The Portland Observer



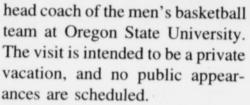


Worst Loss in War

The military on Tuesday opened an investigation into a devastating helicopter crash in Afghanistan that killed 30 U.S. troops and eight Afghans. The helicopter apparently was shot down by an insurgent armed with a rocket-propelled grenade. It was the single deadliest loss in the decade-long war.

First Lady in Oregon

First Lady Michelle Obama visited Corvallis on Monday to visit her older brother Craig Robinson, the

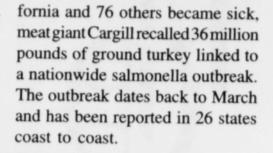


One Dead from Strawberries

Oregon health authorities say one person has died and at least nine others were made sick from an E coli outbreak traced to fresh strawberries picked from a Newberg farm and sold at farm stands and farmers markets. Officials said the source of the bacteria is likely fecal material from a deer and the farm does not appear to have done anything wrong.

Ground Turkey Recall

After one person was killed in Cali-



Natural Gas Hikes Not Anticipated

The Oregon Public Utility Commission expects natural gas prices to remain mostly unchanged this coming winter. The commission said demand has not rebounded since the economic recession which should keep a lid on prices.

Stock Market Plunge

The Stock Market suffered its sixthworst point drop in history on Monday, falling 634 points. The drop was attributed to a downgrade of the U.S. credit rating. On Tuesday, the Federal Reserve guaranteed super-low interest rates for two more years and Wall Street roared its approval and finished with a 429point gain.



No Match on D.B. Cooper

The FBI announced on Monday that the DNA found on the tie of hijacker D.B. Cooper does not match a new suspect in the case. Investigators are working with family members to identify further items for tests in the coming days.





State Rep. Mark Hatfield (seated, right) in 1953 after passage of Oregon's Civil Rights Bill.

Mark Hatfield Dies at Age 89 Republican championed civil rights

Former Sen. Mark Hatfield, an outspoken critic of war whose liberal views often put him at odds with fellow Republicans but endeared him to Oregonians, died Sunday. He was 89.

Hatfield, who had become increasingly frail in recent years, died at a Portland residence, said Gerry Frank, a longtime friend and former aide.

Also a former governor, Hatfield was the longest serving U.S. senator in Oregon history, serving five terms from 1967 to 1997.

environment, the needy and human rights - won him admirers across the political spectrum.

He was one of the first elected officials in overwhelming white Oregon to push for civil rights legislation. He supported a public accommodations bill in 1953 after Paul Robeson and Marian Anderson performed in Salem yet had to spend the night in Portland because Salem's hotels had a "No Coloreds" policy.

"No one has had a more profound impact on Oregon in the last half century than Mark Hatfield," said Gov. John Kitzhaber, a Demo-His causes - championing the crat. "We've lost a true statesman whose legacy lives on in his countless contributions to Oregon's quality of life."