



Ronnie Herndon, co-chairman of the Black United Front, is presented with BUF "Man of the Year" award by co-chairman Reverend John Jackson. Josephine Mayes and Dr. Derrick Bell, Dean of the University of Oregon Law School, join in the applause.

(Photo: Richard Brown)



Jimmy "Bang-Bang" Walker was honored on his 50th birthday with a surprise party. Among those who toasted the man of the hour were Bill Hilliard and John Davis. Walker—fighter, publisher, businessman, father—is known and appreciated for his dedication to the community's young people.

(Photo: Richard Brown)

## Noelle explains "Street Crime Unit" agenda

by Harris Levon McRae

As part of Portland's "war on crime" plan, Mayor Ivancie and Chief of Police Ron Still are developing a street crime unit. The unit will consist of one police lieutenant, two sergeants and ten officers to patrol "high-crime trouble areas." The unit is to be headed by Lt. Dan Noelle.

"We intend to work all over the city and to try to deal with some of the real serious ongoing problems. Burglary, robbery, rape, theft, and assault at the street level. We hope to be very flexible in our operation," Lt. Noelle said.

Many citizens wonder how the street crime unit would be able to deter crime that other police officers haven't been able to stop in the past.

"The way the situation is now, in order to have any special police work done like having decoy female officers to stop guys from harrasing women, or having unmarked burglary patrol cars, it draws from the existing manpower of that particular precinct. This street crime unit will allow us to do flexible things with officers. We should be capable of coming in and not interfering with existing operations," said the lieutenant.

According to Mayor Ivancie the street crime unit is being implemented "to step up enforcement of all crimes and disorderly acts by filming street activity, arresting perpetrators and impacting significant crime patterns in Portland."

"Portland has the fourth highest reported crime rate in the U.S., and to me that is a frightening statistic. I think of Portland as a livable city, but I'm over six feet tall and almost 200 pounds, so I feel safe. If I was

75 years old and 130 pounds, I might not feel as safe. We obviously have a serious crime problem that we have to deal with. If Portland is slipping into that crime mold, we had better act pretty quickly before downtown Portland becomes a ghetto," Lt. Noelle said.

The Street Crime Unit is part of Chief Still's and Mayor Ivancie's five-point crimefighting program that has been months in the making.

Other highlights of the program include proposals for more immediate jail space and a "process center" that is supposed to be designed to interrupt the cycle of repeated crimes being committed by unpunished habitual offenders. The effort includes a letter from Mayor Ivancie to President Reagan requesting funds, land or existing facilities under federal control that could be used to give Portland more jail space immediately.

Ivancie said that he had already received an indication of willingness from the White House to volunteer federal resources for local crime-fighting efforts. He said that he hoped his letter to President Reagan would "spur a specific response" but "regardless of President Reagan's reaction, we will develop a definite program to solve Portland's jail space crisis as soon as possible."

Other points in the "battle plan" propose a "community alert and support" emphasis on providing crime prevention leadership to business people, community groups and individual citizens, and a package of seven city ordinances prohibiting specific forms of disorderly and harrasing conduct, drinking in certain public areas, loitering and dangerous weapon possession, and an ordinance calling for mandatory jail

sentences for those convicted of violating certain ordinances.

Some citizens refer to Mayor Ivancie, Chief Still, and their proposed ordinances as being like "the Gestapo." Stevie Remington of the American Civil Liberties Union doubted the constitutionality of some of the proposed ordinances.

Ivancie and Still acknowledged that questions probably would be raised about the constitutionality of some of the proposals. The feeling was, however, that those questions should not stop the City Council from approving the ordinances.

"If we always worry about whether or not an ordinance is constitutional, we would never pass a law," the Mayor said.

Lt. Noelle elaborates: "As far as the constitutionality of these ordinances, they will be reviewed by the City Council and the City Attorney before becoming City Ordinances. A lot of the ordinances are similar to ones we have used in the past. I

don't think we were Gestapo in the past when we used those ordinances. People tend to forget that police officers are citizens that live in the community too. I don't want the Gestapo but I want my wife and kids to be safe to go to the park or school without being robbed or assaulted."

"As far as Stevie Remington is concerned, there are a lot of other things that I would jump up and down about, like the economy's effect on what's happening in crime. Less than four per cent of the total misdemeanors arrested serve sentenced jail time, because no facility is available—that's what I would shout about. If the City Council decides that they are ordinances that shouldn't be passed, that's fine; in the meantime we still have to go out and face and deal with the crime problem."

## Woman judges meet topic

Circuit Court Judge Mercedes F. Deiz currently serves on the Advisory Board for the Symposium on Women in the American Judiciary to be held April 15th-17th, 1982, in Racine, Wisconsin, which will be one of the first nationwide forums to study the particular needs and circumstances of women judges. Judge Deiz is a member of the Board of Directors for both the National Association of Women Judges and the National Center for State Courts.

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