

**A New Era For Cable TV Access**

Deborah Luppold resigns from Portland Cable Access after 11 years and is honored at a reception.



See Metro, inside.

**Election Day '94**

Don Lincoln of Northeast Portland defied the rain to make his way to vote Tuesday. Oregonians elected a new governor and decided the fate of 20 ballot measures in the election.



# The Portland O

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**THE WEEK IN REVIEW**

**Conference On Race Held**

Hundreds of African Americans from across the nation will gather in Baltimore at the National State of the Race Conference Nov. 17-20 for a series of grassroots meetings, planning sessions and workshops to discuss the plight of African Americans, the destiny of the race and reconstruction of the black community.

**Dance Pioneer Dead at 74**

One of this nation's pioneering black dancers and choreographers died last week at her home in New Rochelle, N.Y. Pearl Primus was 74. She was a powerful performer and played a role similar to that of Katherine Dunham in establishing dance by and about blacks as a leading component of American culture. Primus was a native of Trinidad. She is survived by a son.

**Zimbabwe Ambassador Nominated**

President Clinton will nominate Johnnie Carson of Illinois to be U.S. Ambassador to Zimbabwe. Carson has just completed a three-year assignment as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda. Prior to that he served as Deputy Chief of Mission at the American Embassy in Baborone, Botswana. Before entering the Foreign Service, Carson served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Tanzania.

**Mortgages For Minorities Increase**

A federal agency reported last week that efforts to end mortgage loan discrimination against minorities appears to be producing positive results. According to the report, conventional home loans to blacks rose 36 percent last year. The increase for Hispanics was 25 percent. The improvement results from more financial institutions providing home loan programs for low and moderate income households. However, the report found that the mortgage rejection rate is still much larger for blacks and Hispanics than for whites and Asians.

**Recent Female Grads Earn More**

An analysis of Census Bureau data by researchers at Queens College in New York has found that among recent college graduates black females are earning more than black males. College graduates 25 years old and younger were studied and the findings showed the median income for white males was \$18,000 a year. Black females came in second with a median income of \$17,000. They were followed by white females at \$16,800 and black males at \$16,400.

**Appeals Court Rejects Scholarship**

The president of the University of Maryland pledged last week to fight "all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court" to continue a popular scholarship program for black students. His comments came in the wake of a federal appeals court ruling which in effect declared that scholarship funds set aside just for black students were unconstitutional. The case was brought by a Hispanic student who applied for the Benjamin Banneker academic scholarship but was rejected even though he had the third highest test scores.



**Tri-Met Rider Advocates**

from the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods are poised to ride the buses in North and Northeast Portland. The advocates will board the buses Nov. 14, working full-time shifts from 2:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m., helping Tri-Met passengers with customer service and augmenting security.

**Speed Bumps, Graffiti Line To Fight Crime**

Speed bumps have been installed at Jefferson High School to address traffic and crime related problems and a graffiti hotline is now operating to prevent graffiti and to coordinate volunteer efforts.

Three speed bumps were added to North Commercial Avenue between North Alberta and Killingsworth streets.

The Bureau of Traffic Management, Portland Police and Fire Bureau and the Northeast Neighborhood Coalition Office recommended the traffic devices after Alcena Boozer, principal of the school, requested additional support to address problems experienced in the area.

The speed bumps cost the city \$1,500 and will be evaluated in a year for their effectiveness, officials said.

The Portland Police Bureau Graffiti

Hotline at 823-4TAG (4824) was created for city residents to report graffiti for clean-up, receive information on preventing graffiti and to volunteer in clean-up efforts.

Police information and referral staff will handle the hotline from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. A voice message mail system will be available after hours.

To report graffiti, people will be asked for the exact address of the vandalism and how much of the property is affected. The information will be forwarded to agencies for clean-up or to Neighborhood Coalition offices for clean-up by volunteers.

The graffiti handbook describes resources and information on graffiti and is available at police precincts and coalition offices. It contains information on clean-up resources and graffiti prevention tips.



Portland Parks Director Charles Jordan, House of Umoja Education Coordinator Anthony Bradley, House of Umoja Outreach Coordinator Marcus Branch, and City Commissioner Charles Hales at Monday's dedication of a basketball court at the house on the corner of Northeast 17th and Alberta. The court was made possible by the use of in-kind donations and will serve as one of many positive alternatives for youth. The House of Umoja is a community-based residential program to help address the needs of young men needs and offer a change to leave gang activity.

## MURDER

**Investigators Move In For Clues**

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON

Murder. When it occurs in Portland a team of law enforcement specialists move into full gear to hunt for clues and arrest the killer.

The unit includes a pair of investigators and a sergeant from the Portland Police Bureau's homicide unit, two special evidence investigators, a deputy district attorney, a medical examiner and the police on the beat.

The law enforcement assault is strong, a counter to a crime people find as most repugnant. But despite the police work, murder cases remain unsolved. On average over past few years, no arrests have been made in about 20 percent of the slayings in Portland.

This year, about 10 cases remain uncracked after 46 people killed by the hands of others. The rate was about 21 percent last year for the nearly the same amount of

murders. It was about 22 percent the two previous years and at the beginning of this decade was only 11 to 14 percent.

Homicide Unit Sgt. Van Stearns says a lot can be read into the statistics. He cautions against thinking you can get away with murder in the city.

"The solve rate for murder is still higher than almost any other crime and the vast majority are solved," Stearns said.

Some of the present cases are tied to a higher incidence of drug-related crime.

For example, in a shooting last January on the 600 block of North Humboldt Street, police believe the victim was from outside the community and was in town to buy drugs. He was a stranger to the area, nobody knew him.

"We were left with an empty," Stearns said. "There was not a relationship, we had a void."

Drug-related murders can occur when the purchaser or seller is shortchanged or drugs are sold that are considered bunk grade. Too often, one of the parties reacts violently.

When there are no witness or clues, murder cases often require someone talking to crack. To the advantage of law enforcement, history shows most people can't keep quiet when it comes to murder.

In gang killings, it sometimes break-

downs to a "macho thing," where the gang member who committed the crime likes to talk about it.

Stearns said people who commit murder just have to tell somebody, sometimes its somebody they love.

But a lover can fall out of love and put "the dime" on his or her former partner.

The first course of action in the murder investigation is drawing a history of the victim, who their friends were, their relatives and any acquaintances.

It's not unusual for police in the homicide unit to work a murder case 20 straight hours after a death, when the evidence is most available.

This is the "hot time," when people are shook up, haven't had time to get rid of evidence, alibies are not set, and memories are fresh.

Stearns said detectives will keep working as long as there's any information to pursue. Cases never close.

Currently, the department is reviewing all of its open homicide cases. The information from the files are being fed into a new computer database.

There are 10 detectives in the homicide unit. With the average of 4 to 5 murders each month, that gives each officer an average of two cases to investigate each month.

**Police Look For Suspects**

The following 1994 homicides remain unsolved in North and Northeast Portland:

**Jan. 26** - 5616 N. Williams. Victim: Dan Thomas. Died of gunshot wound. Possible residential robbery.

**Jan. 27** - 600 block of North Humboldt. Victim: Sven Jansson. Died of gunshot wound. Possible drug-related robbery.

**May 8** - 705 N.E. Skidmore. Victim: Raymond Johnson. Died of stab wounds.

**May 11** - 5811 N.E. Killingsworth. Victim: Tyrone Hayes. Shot while inside his residence.

**May 29** - Northeast 42nd and Alberta. Victim: Eddie Morgan. Died of gunshot wound during a drive-by shooting.

**May 19** - 6435 N. Gay. Victim: Brian Hill was shot in his driveway.

**June 29** - 4200 block of North Albina. Victim: Douglas Broadnax was found lying in parking strip with gunshot wounds. Possible street robbery, drug-related.

**Sept. 16** - Columbia Boulevard and North Peninsular. Victim: Isaiah Bing was hanging onto the side of his car and the driver slammed him into a utility pole. Possible car jacking or other crime.

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