

OHSU Settles for \$38.5 million

Oregon Health & Science University has settled six medical malpractice cases for \$38.5 million after the Oregon Supreme Court lifted the cap on liability claims.

U.S. District Judge Michael Hogan said the settlements included \$9.3 million to the family of Jordaan Clarke, a boy who suffered permanent brain damage because of a mistake made

at OHSU. The \$200,000 liability cap that had protected the hospital from paying out large malpractice claims was lifted as a result of the Clarke family lawsuit.

Hogan also mediated a lawsuit that OHSU filed against its insurance company, Washington Casualty, which agreed to cover \$21.35 million of the settlement costs.

Simpson Future Hangs on Appeal

Attorneys cite trial errors

(AP) -- O.J. Simpson's attorneys in his armed robbery case could be fighting long odds to convince an appeals court that he was a victim of racial prejudice and payback for his murder acquittal, legal experts say, but there may be other grounds

for a new trial.

The 61-year-old Simpson's future depends, in part on how successfully his lawyers argue that his 1995 acquittal was allowed to intrude in a Las Vegas courtroom.

Las Vegas defense attorney Al Lasso said that while the former football star's acquittal was the "elephant in the room everyone was trying to ignore," there were other errors that could bring a reversal of his conviction.

"This court would not hesitate to reverse if they saw cumulative errors that had the effect of prejudicing a defendant," Lasso said. "But then again it's O.J. Simpson and he's unlike any other defendant."

Lasso, who watched the trial, said he was shocked at the jury's decision to convict Simpson and co-defendant Clarence "C.J." Stewart of kidnapping, armed robbery and 10 other charges re-



O.J. Simpson reacts after being convicted Friday on all charges in his Las Vegas kidnapping and robbery trial.

The day after the verdict, Simpson lawyer Yale Galanter said the jury was "on an agenda" to make up for Simpson's acquittal.

"This was just payback," Galanter said.

Lasso agreed, saying the conviction "feels like revenge justice."

Simpson remains isolated in a 7-foot-by-14-foot cell in a Las Vegas jail, and his attorneys said they were preparing a request for new trial to be filed by week's end.

Once Simpson is sentenced, Grasso said, the focus will be on an appeal to the Nevada Supreme Court, which is the only appellate court in the state. An appeal could take a year and a half to resolve, and Simpson and Stewart would probably remain behind bars during that time.

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For more information, contact:
Gene Jackson, Program Coordinator
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PCC to Meet with Neighbors



A home at 1019 N. Church St. sits vacant after being purchased by Portland Community College last July. The house is outside a boundary where PCC promised it would not expand.

Portland Community College leaders have promised to answer questions about the expansion of its Cascade campus in north Portland at an open public meeting with the Humboldt Neighborhood Association which will take place Tuesday, Oct. 14 at

7 p.m. at the PCC Public Services Education Building, 909 N. Killingsworth, (between Mississippi and Michigan Avenues).

The college district wants to build more facilities at PCC Cascade to serve a growing student population and demands for workforce training.

PCC has a 20-year impact mitigation plan that directs where future development may occur, but college officials say all options are on the table with community involvement coming after the bond levy is decided.

Since the last expansion of PCC Cascade in 2002, PCC has spent an additional \$3.89 million in property acquisitions in Humboldt, mostly in the impact zone along North Killingsworth Street, but also outside the boundary where a residential property was acquired last July in a block with 15 other homes.

PCC district vice president Randy McEwen said the home was purchased from a willing seller and there are no plans for its use. A zone change would be required if it was turned into college use.

Obama Effigy Brings Suspensions

(AP) — George Fox University says four students have been punished for hanging a likeness of Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama from a tree.

The four students were punished last week with public service and one-year suspensions.

Meanwhile, the FBI continued its criminal investigation into the matter to determine whether the students had violated any civil rights.

The life-size cardboard cut-

out of Obama was hung from a tree on Sept. 23 along with a message that read, "Act Six reject." The note referred to a scholarship and leadership program for minority and low-income student leaders at Christian colleges primarily located in the Northwest.

It was the university's own internal investigation that led officials to the four students, who later confessed to having hung the effigy, college officials said.

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An exhibit of original picture book art from the acclaimed Caldecott Honor winner Bryan Collier (Martin's Big Words, Rosa).

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A book sale and signing will follow Mr. Collier's presentation.

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