

Portland Police Break Cocaine Operation

by Jerry Garner

The Portland Police Bureau narcotics unit claimed they broke a major cocaine distribution ring last week and arrested seven people in Portland, Milwaukie, and Gresham. Police also seized more than \$200,000 in property, including \$25,000 in cash.

According to Lt. Chuck Karl, commander of the Bureau's drug unit, the distribution ring has been in operation since 1982 and was selling a pound of cocaine a week and earning more than \$100,000 a month on the illicit drug. Lt. Karl said the bust will have a tremendous ripple effect on the availability of cocaine in some areas of the county.

One of those arrested, Michael Dale Brookes, 38, of Milwaukie, was formerly the owner of Gresham Honda. The police also seized seven vehicles, handguns and two ounces of cocaine.

Lt. Karl said it was his policy to seize the property of drug dealers because, due to lack of jail space, many dealers are freed pending trial. "If we can catch them with cash or things they buy with drug money, we will seize them. The state has good seizure laws. My preference is to get into their pocket books, if I can, until jail space is available to lock them up," Karl said.

In other related news, fourteen lo-

PCC Offers Telecourse For G.E.D. Preparation

A fall-quarter telecourse for students preparing to take the General Educational Development test (GED) will start September 23 under auspices of Portland Community College.

Instructor Joan Gravenites said the course will begin with on-campus orientation that includes registration, reading placement testing and a question-answer period.

Students may choose between orientation sessions scheduled for 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 23, and 10:30 to 12 noon Saturday, September 27. Students need appear at only one of the meetings, Gravenites said. They will be held in the library of the PCC Southeast Center, 2850 S.E. 82nd Ave.

PCC Offers New Class In Free Lance Writing

A new Portland Community College class in free lance writing will meet for the first time Thursday, September 25, at the PCC Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth.

The eight-week class will cover writing techniques, marketing and selling tips for aspiring and published writers.

Instructor will be Sharon Wood, a correspondent for The Oregonian whose stories are frequently published in that newspaper's Science, Forum and Portland sections. She is presently a student at Linfield College, McMinnville.

The class will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. in Room B-46 of Cascade Hall on the Cascade Campus. Tuition will be \$23.

Further information is available from Cascade Community Services, 240-5303.

Cultivating bacteria instead of trees and cotton plants to produce cellulose may one day lead to cheaper paper, clothing and medical supplies. *National Wildlife* magazine reports that a researcher at the University of Texas at Austin has discovered a strain of bacteria which produces cellulose requiring much less processing than wood pulp to produce paper.

The most poisonous animal alive, according to some scientists, is the arrow-poison frog, says *National Wildlife Federation's Ranger Rick* magazine. These insect-eating frogs live in the rain forests of Central and South America. And, as its name suggests, the frogs' poison is carefully spread by hunting Indians on their arrow tips.

Minnesota has been cleaning up toxic dump sites four times faster than the Environmental Protection Agency. The reason: a state law passed by Minnesota that allows private companies to be held liable for personal injuries caused by exposure to leaking toxic chemicals. The law, passed in 1983, was the first of its kind in the United States, and may be the model for tougher federal Superfund legislation.

cal government and law enforcement officials met last week at Portland City Hall to discuss pending federal anti-drug laws and ways to combine their war-on-drugs efforts.

During the meeting the group endorsed the federal Omnibus Anti-drug Bill. The bill was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on Wednesday. Under the bill, the federal government will put \$600 million a year over the next five years into military interdiction by air and sea in an effort to stop the flow of

heroin, cocaine, pot, and other illicit drugs into the U.S.

The bill will also provide economic assistance to countries which are dependent on drug money as income and sanctions against those countries which do not cooperate in the eradication program.

The federal legislation would also provide \$100 million for drug treatment programs and \$50 million for anti-drug education annually. Oregon stands to receive about 1 percent of the funds.

MAX Ticket Machines Using Susan B. Anthony Dollars

Wake up little Susie. We're putting you back to work.

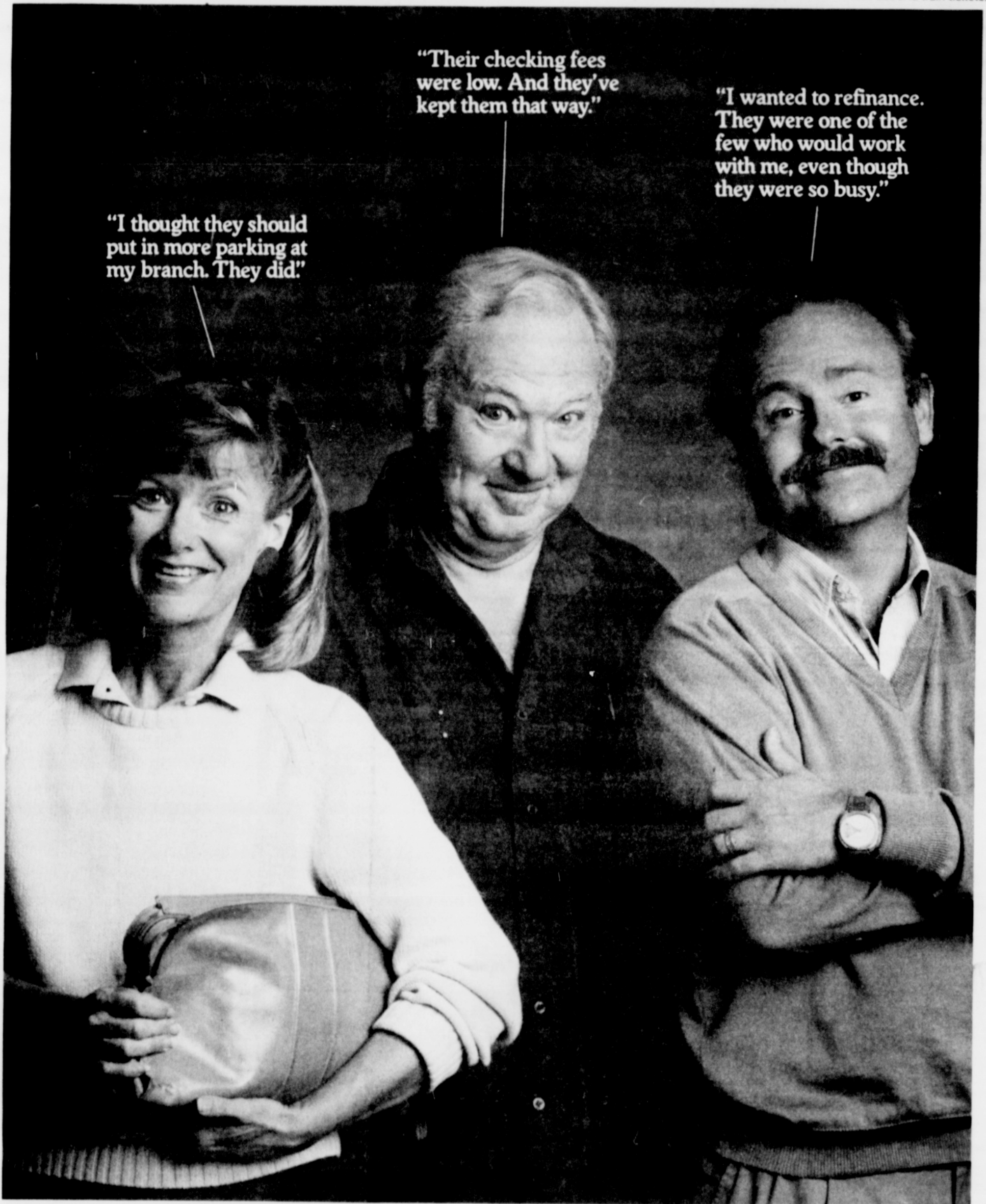
Ticket machines along the MAX (Metropolitan Area Express) route are using Susan B. Anthony dollar coins in making change. Tri-Met officials reminded its customers today. The coins are commonly used by other transit systems which feature ticket vending machines.

"We realized the public percep-

tion is that "Susies" are thought to be extinct," says Lana Nelson, Manager of Consumer Programs. "But the truth is they continue to be used and that they are easier to use in coin-operated machines that are required to return dollars in change.

"The MAX ticket machines accept \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills and return as much as \$8.50 in change," Nelson emphasized.

MAX riders, confused about the coins, may first think that they are being short-changed because the coins haven't been in common use in the Portland area, Nelson said. "Susies" have been used in the four Tri-Met ticket machines in place on the Portland Mall the last three years, she added. The Anthony dollar coins may be used to purchase bus and train tickets.



"I thought they should put in more parking at my branch. They did."

"Their checking fees were low. And they've kept them that way."

"I wanted to refinance. They were one of the few who would work with me, even though they were so busy."

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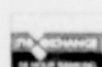
in many cases, why we should keep doing the things they liked.

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