

Representative wants each household to own a gun



SALEM (AP) — State Rep. Liz VanLeeuwen says she has a way to hold down crime — require every Oregon household to own a gun and have somebody in the house trained to use it.

Universal gun ownership by responsible adults would deter crime by making Oregon "too dangerous for criminals," VanLeeuwen said Monday.

"You can call this the gun dealers promotion bill if you want," the Halsey Republican said of her bill.

VanLeeuwen's bill would require every Oregon household — except for convicted felons and others exempted by the courts — to own a firearm and have somebody who knows how to use it.

She said she realizes the bill might earn her some no-

'You can call this the gun dealers promotion bill if you want.'

— Rep. Liz VanLeeuwen,
author of proposed bill

toriety at a time when the country worries about increasing violence and some groups want to ban all or most guns.

"This is my one wild thing," she said of the measure introduced Friday.

VanLeeuwen said she submitted the bill, HB2775, at the request of Jim Ricke, owner of Ricke's Sporting Goods in Lebanon, and other gun dealers.

Ricke cited the experience of Kennesaw, Ga., a town

of 9,000 near Atlanta, which required gun ownership 12 years ago and experienced a sharp drop in residential burglaries.

"Criminals aren't stupid, just lazy," Ricke said.

He said he worked on the bill on behalf of the Oregon Firearms Trade Association and the Oregon Pro-Gun Civil Rights Lobby Inc.

VanLeeuwen assumed the measure would be referred to the House Judiciary Committee headed by Rep. Del Parks, R-Klamath Falls, but she was uncertain how far it would get.

The bill contains no penalty for not owning a gun and would not require ownership if people can't afford a gun, VanLeeuwen said.

Ricke said a companion bill to the gun-ownership proposal would call for firearms safety training in high school.

Police arrest suspected killer of two Portlanders

PORTLAND (AP) — A man arrested in California is a suspected serial killer believed to be linked to two deaths in Portland, police said Tuesday.

Andrew David Edwards, 34, was arrested last Tuesday in Oroville, Calif., during an investigation into an alleged assault in San Jose, Calif., according to Sgt. Derrick Foxworth, Portland police spokesman.

After questioning by sheriff's deputies in Butte County, Calif., Portland detectives were called.

Edwards was charged Monday with murder in the death

of Anthony Keith Thurman, 24, a transient whose body was found April 5, 1990, underneath a downtown Portland freeway underpass.

He also is a suspect in the death of John Harold Schiermeister, 37, another transient whose body was found Oct. 5, 1987, in a downtown Portland railroad yard, Foxworth said.

Both Thurman and Schiermeister died of head injuries.

Edwards is also a suspect in the deaths of transients in Kern County, Calif., and in Pueblo, Calif., Foxworth said.

Republicans want Jolin to resign

SALEM (AP) — Embattled Democratic Sen. Peg Jolin says Republicans have turned "extraordinarily vicious" in their continued pressure on her stemming from her felony conviction.

Jolin made the comment Monday after the Senate Republican leader called for her resignation, and House Majority Leader Greg Walden introduced a measure to prevent felons from serving in the Legislature.

Walden, a Hood River Republican, said the proposal would go on the May 1994 ballot if passed by the Legislature.

He said the Jolin matter is the top issue in the public mind about the Legislature since the session convened Jan. 11.

Meanwhile, the minority Republicans in the Senate officially asked that Jolin be removed as chairwoman of a Senate committee.

Jolin, a 12-year legislative veteran from Cottage Grove, was convicted of undue influence for seeking donations to erase campaign debts when her campaign fund actually had a surplus.

State law prohibits people convicted of "infamous crimes" from holding public office. But the

state Constitution gives the Legislature the ultimate authority over who's qualified to serve in that body.

That means the Republicans, with 14 of the 30 Senate seats, can't take any official action against Jolin without help from Democrats. It requires two thirds, or 20 votes, to expel a member.

Senate Minority Leader Gene Timms, R-Burns, said Monday he believed Jolin should resign her Senate seat. He said he would request that the caucus send her a letter asking her to step down.

But the Republicans decided against that after Jolin told Timms she wouldn't accept such a letter, said GOP caucus spokesman Dan Lavey. The caucus instead sent a letter to Senate President Bill Bradbury, D-Bandon, asking him to remove Jolin as chairwoman of the Business, Housing and Consumer Affairs Committee.

Republicans earlier had agreed to put the issue of her resignation aside pending the outcome of her appeal.

Bradbury has said her district deserves full representation as long as the appeal is pending.

POLICE BEAT

The following incidents were reported to the University Office of Public Safety and the Eugene police department from Jan. 25 to Feb. 1.

- An 18-year-old Churchill High School student was arrested Jan. 25 for the theft of 50 Faith No More concert tickets from House of Records, 258 E. 13th Ave., that took place between Dec. 23-28. The suspect was arrested after an employee phoned police and said a man called House of Records and claimed to have information about the theft. A police sergeant posed as the owner of the store in a meeting with two men who said they knew who stole the tickets.

- One of the men gave the sergeant the name of the suspect and said he was a Churchill student. The sergeant went to Churchill and arrested the suspect. The suspect told the officer he stole the tickets as a prank and sold about five tickets for a total of \$40. He said he gave the rest of the tickets away after having trouble

- selling them. The officer said about 10 or 12 people got into the concert with stolen tickets, which had been altered so their numbers didn't match a stolen ticket list at the gate.

- A University student reported a theft of a backpack from Columbia Hall Jan. 28. The student left her backpack in Room 150 Columbia while she left a class for a brief period of time. When she returned, the backpack and its contents, valued at \$165, were gone.

- The Red Dragon Body Art tattoo shop, 884 E. 13th Ave., reported a burglary on Jan. 29. Two stainless steel tattooing pins, an airbrush, a toolbox full of paintbrushes, two voltage converters and foot pedals were taken. The total value of the stolen items is \$1,000. There were no signs of forced entry, and police suspect a key was used to gain entry.

- A University student reported a theft from a vehicle at a University parking lot on the 1500 block of Moss Street Jan. 29.

- The suspects removed part of the vehicle's sunroof and took two car speakers valued at a total of \$200.

- A suspicious subject was reported at the Delta Gamma sorority, 1884 Alder St., Jan. 30. Two members of the sorority called police after they observed a man climbing up the fire escape outside the building. The man told the women, "I'm a convicted rapist. What are you going to do about it?" He also gave the women a description of what he was wearing and told them his name was Luke Perry. The suspect left the sorority shortly before police arrived. Police observed the man walking south on Alder Street, but could not catch the suspect.

- The suspect is described as 5-foot-10, about 170 pounds, between 19 and 21 years old, with light brown hair and dark eyes. He was wearing a Guess jacket, white shorts with dark pinstripes and Vans shoes that were dark with multicolored patches.

- A 20-year-old man was arrested for urinating in public, minor in possession and falsely reporting age, and a 20-year-old University student was charged with minor in possession and falsely reporting age in an incident that took place at WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th Ave., Feb. 1. Officers were responding to a fight at the concert hall when they observed a man urinating outside the building. The man was determined to be a minor who had been drinking in the bar. A bartender from the hall said the suspect had shown a check-cashing card in the bar that said he was of age.

- The bartender also said the female student who was with the first suspect was also in the bar with a similar check-cashing card. Police obtained the check-cashing cards and cited the pair.

- A 32-year-old man reported an assault at New Max's Tavern, 55 E. 13th Ave., Feb. 1. The victim said he was bit on the hand by another man.

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