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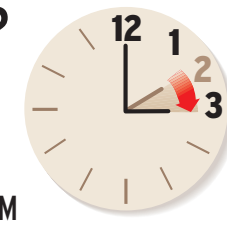
WHAT PGE'S OWNERSHIP CHANGE MEANS TO YOU BUSINESS

Bill Bowerman's influence runs on and on O!

Florida and UCLA to play for the NCAA title SPORTS, C1

Change your clocks?
Daylight-saving time began at 2 a.m. today; have you set your clocks ahead one hour? If you need help, check the atomic clock at **WWW.OREGONLIVE.COM**



The Sunday Oregonian

APRIL 2, 2006 VOICE OF THE NORTHWEST SINCE 1850 ★★★ SUNRISE EDITION PORTLAND, OREGON **$1.50**

Tram's price tag unrealistic from get-go

Portland | Backers failed to factor in complexities and cost for a landing that now tops the entire project's initial estimate

By **RYAN FRANK and JEFF MANNING**
THE OREGONIAN

When Portland's City Council bought into a $15.5 million aerial tram in 2003, it didn't know one key fact:

At that price, the tram was already impossible to build.

The tram's original Pill Hill landing was to anchor into the hillside with cables, a feat repeated across the globe for decades. But two years earlier, Oregon Health & Science University had planned a massive hospital expansion in the same location.

As a result, the relatively simple and inexpensive landing originally envisioned by the planners instead required an engineering marvel that's rarely, if ever, been accomplished.

The upper station's complexities were well known to anyone involved with the tram by January 2003. Yet no one working on the project at the time raised red flags about the impact on the upper station's cost. When the City Council approved the $15.5 million tram project seven months later, the upper station's challenges never came up.

"There was not a lot of stomach to revisit that number," Matt Brown, the city's tram project manager, said in November. "The sense among many of them was that when you post a number and that's your budget, by God, that's your budget. You stick to it."

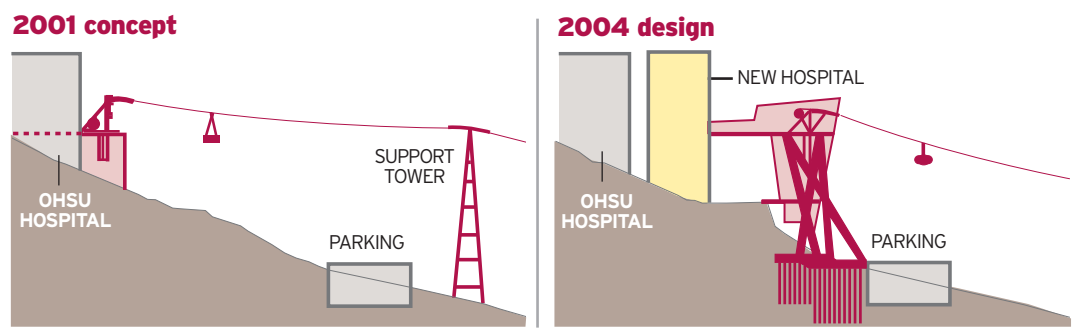
The upper station symbolizes how the budget-busting tram got lost in fuzzy lines of accountability among OHSU, City Hall and the nonprofit board of Portland heavyweights who managed it. Above all else, everyone pushed the tram's design in front of its engineering. They failed to come to grips with the daunting technical challenges until after the council agreed to help pay for the tram as part of the $2 billion South Waterfront deal.

The tram's estimated cost — fueled also by rising prices for construction materials and the falling dollar — now

Please see **TRAM,** Page A8

Upper station changes

The original concept had the upper station anchored into the hillside with cables in a manner that's been repeated on trams for decades. When OHSU decided to build a new hospital in the same spot, it changed the way the tram had to be anchored, making the upper station one of the most complicated tram platforms ever built.



Sources: Jewett Engineering Limited, Angélil/Graham/Pfenninger/Scholl Architecture
STEVE COWDEN/THE OREGONIAN

» **Online:** **To read previous stories** about the Portland aerial tram, go to **www.oregonlive.com/special/tram/**

To Portlanders, a toddler in peril is everyone's child

MAX station incident | Passers-by come unhesitantly to an Eastern Oregon couple's aid when a stranger grabs their daughter

By **MAXINE BERNSTEIN**
THE OREGONIAN

Helmuth Rogg's 2-year-old daughter, Isabel, squirmed beside him on the westbound MAX train last Sunday as an unshaven man with round glasses stepped into the car and sat down in the front.

The man, dressed in shabby bluejeans and a blue windbreaker over a faded olive-green T-shirt, quickly rose and moved to another seat, then another. Each time, he walked slowly, grasping the yellow bars and hanging hand straps as the train swayed.

Rogg, a 45-year-old entomologist who studies invasive insects, fixed his eyes on the stranger. The man avoided his gaze, although he finally settled into a seat facing Rogg, his wife and their two children.

What happened next could have started the same way on a train in any other metropolitan city. But the way it ended says something special about Portland.

Isabel fidgeted. On her dad's lap. Standing on a seat and looking out the window. Sitting beside him. Walking in the aisle.

The train whizzed through bright afternoon sunlight, passed art galleries on Second Avenue and turned onto Southwest Morrison Street. Rogg, an experienced traveler who has honed

Please see **MAX INCIDENT,** Page A11

Rock-a-bye, baby, your name is Treetop

Oregon | Newborns' names set a standard for variety, ranging from Chevy to Lucifer

By **BILL GRAVES**
THE OREGONIAN

Oregon parents convey their hopes, their values, their family histories and, sometimes, their vanities in the names they give their babies.

Inside: Can your name determine your destiny? | **A12**

Their desire to give their children unique names — one Oregon baby born last year was actually named Unique — has produced the biggest variety of names since the state began keeping track in 1961.

But parents also want to see their children carry solid, well-respected names, and that ensures that the top 10 is dominated by classic names that have endured. They are names such as Emma and Jacob, the two most popular baby names in Oregon for 2005.

"What they really want to find is something impossible — a

Please see **BABY NAMES,** Page A12

Immigration: Dollars and sense

In Oregon and across the nation, illegal immigration is a hot election-year issue. A new analysis reveals facts behind the costs — and benefits — of these workers.

FAITH CATHCART/THE OREGONIAN

Ignacio Paramo, 42, (center) knows firsthand the fear of immigration enforcement and the relief of legal status. In 1986, the one-time pre-med student from Michoacan, Mexico, joined thousands of other Oregon farmworkers who applied for – and eventually received – legal residency under federal immigration law. Today, Paramo works with the nonprofit Southeast Portland-based Voz, informing day laborers of their rights. Four years ago, he became a U.S. citizen, though he has mixed feelings. "They say thank you for contributing to this economy, and you settle down," he says. "Then people try to criminalize us, and it's totally inhuman, and it's really sad."

By **JANIE HAR and MICHELLE COLE**
THE OREGONIAN

Silvio was 14 when he crossed the Mexican-U.S. border. He caught a plane the next day to join his father in Portland.

He didn't go to school. Instead, he worked back-to-back shifts, 6 a.m. to midnight, at a recycling company, loading paper and driving tractors for $6 an hour.

Nobody cared about documents. They only cared how hard he worked.

Inside: How undocumented immigrants have made an imprint on Oregon | **A10**

He took English classes at Portland Community College and at 16, enrolled in a Portland high school. Today, the 20-year-old attends PCC, helping to pay for his education by pulling two 15-hour night shifts at a supermarket.

"I am willing to work and be a success in life," he says. "I'm not a criminal, and I pay taxes."

Silvio, who agreed to be interviewed on condition his full name not be reported, is one of Oregon's estimated 175,000 undocumented immigrants — among more than 11 million in the United States who stand at the center of a storm of political debate, massive protests and calls for legislative reform.

One of many contentious questions is what these workers and their families contribute to Oregon's economy compared with what they cost in taxpayer-funded services, such as public schools and health care.

The answer doesn't come easily, given a population that mostly flies under government radar. A review by The Oregonian, which included examining state spending and independent studies, suggests illegal immigrants might consume tens of millions of dollars in state services. The Pew Hispanic Center in

Please see **IMMIGRATION,** Page A10

Undocumented workers pay taxes

A new analysis by the Oregon Center for Public Policy estimates at least half of undocumented workers living in Oregon pay state and federal taxes. To read the report online: www.ocpp.org

Estimated total annual income	$1.9-$2.2 billion
Total of estimated taxes paid	$137-$160 million
State income, excise/property taxes	$66-$77 million
Social Security taxes	$58-$67 million
Medicare taxes	$13-$16 million

Oregon Center for Public Policy
ERIC BAKER/THE OREGONIAN

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Ex-hostage: 'I was threatened'

U.S. journalist Jill Carroll says comments that she made before she was released from 82 days in captivity were coerced. In a statement from The Christian Science Monitor on Saturday, Carroll said, "Out of fear, I said I wasn't threatened. In fact, I was threatened many times." | **A14**

WEATHER

Showers
High: **58** • Low: **44**
For complete weather, see **B12**