

Portland Police News

Mayor Charged in 1969 Murder

Charlie Robertson, the mayor of York, Penn. surrendered Thursday on charges of murder in the 1969 shooting death of a black woman during race riots. An affidavit quotes a co-defendant as saying Robertson gave him the ammunition he used to fire at her car and told him to kill blacks.

Reporters and photographers swarmed around Robertson, 67, as he arrived for his arraignment. He was taken in handcuffs to the York County Courthouse for a bail

hearing, after which he was released on \$50,000 bond.

An affidavit was filed in conjunction with the mayor's arraignment. In it, Rick Lynn Knouse, one of five other men charged in the case, told a grand jury that Robertson, a city policeman at the time, gave him ammu-



York Mayor Charlie Robertson under arrest.

munition for his 30.06 hunting rifle and instructed him to "kill as

many niggers as you can."

Knouse said he used the ammunition that Robertson provided to fire on the car in which the black victim, 27-year-old Lillie Belle Allen, was riding when she was killed, according to the affidavit.

The mayor himself told the grand jury that he borrowed a 30.06 rifle and ammunition from a neighbor and took it on patrol with him after Henry Schaad, a white rookie police officer, was shot three days before Allen was slain on July

21, 1969.

Robertson said that he "absolutely" maintains his innocence. He has admitted yell-

ing "white power" at a rally the night before Allen was killed, but he has denied involvement in her death.

County Cuts Ties to Mental Hospital

(AP) - Multnomah County will no longer refer patients to a psychiatric hospital where police shot a Mexican immigrant to death. Jose Victor Santos Mejia Poot was shot last month by a Portland officer after Mejia went at the officer with a metal

rod he had torn from a door inside a room at BHC-Pacific Gateway Hospital.

The county's Department of Community and Family Services had temporarily stopped referring any patients to the hospital. The agency now says its con-

tract will remain suspended.

A county investigation concluded that the hospital's staffing levels, lack of security and poor language translation policies contributed to the death.

Mejia was arrested two days before his death after he tried to

board a city bus without enough money. Mejia, who had epilepsy and apparently had not taken his medication, appeared disoriented, and the driver called police.

Officers arrested Mejia and sent him to the hospital.

Kinkel Appeals 112 Year Sentence

(AP) - Monday is the three-year anniversary of the day Kinkel shot and killed two students at Thurston High School and wounded dozens of others. He had killed his parents the day before.

State Public Defender Jesse Barton announced Friday afternoon he has filed an appeal of the 112-year sentence of Thurston High School shooter Kip Kinkel.

In a statement, Barton wrote that the length of Kinkel's sentence and the fact that he is ineligible for early release, the court has effectively imposed a "true-life" sentence. Kinkel's challenge appeals

this true-life sentence on grounds that it violates the state and constitutional ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

In the statement, Kinkel argues that he is readily capable of rehabilitation. Had he been receiving proper medical treatment when he was 15, he would have not committed the crimes.

Jesse Barton, deputy public defender, filed a notice of intent to appeal back in December 1999. He says he had to wait for

the state Court of Appeals to rule on some motions, which it did last



Kip Kinkel after the May 1998 shooting.

week. The filing of a 54 page brief challenging the 112-year sentence is the first substantial stage in the appeal process. Next, the state will answer Kinkel's claims in a Respondent's brief. Barring extension requests, the state has 49 days to file this reply.

Bush Daughter Sentenced on Alcohol Charge

(AP) - President Bush's 19-year old daughter Jenna pleaded no contest Wednesday to a charge of being a minor in possession of alcohol, and must attend alcohol awareness classes. Jenna Bush was ordered by Austin Community Court Judge Elisabeth Earle to pay \$51.25 in court costs, serve eight hours of community service and attend six hours of classes. The maximum penalty was a \$500 fine and community service.

She has until July 18 to comply with the court order. If she fails to comply with the order, a warrant could be issued for her arrest and driver's license could be suspended.



Jenna Bush

The University of Texas freshman appeared in court with her attorney, William P. Allison, wearing a sleeveless black blouse and pink Capri slacks. Her discussion

at the bench with Earle was difficult to hear, but she did nod her head several times, and the judge told her, "Good luck to you, Miss Bush."

Undercover Austin police cited Bush last month, charging her with a Class C misdemeanor, the lowest level of misdemeanors. The officers issued the ticket while checking for minors in possession of alcohol at nightclubs along the popular East Sixth Street entertainment area in downtown Austin.

Bush and her twin sister, Barbara, graduated from high school last May in Austin. Barbara Bush attends Yale University.

O.J. to Blake: Don't watch TV

(AP) — O.J. Simpson has some advice for actor Robert Blake, whose wife was shot to death this month: Don't watch TV.

"I know that watching TV is only going to frustrate him," Simpson told the syndicated TV show "Extra."

Simpson also advised Blake against taking a lie detector test and added, "As far as I'm concerned, this man is innocent until a jury comes back and calls him guilty."

Blake's wife, Bonny Lee Bakley, 45, was shot to death May 4 in her husband's car after the couple dined at a Studio City restaurant.

Police have said that no one has been ruled out as a suspect.

Blake, who married Bakley four months ago after DNA tests proved he fathered her 11-month-old daughter, has said she was shot while he returned to the restaurant to pick up a gun he left behind. He said

he was carrying the gun because Bakley had expressed concerns about her safety.

Blake's son, appearing Wednesday on CNN's "Larry King Live," defended his father and said Bakley "was afraid and wanted him to carry it," Noah Blake said.

"My dad is innocent, period," Noah Blake said. "He doesn't need to prove that. He is not obligated nor is he obliged to address a thousand-trillion rumors."

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