

Obama, Most Admired

For the third straight year, President Barack Obama ranks as the man most admired by people living in the U.S., according to



an annual USA Today-Gallup poll. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is the most-admired woman for the ninth year in a row, edging out former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin and TV host Oprah Winfrey.

Preparing for Snow

Tuesday, the City of Portland was preparing for possible snow and black ice as a powerful cold front moves south. Forecasters predicted that the snow would

start falling as close as Kelso late Tuesday night and then work its way toward the higher elevations of the Portland Metro area.



Extreme Cold Tragedy

Eight people seeking refuge from freezing temperatures in an abandoned New Orleans warehouse died Tuesday when a fire apparently got out of control and destroyed the building. In the Northeast, folks were digging out from a massive blizzard that closed airports and clogged streets.

Police Shoot Armed Man

Police shot and wounded a 34-year-old man Monday who was

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armed with a machete after first firing a stun gun and a beanbag gun at him. It happened in a southwest Portland neighborhood after a 911 call that a man was threatening relatives.

Consumer Confidence Falls

A new survey shows consumer confidence in the U.S. dipped in December amid worries over employment, even after other reports suggest people increased their holiday spending at the biggest rate in four years.

Courthouse Bomb Threat

The Multnomah County Court-

house was evacuated Tuesday afternoon after a bomb threat was made by phone and a suspicious device was found. The evacuation also closed the streets and MAX lines around the building



Parenthood for Elton

The piano man Elton John and husband David Furnish have become parents to a baby boy born on Christmas Day. The child was born in California via a surrogate,

whose identity is being protected by the new parents.

Home Prices falling

Home prices are dropping in the nation's largest cities, including Portland, and are expected to keep falling next year, as fewer people purchase homes and millions of foreclosures come on to the market, according to a new home price index released Tuesday.

New Year's Eve Patrols

Law enforcement agencies were gearing up Tuesday for extra traffic patrols during the upcoming New Year's weekend. Since 1986, 43 percent of traffic fatalities in Oregon during the holiday period have been in alcohol-involved crashes.

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