against War

Disproportional impacts seen

BY JASON FLOYD
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Individuals in the north and northeast Portland community are mobilizing against the war. The concern has been that our intervention in Iraq disproportionately affects peoples of color and poor communities by coercing the young to join the military, reinforces racism and exhausts finances that would be better used serving human needs.

Earlier this month, an Iraq Summer Teach-in brought the issue to the forefront. The effort was led by Joann Bowman, a former African-American state lawmaker who currently serves as executive director of Oregon Action.

Since the Vietnam War, Oregon has demonstrated a unified peace movement, but what makes this coalition unique are the demographics represented. It's not predominantly of middle class Anglo-Americans.

The point of the teach-in was to investigate hard hitting questions that are often pushed out of priority in the name of duty, patriotism and opportunity.

Concerns about the Iraq War's impact on the local community and the effect it has on individuals in the family are tantamount. Unlike previous wars, the deployments of soldiers who are women add to the pressures military families face.

Bowman outlines the primary goals for people of color against the war as communicating local concerns to elected leaders and moving toward a new policy that will bring our troops home.

For example, some question whether the current health system is equipped to address the mental and healthcare needs of returning vets, and others wonder if specific provisions for employment opportunities should be made for them.

Oregon Action had trained volunteers and community leaders to facilitate small groups for specific discussions. Premiering at the teach-in was a Support our Troops media project from a core of college students in partnership with North West Institute for Social Change.



Joann Bowman

continued on page A3

Neighborhood Coalition Returns to its Roots

Director understands local dynamics

BY LEE PERLMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Under a new executive director, the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods will see a return to the organization's roots.

Joseph Santos-Lyons is a Portland native and resident of the Piedmont neighborhood who most recently served as National Director of Field Organizing for Campus Ministries. He has also been active in Oregon Action, the Coalition for a Livable Future, the Environmental Justice Action Group, and the Interstate Urban Renewal Advisory Group and has worked extensively with neighborhood associations. "He has great organizing skills,"



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Joseph Santos-Lyons, a Portland native and Piedmont neighborhood resident, is the new leader of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods.

said NECN board chair Ron Laster. "He has worked with youth, multi-racial families, people of color and ministries. He has a good knowledge of the neighborhood association structure, and understands the dynamic of our community."

The coalition, like the city's six other neighborhood offices, provides services to neighborhood associations, and is guided by a governing board. It has also created service programs such as the Graffiti Removal Program, the Northeast Workforce Center and its Jobs Committee, the Youth Gang Outreach Program, and the Transit Rider Advocates Program.

The graffiti program was later taken over by the city, while the workforce center became an independent agency.

Santos-Lyons makes it clear continued on page A3

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