

POLICE NEWS

Police enforcement, community policing saved

Mayor Vera Katz and Police Chief Charles Moose are thrilled with news Portland will receive a full federal grant to fund 60 more police officers.

"On behalf of President Clinton and Attorney General Reno, we are pleased to announce full funding for 60 additional officers for the Portland Bureau of Police," said Joseph Brann, director of the federal office of community-oriented policing

services.

"We know that they will contribute to the city's already highly successful community policing program."

Portland was awarded \$8.1 million to cover 100 percent of three years of salary and benefits for the officers.

Traditionally, the grant covers only 75 percent of salary and benefits. However, Portland made a "hardship plea" for a

Mayor calls federal support tremendous for Portland and safety of our citizens

waiver to get 100 percent coverage, noting that the 1996 property tax limitation, Ballot Measure 47, had forced the Police Bureau to cut 47 officer positions, causing severe service re-

ductions affecting neighborhood crime prevention and investigative capabilities.

"This is tremendous news for Portland and for the safety of our citizens," said Mayor Vera

Katz. "We have made such strides in community policing, and this grant will help ensure that we have the resources to continue moving forward in making Portland one of the safest,

most livable cities in the nation."

Katz and the Chief stressed, however, that it will take some time before Portland actually sees those officers on the streets because of the training process.

"It's certainly great news," said Chief Moose.

"Over the next few weeks, the Mayor and I will be discussing the best way to use those officers to enhance our community policing efforts."

Man flees bus murder

On Saturday, Aug. 23 just before midnight, Northeast precinct uniform officers were dispatched to North Ainsworth Street and North Albina Avenue on a report of a Tri-Met bus that had crashed into a pole.

As officers were en route, the call was updated that a shooting had just occurred at that location and a young

male black was seen leaving the scene.

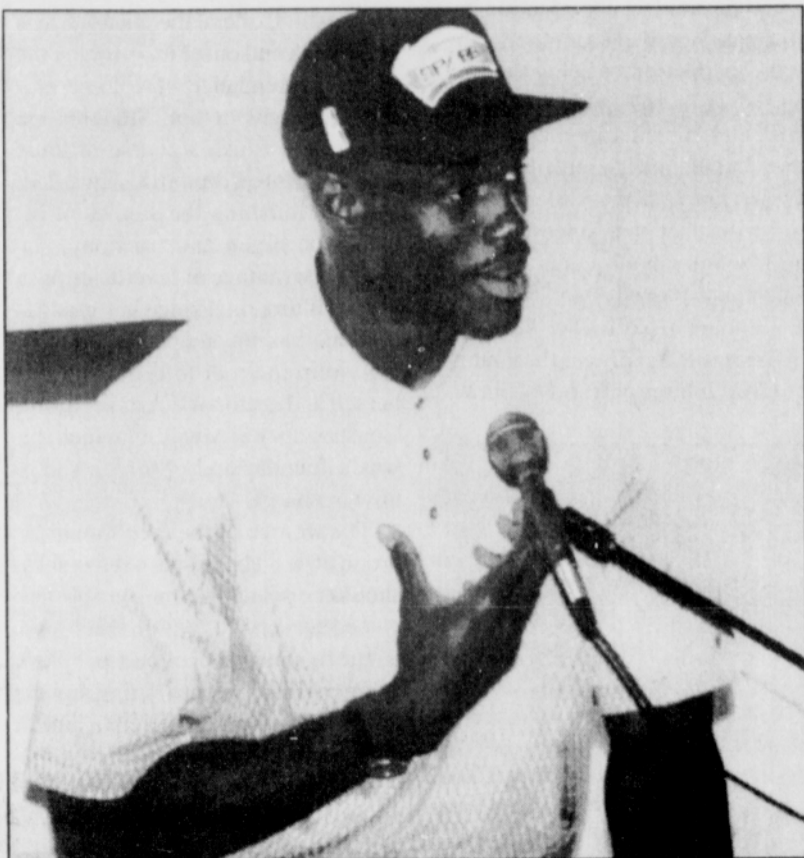
Upon arrival officers found a young male black, name and age unknown, dead on the bus.

At the time of the shooting there were a number of people on the bus, several were taken to area hospitals, but no serious injuries were reported.

Witnesses said the man who fired the gun casually walked away. There have been no arrests.

It is unknown at this time the relationship between the victim and the suspect or what caused the shooting.

Investigative Sergeants are Kerry Taylor and Duane Wentlandt. The investigation is continuing.



Promoting safe environments for kids

NBA all-star David Robinson takes timeout to help kids by promoting the anti-drug and anti-violence goals of Portland's Self Enhancement, Inc.

(Photo by David Brunkow)

Officer Involved Shooting

On Sunday, Aug. 24 at 9:30 p.m. east precinct uniform officers were dispatched to 13953 SE Division Street, #5, on a report of threats by a neighbor man at 13951 SE Division Street, #4, who might have a gun.

At 13951 SE Division Street, #4, officers were confronted by a 51-year-old white male armed with a loaded shotgun.

Ignoring repeated orders to put the gun down, the man pointed the shotgun at one of the officers, at which time the officer fired one shot, striking the subject in the arm.

The man was transported by ambulance to O.H.S.U., where he underwent surgery for a non-life-threatening injury.

The names of the officers involved are being withheld for 24-hours to allow them to contact their families. The investigation is continuing.

Man shot 12 times at party

A victim shot 12 times at a party at 7416 N. Fenwick Ave. Saturday night has been identified as 21-year-old Kevin Jerome Powell of North Portland.

The cause of death, according to the Medical Examiner's Office, was gunshot wounds to the neck and chest.

The subject who was brought in for questioning was not charged in connection with the shooting but was

lodged in the justice Center Jail on an unrelated warrant and numerous traffic charges.

According to investigators an estimated 50 people were attending the party, when Kevin Powell and another subject got into an altercation which ultimately lead to the shooting.

An hour before the shooting, police had gone to the residence to investigate a noise complaint.

Investigators believe the shooting incident was witnessed, but thus far no one has come forward.

Anyone with information is being asked to please call Investigative Sergeants Dave Rubey and Robert Heimbach at the Portland Police Bureau's Detective Division (503) 823-0400.

The investigation is continuing.

Address updates needed for kicker check

The Oregon Department of Revenue will need Oregonians' help in making sure their surplus checks go to the right addresses. The checks are scheduled to be mailed later this year.

Those who have moved since filing their 1996 returns are encouraged to contact the department with their updated address.

The number to call statewide is (503) 378-4988. Spanish speakers may call (503) 945-8618. For TTY

(hearing or speech impaired only), theyear-round toll-free number within Oregon is 1-800-886-7204. In Salem the number is (503) 945-8617. The TTY numbers are answered by machine only and are not for voice use.

The surplus checks, commonly known as the "kicker," are tax refunds that are sent to individuals when collections exceed official estimates by two percent or more

Bryant begins duties at Humboldt

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"They can't physically come to school, but they make sure the kids come to school and they ask about homework."

Bryant, an African-American, was asked about her ability to work with students, parents and staff from many racial backgrounds.

"No matter what color of skin, I bring feelings of equity to my teachers and administration," she said, indicating she has a deep "understanding of cultural context and I have written curriculums" to reflect the variety of backgrounds.

Bryant said she could "definitely" bring test scores up.

The new principal said benchmark goals would be created for the next five years to bring at least 95 percent of Humboldt's students to or above state standards.

"I want to see gains at the end of this year, indicating the students are along their way," she said, indicating she would frequently "look at the data and fine tune" the program.

She said the administration and teachers will "rise to the occasion."

A staff member at Humboldt told The Portland Observer Bryant has received support from the greater Portland area since the announcement, with excited congratulatory calls coming in to the office.

At the press conference expressions of cooperation came from audience members representing African-American, Asian, Native American and Hispanic parts of the communities.

Charlie Green, vice-chairperson of Humboldt's Parent Teacher Organization said that even though his

organization favored retention of outgoing principal Davis, the PTO would "do everything we can in our power to make the transition a smooth one."

He added that just because Davis was removed from her position, "that does not mean she is a failure. She is a good principal."

Bierwirth told The Portland Observer it was just a case of her "not being the right principal for this particular school."

"Let us go forward," said Richard Luccetti, chairperson of the Hispanic Parents Association. "Begin the healing process."

He expressed excitement about Bryant's credentials.

"That spells success," said Luccetti. "Her attitude makes the difference."

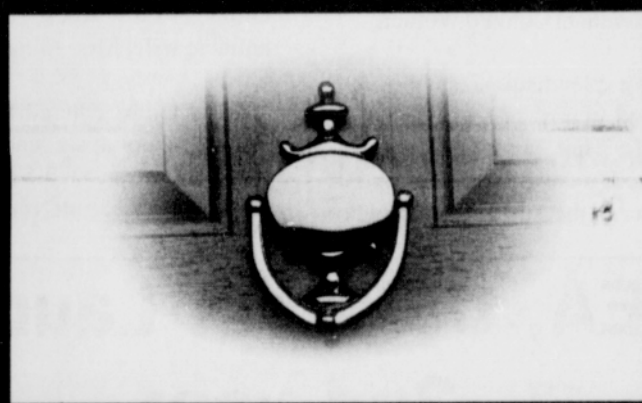
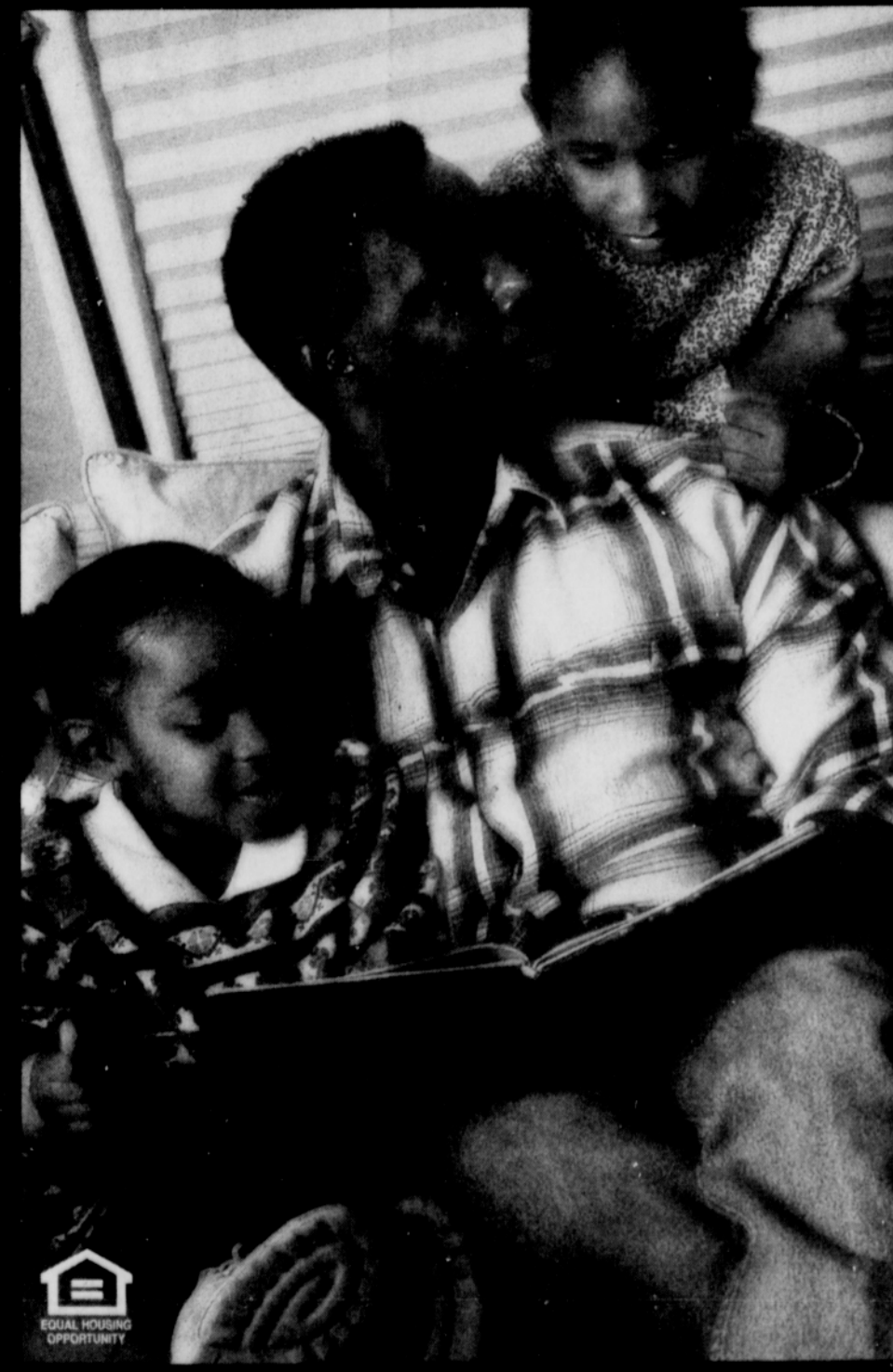
After the press conference, Rev. Amzie Bailey of the Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, which hosted the event, encouraged Bryant to "stay anchored in what you believe."

"The bottom line is that parents will support this," said Bryant. "I feel many will support this plan."

Bryant is a native of Oakland, Calif., and a 1970 graduate of the University of Oregon. She said her older brother graduated high school without having learned to read and started teaching her two younger brothers to read before they entered school.

She said her desire to teach came early, at age five, and recalled her father asking why she wanted to teach. "I have to teach people some sense," she answered.

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for a home,
you've probably saved
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