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# The Portland Observer

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## Week in The Review

### Max Security Summit

TriMet General Manager Fred Hansen called for a transit-safety summit and increased security along the Max light-rail line near the Gresham Central Transit Center in the wake of Saturday's baseball-bat beating of a 71-year-old Sandy resident by a 15-year-old suspected gang member.

### Highest Death Toll Yet

Six U.S. military deaths on Tuesday made 2007 the bloodiest year for American troops in Iraq. With nearly two months left in the year, the annual toll is now 853—three more than the previous worst of 850 in 2004. See story, page A2.

### Desperate for Recruits

Faced with higher recruiting goals, the Pentagon is quietly looking for ways to make it easier for people with minor criminal records to join the military. The Associated Press learned Tuesday. Some Army officers worry that disciplinary problems will grow as more soldiers with past drug use and behavior problems are brought in.

### Oil Hits \$97 Barrel

Oil futures jumped to a new record above \$97 a barrel Tuesday after bombings in Afghanistan and an attack on a Yemeni oil pipeline compounded the supply concerns that have driven crude prices higher in recent weeks.



### Pakistani Lawyers Protest

Following the ousting of Pakistan's Chief Justice, clashes broke out between hundreds of lawyers and baton-wielding police officers Monday. By the end of the day, about 2,000 people had been rounded up by authorities, among them 500 to 700 lawyers.

### Obama's SNL Appearance

Starring opposite cast members playing Hillary and Bill Clinton, Barack Obama made a surprise appearance on NBC to announce "Live from New York, it's Saturday Night!" after walking into the Clinton characters' Halloween party wearing an Obama mask, which he removed to reveal he was, indeed, Obama.

### Missing Oregon Professor

The Lane County Sheriff's office is on the lookout for University of Oregon professor Daming Xu, who has been missing since telling friends on Sunday he was going for a hike near the Cougar Reservoir.

## BRACING for High Energy Costs

### Cold winter predicted

BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Don't be deceived by the beautiful fall weather; it comes with colder nights and higher heating costs. Just as Oregon's oil prices hit record highs for the season, meteorologists predict one of the Northwest's coldest winters in history.

A heating-oil price survey completed last month through the state's energy department reported an average of \$3.07 a gallon in the Portland-metro area, which is 38 percent more than the \$2.23 figure at the same time last year. Meanwhile, the Farmer's Almanac joined nearly everyone else in forecasting a drastic reversal of last year's warmer than usual winter.

This means that residents will be paying for more oil after its cost has nearly doubled from five years ago. The problem is not just for heating-oil consumers either; electricity and natural-gas prices are also jumping this year by about 10 percent.

"It's a scary situation to be in," Roger Rees, executive director of Oregon HEAT, the state's largest provider of low-income heating-bill assistance, told the Portland Observer on Tuesday. "If we get acute weather, there's no way we're going to meet the need."



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sig Hustad of First Call Heating and Cooling delivers heating oil to a customer in the Parkrose neighborhood of northeast Portland.

Hearing about relief agencies' phone lines at capacity, Rees fears that many people having to choose between heat and food will fall through the cracks without additional funding. Federal dollars for

energy efficiency and heating-bill assistance during the past decade have not kept up with inflation.

Recognizing the potential for reducing heating costs through simple insulation and weatherstrip-

ping steps, Alberta Street's Community Energy Project provides free weatherization kits that would cost \$150 at a hardware store.

"You can save some real good money," says Lenetta Bell, who

began to volunteer regularly for the Community Energy Project after seeing what weatherization did for family members. Liking weather-

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Calvary Christian Church member Kevin Scott opens the church doors to the homeless and downtrodden.

## Homeless Refuge

### Calvary opens doors to downtrodden

BY JASON FLOYD  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Autumn has fallen once again and the streets often turn cold and wet. No one realizes this seasonal transformation more than those who have no home to escape from it. Amidst the drizzle and chill on the corner of Northeast Mallory Avenue and Alberta

who came to Calvary nearly two years ago was in an addicted condition, a state he said he felt in his heart of hearts was unsatisfactory. Although he was sporadic in his attendance at Calvary's services, he benefited from it and now helps others at the church.

He recalls that the church was attractive because of its transparency, of the counseling of Calvary Pas-

### Banquet to Support Center

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Street, stands Calvary Christian Church like a behemoth brick sentry.

For the second year, Calvary is opening its doors to the homeless and downtrodden of Portland. This time around, many of the volunteers who are welcoming people off of the street into shelter and a warm meal are people who were in a similar predicament a year, months and even weeks ago.

For example, a 39-year-old man

tor Frederick Woods, and for a congregation's willingness to let their lives, good and bad, serve as an open testimony to any that take interest.

As time went on, the fog of addiction lifted and with the church's community outreach, he got the foothold he needed to steer the momentum of his life in the direction he truly desired.

"Calvary wasn't only a ref-

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## Landmark Falls for Vanport Square

The last wall of the former Living Color Beauty Supply store is about to come down as demolition of a block that borders Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Alberta Street makes way for a signature Magic Johnson 24-Hour Fitness, the second phase of Vanport Square.

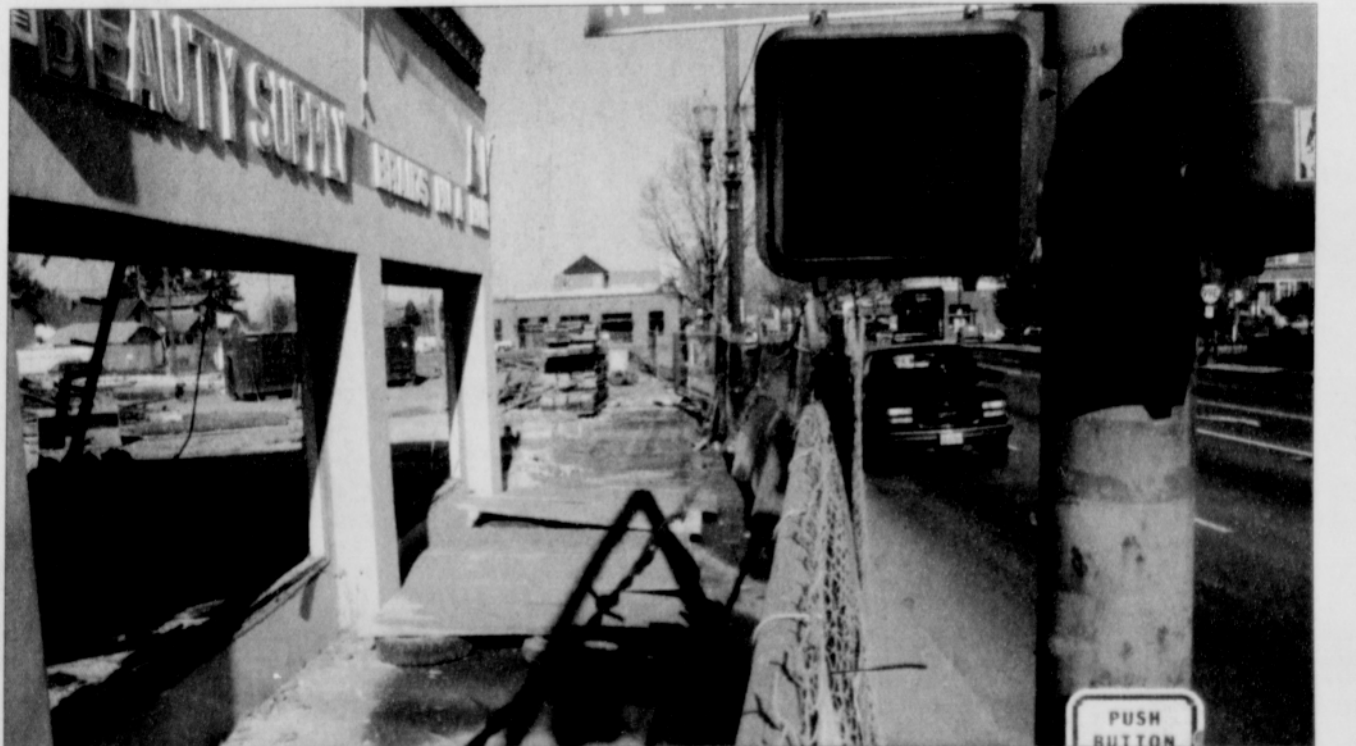


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