

Man shot nine times by campus police at Portland State University

By Gillian Flaccus
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Two campus security officers in Oregon fired 17 times at a legally armed man who was trying to break up a fight and struck him nine times, killing him, according to a report released Wednesday.

Oregon State Medical Examiner Dr. Rebecca Millius ruled the death of Jason Washington, 45, a homicide, the report shows.

Washington was struck in the chest, back, abdomen and legs and had graze wounds from a bullet that glanced off his head, she said.

A grand jury ruled on Sept. 13 that Portland State University Officers James Dewey and Shawn McKenzie should not face criminal charges in the June 29 shooting.

Washington, a Navy veteran and U.S. Postal Service employee, had been out drinking with friends when his group got into a confrontation with another group outside a bar called the Cheerful Tortoise just off campus in downtown Portland.

A lengthy report released last week by the Portland Police Bureau, as well as footage pulled from the officers' body-worn cameras, show Washington had a gun in his right pocket when

he tried to come to a friend's assistance during a fight. Officers later found a legal permit to carry a concealed weapon in the dead man's wallet.

The footage from Dewey's camera shows the campus police officer rolling up to a fight on a street on the fringes of the university campus.

Dewey exits his patrol vehicle and a man at the scene says several times, "He pulled a gun on us! He pulled a gun!" as he points to Washington, who appears to be trying to keep his friend from a fight.

At that point, Washington's visibly intoxicated friend breaks away and begins punching another man until he is kicked by a third person in the head and knocked out.

As Washington tries to pull the man away from his unconscious friend, Dewey grabs Washington's arm from behind and tells him to back away from the fight. A black object that appears to be a gun is visible protruding from Washington's right hip pocket at that moment in Dewey's body camera video.

Washington stumbles backward and falls to the ground as someone says, "He's got a gun!"

Washington gets up, takes several steps away from Dewey

and turns to face the two officers as they shout at him to drop the gun.

The medical examiner's report quotes one of the officers as yelling, "Do not pick up the gun!" just before the officers fired 17 shots "in very quick succession."

A witness told several media outlets immediately after the shooting she saw the gun fall out of Washington's pocket when he fell, and he was shot after he picked it up.

It's unclear from the angle of both body camera videos, however, whether Washington is holding the gun when he is shot.

Toxicology reports show Washington had a blood-alcohol content of more than three times the legal driving limit.

His wife, Michelle Washington, has said she will file a lawsuit in her husband's death.

Portland State University's president has hired two independent firms, one to examine the school's policy of arming campus police and another to conduct its own investigation into the shooting. Students are planning a rally later this month to press the school to disarm its campus police.

PSU decided to arm its campus security officers in 2014 despite concerns raised by students.

Huffmyer receives PEO Scholar Award for doctoral research

Observer Staff

Former Summerville resident Ariana Snow Huffmyer was recently selected as a national PEO Scholar Award recipient. This highly competitive \$15,000 merit award is for women pursuing doctoral degrees or post-doctoral research.

Huffmyer graduated magna cum laude from Oregon State Biology with a B.S. in biology. She is also a recipient of a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship and is a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association Ernest Hollings Scholar. In addition to the PEO Scholar Award, Huffmyer received the distinction of being chosen to receive a Mary Louise Remy PEO Endowed Scholar Award.



Huffmyer's research focus is on increased conservation of coral reef ecosystems and promotion of

educational programs to promote careers in science. She is pursuing a PhD in marine biology at the University of Hawaii in Manoa, where she and her husband, Jeff, reside.

Huffmyer was sponsored for the PEO Scholar Award by PEO Chapter I of La Grande. PEO is a national philanthropic education organization whose focus is to promote educational opportunities for women.

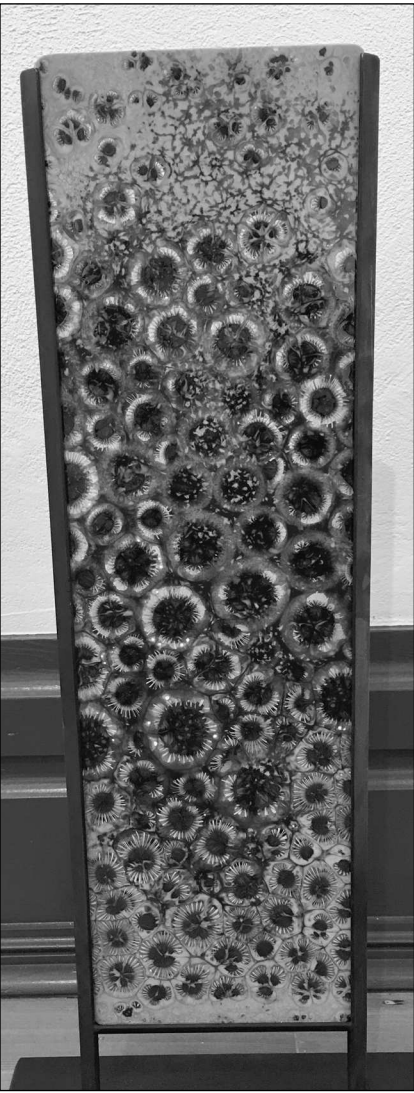
Cove artist receives first place at Baker City competition

Observer Staff

Cove artist Tom Dimond received first-place in Crossroads Carnegie Art Center's Art at the Crossroads exhibit and contest earlier this month in Baker City. His winning entry in the three-dimensional category was a blown and fused glass piece titled "Marine Life Panel."

Crossroads celebrated its 20th annual Art at the Crossroads this month. This year the annual exhibit was judged by artist Amy Lay of Medical Springs. Amy chose six winning artists in two different categories. A first- and second-place in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional word as well as a Best of Show winner. The 2018 Crossroads received 140 pieces of artwork submitted by 55 local and regional artists.

"We are so pleased and honored to showcase the work of so many talented artists in our area," Kristin Hauter, Crossroads' community art director, said in a press release. "I'm proud Crossroads can provide, introduce and share new artists' work to the community with our annual event."



UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Arrested: Dan Allen Nelson, 63, unknown address, was arrested on a Union County warrant charging failure to appear in court on charges of second-degree disorderly conduct and second-degree trespassing.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident at Hunter Road and Dial Lane in the Summerville area Sunday. The accident was reported at 11:23 a.m.

Arrested: Brandon James Campbell, 38, unknown address, was arrested on a Union County warrant charging failure to appear in court on a charge of fourth-degree assault constituting domestic violence.

Arrested: Sharon Lee Haefel, 69, La Grande, was arrested on a charge of

driving under the influence of intoxicants.

Arrested: Ashley Hayes, 24, unknown address, was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

Cited: Lenora Kay Valentine, 55, Baker City, was cited on a charge of second-degree trespassing.

Arrested: Alex Joseph Smith, 27, unknown address, was arrested on a charge of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

LA GRANDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cited: Aaron Michael Chason, 18, La Grande, was cited on a charge of harassment.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident at Jefferson Avenue and

Depot Street Sunday. The accident was reported at 2:18 a.m.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident Saturday at Birch Street and W Avenue. The accident was reported at 6:16 a.m.

Cited: Wolverine D.K. Bliss, 28, unknown address, was cited on a charge of second-degree theft.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident at Z Avenue and Pine Street Friday. The accident was reported at 9:53 a.m.

Arrested: Paul Leo Smith, 42, La Grande, was arrested on a Union County Circuit court warrant charging contempt of court, two counts.

Accident: Nobody was injured in a traffic accident on Washington Avenue Friday. The accident was reported at 4:45 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Iris Leonard

La Grande

Iris Leonard, 98, of La Grande, died Sept. 21 at a local care facility. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

Robert Tuck

La Grande

Robert Tuck, 79, of La Grande, died Sept. 21 at his residence. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

Ronald L. Taylor

La Grande

Ronald Lee Taylor, 81, of La Grande, died Sept. 7. A celebration of Ron's life will be held at 1 p.m. Sept. 29 at the Faith Center in Island City, followed by a reception and refreshments.

OBITUARIES

LOCAL BRIEFING

From staff reports

Transportation Council meets Tuesday

ENTERPRISE — Community Connection of Wallowa County will hold a Transportation Advisory Council meeting at 3 p.m. Sept. 25 at Community Connection in Enterprise, 702 NW First St. The meeting is open to the public. Input, comments and questions concerning public transportation are welcome. For more information, contact David R. Ross, assistant transit manager, at 541-426-3840 or david@ceno.com.

Wine tasting evening held at Ten Depot

LA GRANDE — Ten Depot Street is offering a wine tasting Sept. 26 at 10 Depot St., La Grande. Participants will taste four wines from Willamette Valley's award-winning Tyee Wine Cellars. Each wine is paired with a small course of fresh local ingredients, including fresh halibut,

organic pears from Eagle Creek Orchard and beets from Nella Mae in Cove. The cost is \$30 person, and reservations will be taken for 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Walk-ins are admitted as space and servings allow. Ten Depot holds a Wine Tasting Wednesday once a month. For more information and reservations, call 541-963-8766.

Two climate change talks scheduled at Wallowology

JOSEPH — Wallowology is hosting two free Climate Change Series evening lectures. Sept. 26, "Atmospheric Cycles and the Impact of Life on Earth" will be presented by Karen Antell, PhD, EOU professor of biology. "Defrosting America's Icebox: Myths and Realities from the Frontlines of Changing Climate in Alaska" will be presented Oct. 4 by Randi Jandt, MS, fire ecologist, Alaska Fire Consor-

tium. Each lecture begins at 7 p.m. at Wallowology, 508 N. Main, Joseph.

Inspiring documentary shown free Friday

LA GRANDE — The documentary "I'll Push You" will be shown at 6 p.m. Sept. 28 in the Cook Memorial Library Community Room. The film follows two best friends from Ontario, one wheelchair-bound, who travel 500 miles of the Camino de Santiago in Spain. The inspiring film explores themes of friendship, resilience, faith and family. The free screening is a collaboration between the library and several area churches. An open-floor discussion follows the screening, and refreshments will be provided.

Register for free notary public seminar

ENTERPRISE — A Secretary of State Notary Public Seminar will be held Oct. 2

in the Prairie Creek Center, 104 Litch Creek, Enterprise. Information presented from 9 a.m. to noon will cover the rules, regulations and best practices for Oregon Notaries Public. This training meets the education requirements for those applying for a commission. Current notaries may also attend to refresh their memory and learn new content. For more information or to register, go to www.notsem.sos.state.or.us or call 503-986-2200.

Help kids cope with divorce, separation

Learn how divorce or separation impacts your children and what you can do to help at a workshop offered from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 9 in the Misener Conference Room, 1001 Fourth St., La Grande. The workshop is facilitated by Mary Lu Pierce and sponsored by the Family Law Advisory Committee. Cost is \$30 per

person (cash or check only). The fee may be waived by prior order of the court, or if attendance occurs prior to or within 45 days of filing for custody dissolution, separation or modification. Support persons and community members may attend free of charge. The workshop is for adults only. For more information call 541-962-9500 ext. 42.

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What's Cooking ?

by Sandy Sorrels of
TEN DEPOT STREET



First Ten Depot would like to welcome back all the students and faculty at EOU. It is fun to have again all the energy and excitement of the new school year. There is much going in this first week of Autumn, so hopefully we will see some of you at Ten Depot for great food and drink and some good music.

On Tuesday, Colt Haney is doing his solo act called *Elwood*. Haney, a singer-songwriter with roots in Eastern Oregon, plays folk, country and soul and writes "beautiful music from his heart and soul."

Thursday Portland musician *Chris Baron* is playing. Described as "folk with swagger" Baron draws you in, playing edgy acoustic guitar along with his disarming poetry. Both nights the music starts at 8:00.

For our *Blue Plate Special* this week, we are featuring local end-of-

the-season produce, with corn, beets, cabbage, and onions, all from local producers. Our pork comes from *Hill's Meat* in Pendleton, so this is pretty much a Northeast Oregon dinner. Come celebrate our bounty at just \$10.95 for our Blue Plate. And then try our *Daily Dessert* for \$3.50, with peaches and other local fresh fruit.

Also we have as a special, today through Wednesday, fresh *Oregon Snapper Parmesan with Garlic Aioli*, for just \$17.95.

We still have room for a few more people this Wednesday for our *Wine Tasting*, featuring the wines of *Tyee Cellars* near Corvallis. We serve four different wines paired each with a different course using fresh local ingredients, to compliment both the food and the wine. Call 963-8766 for reservations.

BLUE PLATE SPECIAL \$10.95

Slow Roasted Barbecued Pork Chops, corn on the cobb, beets and greens, cabbage salad, bread (served Monday through Friday)

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