

OR. COLL.  
HQ  
75  
.J96  
v. 13  
no. 4  
December  
15, 1995

portland, oregon

# just out

volume 13 number 4

FREE

december 15, 1995

## INSIDE:

*Our annual picks  
for the best in  
winter reading*

page 21

## MISSING

**\$20,000 REWARD FOR INFORMATION  
LEADING TO THEIR WHEREABOUTS.**



**MICHELLE ABDILL**  
5'3" 140 lbs.  
blue eyes



**ROXANNE ELLIS**  
5'10" 155 lbs.  
Light brown hair - Blue eyes



University of Oregon Library  
Received on: 08-12-96  
Just out

PHOTO BY LINDA KLEWER

## A Community Grieves

*Two loving, exuberant  
Medford lesbians are slain.  
Family, friends and other  
mourners share memories of  
Roxanne and Michelle and  
vow to continue their work.*

by Inga Sorensen

**A**s we went to press, law enforcement officials announced they had arrested Robert James Acremant, 27, in Stockton, Calif., in the slayings of Roxanne Ellis and Michelle Abdill.

John Bondurant, chief deputy district attorney for Jackson County, reportedly says there is no evidence indicating Acremant knew Ellis and Abdill were lesbians.

Acremant moved to Medford with his mother three weeks ago from Visalia, Calif., and published reports say Acremant met Ellis on Nov. 27 when she showed him and his mother three rental homes. Police speculate that Acremant made arrangements to have Ellis show him one of the rentals again on Dec. 4—the date the women were last seen alive.

Acremant reportedly told his father he killed the two, and he is suspected of killing a friend in a separate incident in California.

Acremant is being held at the San Joaquin County Jail. He is being held on an Oregon fugitive warrant pending a Dec. 19 grand jury hearing in Jackson County on charges of aggravated murder.

Our story takes a look at the contributions Ellis and Abdill made to their community. It also examines how people were affected immediately following news of the couple's disappearance and subsequent deaths.

See page 17