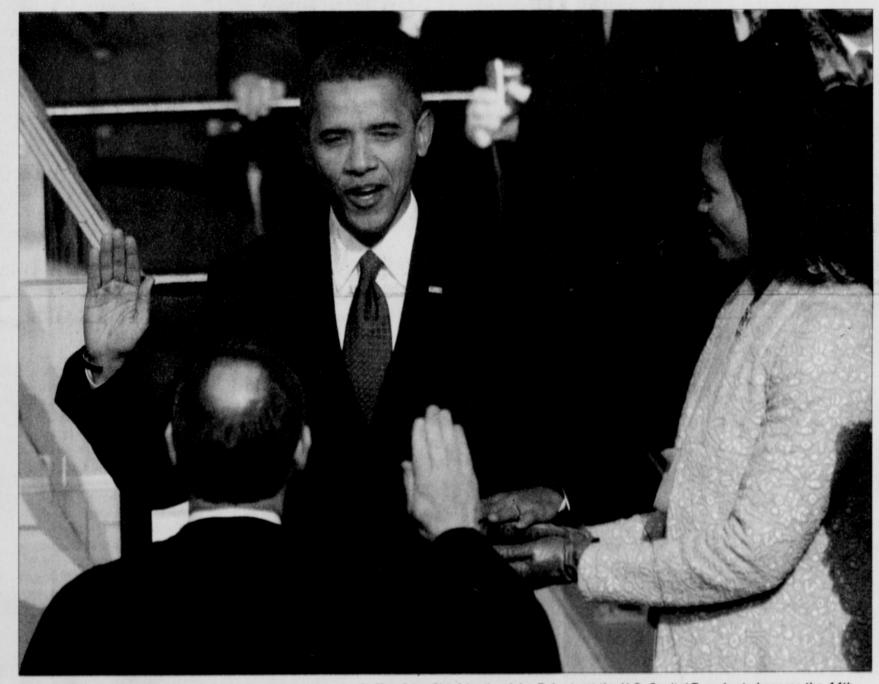
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# President Obama! Historic journey begins



## **First black** president takes oath

(AP) -- Stepping into history, Barack Hussein Obama grasped the reins of power as America's first black president on Tuesday, declaring the nation must choose "hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord" to overcome the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.

In frigid temperatures, an exuberant crowd of more than a million packed the National Mall and parade route to celebrate Obama's inauguration in a highnoon ceremony. Waving and cheering in jubilation, they stretched from the inaugural platform at the U.S. Capitol toward the Lincoln Memorial in the distance.

Barack Obama, joined by his wife Michelle, takes the oath of office from Chief Justice John Roberts at the U.S. Capitol Tuesday to become the 44th president of the United States.

With 11 million Americans out of work and trillions of dollars lost in the stock market's tumble, Obama emphasized that his biggest challenge is to repair the tattered economy left behind by outgoing President George W. Bush.

"Our time of standing pat, of protecting narrow interests and putting off unpleasant decisions - that time has surely passed," Obama said. "Starting today, we must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and begin the work of remaking America."

It was a day of high spirits - jarred by sudden concern about the health of

continued V on page A3

# **An Inauguration to Remember**

### Area residents reflect on racial progress

#### BY JAKE THOMAS THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

was sworn in as the 44th presi- meat loaf and gravy. dent of the United States, the first African American to break trait of the new president just work as a shoe shiner at the one of the largest racial barriers under it, NBC's Brian Willof the past.

Portland's Multi-Cultural Senior inaugural ceremony. Center just off Martin Luther Portland residents celebrated King Jr. Boulevard, seniors chat any day at the center, but it a day they thought they'd never it up over cups of coffee while isn't. see Tuesday as Barack Obama waiting for the day's meal of

iams and Al Roker banter be-At the Urban League of tween each other about the

This seems like it could be

Lee Lenard, 89. remembers coming to Portland in 1960 On television, with a por- from West Texas and finding Greyhound bus station. Back

continued V on page A2



'We've come a long ways, brother,' -- Lee Lenard

> 'I think he's extraordinary, -- C.J. Hamilton



# Week in The Review

### **Tongue Tied Oath**

smooth inauguration ceremony.

### **Black Pioneers Pave Way**

President Barack Obama led off his inaugural parade by paying homage to pioneers who paved the way for the nation's first black Both Chief Justice John Roberts chief executive. The honored paand President Barack Obama rade participants included Restumbled slightly over wording enactors from a black Civil War of the presidential oath of office regiment, World War II's survivon Tuesday, providing a brief, ing Tuskegee Airmen and Freeawkward moment in an otherwise dom Riders from the civil rights movement.

### **First Lady's Dress Dazzles**

First Lady Michelle Obama wore a sparkling yellow sheath dress with matching coat by Cubanborn American designer Isabel Toledo for the inauguration of her husband, a choice the American fashion industry.

### **Mayor Fights Sex Scandal**



apologized to Portland Tuesday for lying about a sexual relationship with a teenage male but

Adams

message of hope and a vote for anomaly in two decades of public service. See story, page A3.

### **Inaugural Draws 1 Million**

More than 1 million people crammed onto the National Mall and along the inauguration parade route Tuesday to celebrate the swearing-in of the nation's first black president in what was one of the largest-ever gatherings in the nation's capital. The many applauded as a cheerful asked the city to consider it an crowd stretched nearly two miles -from the Capitol to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.

