

Ivory Spann Awarded \$73,000.00

A Federal Court Jury awarded a Portland woman in excess of \$73,000.00 after a three day trial for violation of her civil rights by a Portland Police Officer. Ivory Spann, an African American, age 23, accused Portland Police Officer, Douglas Halpin, of using excessive force when he was called to the scene of a neighborhood disturbance on June 6, 1993.

Ms. Spann was in her home when a bottle was thrown through her window and she was threatened with a stick by an intoxicated neighbor. Ms. Spann called 911 and asked for police assistance. While the police were in route to the scene, Ms. Spann subdued her assailant in her front



yard by holding her on the ground. When the police arrived, officer James Powell maced Ms. Spann and



Ivory Spann (left), and after a police officer struck her with his baton (above).

Officer Halpin struck her in the head with his police baton.

Ms. Spann sustained a laceration,

bruising, and swelling over her right eye from the blow. Testimony revealed that she suffers from chronic Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as a result of the incident.

The officer contended that his actions were reasonable under the circumstances he was facing. The all white jury, comprised of four women and three men, found unanimously that Officer Halpin violated Ms. Spann's civil rights by using excessive force.

Ms. Spann was represented by attorney Neil W. Jackson of Neil Jackson & Partners. Officer Halpin was represented by Deputy City Attorney, David Woboril.

Historic Preservations: Conclusion

BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT

"You can never go home", said a principal character in that famous novel by Thomas Wolfe, "Look Homeward Angel."

I find that to be the experience of many of us who have returned to once-familiar places -- only to find the anticipated memories and sentiment-drenched pleasures of nostalgic wanderings to be an impossible dream. And for African Americans, this can be an especially exquisite pain, there often being a perception that the new urban stages that replaced their neighborhoods were deliberately designed to exclude them forever more (by price an/or commercial zoning).

The "Federal Plan" driven by the strategies formulated by the university 'think tanks' has nowhere been so accurately detailed as in Scott Greer's 1965 book "Urban Renewal and American Cities: the Dilemma of Democratic Intervention" (Bobbs Merrill Co. Inc.). Greer excoriates the urban renewal mind set, ill-conceived social planning and "extreme-

ly vague language which was administratively translated into the 'workable Program' requirements."

"The program can generate two basic kinds of leverage. First and most spectacularly, it can be used to buy land through market negotiations or through forced purchase under the right of eminent domain. Secondly it can require that local governments pass and enforce ordinances...that would achieve the same purpose."

Well, you get the idea of how our mid-century Urban Renewal (removal) was contrived. And we will return in a moment to that "turn-of-the-century" phenomenon where African Americans were seen to occupy the "downtown" areas of many an American metropolis. Just now, I am wondering how many readers took note of the frequent television rerun of that huge, St. Louis high rise housing project that was demolished in a few seconds by strategically-placed dynamite.

The "Wendell Pruitt" project was named after a high school classmate of mine, a member of the famous

99th Tuskegee Fighter Squadron who was shot down over Italy after 8 'kills' of his own. Though many black activists with life-long, realistic social experience in the community fought against the implementation of this ill-conceived and dangerous social experiment inflicted on the urban poor, the 'think tanks' and suburban-based university types won out.

The failure of these "highrise neighborhoods" became a nationwide disgrace, incubators for crime, drug dealers and truncated lives. The "mean streets" were simply raised to new levels (pun intended). But more on "Public Housing Projects" at a later date. Let us look at some more of E.G. Riching's "Evidences of Progress Among Colored People" Geo. S. Ferguson Co., Philadelphia, 1902 -- where African Americans "can never go home" to those long-vacated downtown areas.

"Prof. Hattie A. Gibbs of Little Rock, Arkansas entered the Oberlin Conservatory of Music at age 11, then during high school whose 'hard studies' included Greek, Latin and

mathematics, she graduated with honors before her 15th birthday. At Oberlin College she finished the studies of piano, pipe organ and harmony and after graduation she founded the Eckstein Norton Conservatory of Music of which she is now director, 1895" (PP. 227-229).

"Dr. John R. Francis his private 'Francis Sanatorium' at 2112 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. he has a corp. of trained nurses on hand day and night. Dr. Francis is an obstetrician to Freedman's hospital and demonstrator and clinical lecturer at Howard University. A member of the D.C. School Board he has been aggressive in strengthening education in the high schools. A graduate of the University of Michigan, he had accomplished much by 1895" (P.429 to 435).

"Mr. J.E. Dixon, after a career at sea and rounding the globe at least seven times, he secured a position as chief officer of one of the finest ships under the English flag--though an American citizen born in New Bedford, Mass. After losing an arm in an accident in Calcutta, India in 1884 he returned home and mastered telegraphy: the Western Union Telegraph Co. in recognition of services at the main office appointed him manager at the Parker House Signal Towers. Here he handled the critical signals of 34,284 trains in the year 1894" (P.327,328).

There are hundreds more citations and photographs of African American enterprises and professional activities conducted in major metropolitan areas a hundred years ago. What could have implemented the earlier 'urban removal'? European immigration? We will explore this at a later date while you develop your own opinions.

Next week, "New light on Light Rail." I had a thought; "why not let the auto and oil companies pay to replace the Light Rail they took away?"

Charge against hunger

Reaffirming its strong commitment to fighting hunger in the United States, American Express on November 1 started into the fourth year of its Charge Against Hunger campaign. Each time any American Express Card is used to make a purchase from November 1 through December 31, American Express will donate three cents from every transaction to Share Our Strength, one of the nation's leading anti-hunger organizations, up to \$5 million.

The expanded 1996 efforts also comprises new elements for participating merchants and for consumers to learn about hunger relief and how to get more involved.

In Portland, many American Express merchants will be participating in in-store promotions including matching donations and offering a Charge Against Hunger holiday compact disc gift with purchases.

This year's American Express Charge Hunger program includes a way for Cardmembers to become more active in the fight against hunger. American Express has established a toll-free number to provide general information on the program and how individuals may participate.

By calling 1-888-8TOGIVE, consumers can find out about Charge Against Hunger. All funds raised go back to the local communities through anti-hunger agencies.

*American Express and its marketing partners will donate up to \$5,000,000 to Share Our Strength based on 3 cents per Card purchase, and other transactions and contributions, between 11/1/96 and 12/31/96. This donation is not tax deductible for Cardmembers.

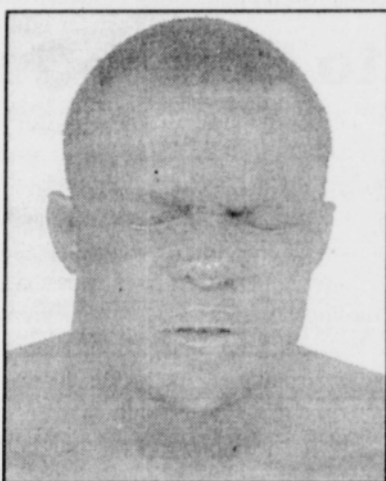
Police News

Crime Stoppers: Homicide

Portland Police Bureau detectives, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, are asking for your help in identifying the person or persons responsible for a double homicide.

On Friday June 14, 1996, just before midnight, two young men died when numerous rounds of gunfire struck the blue Pontiac Firebird they were riding in at N Kilpatrick and N Watts. The deceased individuals are identified as 20-year-old Dennis K. Hester of Vancouver, Washington, and 22-year-old Damon D. Johnson of north Portland. Two other people, a 20-year-old female, and an 18-year-old male, were also in the vehicle and wounded in the incident.

This case does not appear to be a random act of violence. Investiga-



Homicide victims (l to r): Dennis K. Hester, and Damon D. Johnson.



tors believe the incident may be in retaliation for an earlier shooting.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers,

which leads to an arrest in this case, or any unsolved felony crime, and you can remain anonymous. Call Crime Stoppers at (503) 823-HELP.

Fugitive Alert

Fugitive Parolee: Nikki Batdorf Age: 32 Description: 5'2 121 lbs. brown hair/hazel eyes. Area of last residence: North Portland.

Crime of Conviction: Delivery of a Controlled Substance, two counts. In 1987, Batdorf twice sold cocaine to undercover police officers. She was sentenced to 5 years probation for the offenses, but probation was revoked in November



of 1992 for failing to report. She was sentenced to one year in prison, and was paroled on 3/24/93.

Supervision Status: The Board of Parole issued a warrant for Batdorf's arrest on August 23, 1995 for failing to report to her parole officer. If you have any information on her whereabouts, contact local police, or Parole Officer John Neelands at 248-5056.

Suspects Arrested In Asian Gang Related Extortion

On Thursday evening, October 31, 1996 members of the Portland Police Bureau's Gang Enforcement Team (GET) arrested three suspects in connection with the extortion of a southeast Portland Asian business. The three suspects are identified as 23-year-old Jian Ming Chen, 20-year-old Phat Thoi Chau, and 24-year-old Quan Tu. All three subjects were charged with Extortion, a Class B felony and lodged on \$20,000 bail.

This investigation was initiated approximately three weeks ago after a 44-year-old Asian business owner contacted members of GET to report an extortion threat by the arrested subjects.

The suspects had been customers at the business and were ac-

quainted with the owner.

The suspects threatened the victim with harm and property damage if they were not paid "protection" money. Following this treat the owner contacted GET.

During the investigation the victim cooperated with investigators. The suspects came by the business on several occasions and picked up money from the business owner.

Upon gathering sufficient evidence to make arrests, officers took Chau into custody Thursday evening after Chau left the victim's business where he had just picked up more "protection" money. Chen and Tu were arrested later in the evening at NW 3rd and Everett Street.

Investigators believe this to be gang related and that the suspects

have gang ties.

The arrests are significant because historically Asian business owners rarely overcome a traditional reluctance to cooperate with law enforcement in such matters. This is due to fear of reprisals and retaliation, which can take the form of vandalism to property, disruption of business activity, and physical harm. Investigators hope the arrests demonstrate that business owners who are victims of extortion do not have to capitulate to such demands.

Investigators believe that the suspects may have victimized other business owners and ask anyone with additional information to contact Investigative Sergeant Brian Grose at (503) 823-2079.



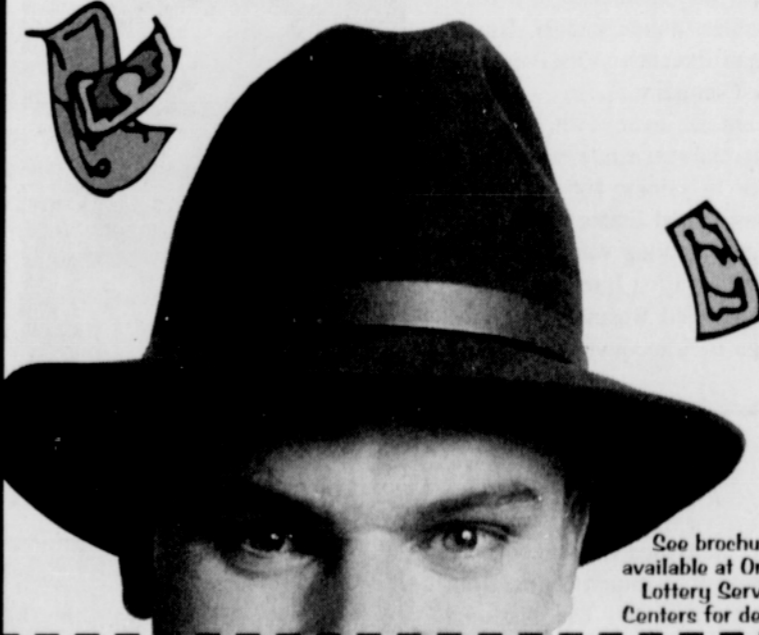
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- 4th prize - Megabucks Dough denim baseball jacket (25 prizes awarded)

November 13, 1996 through June 14, 1997



See brochure available at Oregon Lottery Service Centers for details.

MEGABUCKS DOUGH Second-Chance Drawing

Send four consecutive nonwinning Megabucks tickets for drawings dated 11/13/96 through 6/14/97 with this entry for a chance to win! Enter as many times as you like.

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Name & location of store where you bought your ticket(s): _____

This entry is good for one drawing only. Send entry in a plain white envelope no larger than 4 1/2" x 9 1/2" to: MEGABUCKS DOUGH Second-Chance Drawing, PO Box 14280, Salem, OR, 97309.