



POLICE/VANCOUVER

Explosives Litter Neighborhoods

The Portland Police Bureau is warning residents to be aware of suspicious-looking objects, especially unattended bags or packages, in the wake of recent incidents involving explosives or pipe bombs.

People should not touch suspicious devices or transport them in any way, but call 9-1-1 immediately so the bureau's explosive disposal unit can respond, police said.

Four separate complaints of "suspicious devices" oc-

curred on Sunday, Aug. 26.

Three of the devices were found to be an explosive.

Police said the first device, found in the driveway of a home near the intersection of 159th and Foster, was a pipebomb.

The second device, found in a parking lot at Southeast 33rd and Woodward, had been discarded in the area up to two weeks earlier, but no one recognized the device as a potential danger. The disposal unit

examined it and determined that it was a homemade explosive.

The third device was found by an individual leaving PGE Park in a parking lot near 19th and Burnside. But in this case, Police determined that the device was not an explosive.

The fourth device was found in the alcove of an apartment complex at 605 S.E. 41st Ave. Police discovered that the device was a homemade explosive.

Reward Grows to \$10,000

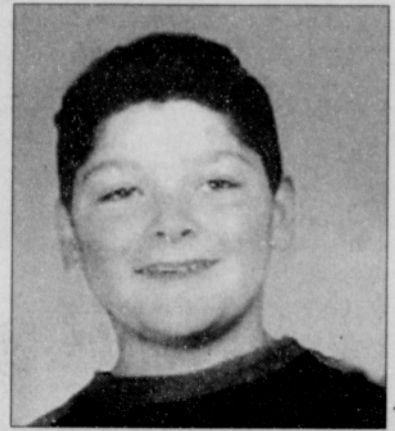
The Portland Police Bureau held a news conference last week to announce a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the person responsible for the murder of 11-year-old Joshua Jefferies.

Jefferies died Aug. 10 after being shot while asleep in his bed at his house on 6548 S.E. 48th.

The case has yielded no new clues, no arrests and no suspects, police said.

The reward is being offered by the Carole Sund Carrington Memorial Foundation.

Anyone with information on the case can call 503-823-0395 or 503-823-0459.



Joshua Jefferies

Hate Crime Suspect in Cross Dresser's Death

(AP) - Investigators believe a 28-year-old Aloha man was killed because he dressed in women's clothing. The body of Lorenzo "Loni Kai" Igisaiar Okaruru was found shortly before 8 a.m. Aug. 26 in a field near Hillsboro. Okaruru had been beaten with a blunt instrument at a different location and dumped in the field, police said.

"Based on the investigation and evidence we have at this point, we believe that he was killed because of his sexual orientation or gender identification," said Mike O'Connell, a Washington County detective.

Okaruru carried an Oregon identification card that listed his gender as female, although he had not undergone a sex change operation. The detectives said relatives referred to Okaruru as a woman, and young cousins called him their aunt.

Investigators said Okaruru had been assaulted previously because he acted and



Lorenzo "Loni Kai" Okaruru

dressed like a woman. The incidents weren't reported to police, but family and friends of the victim told the detectives that Okaruru had been beaten up in Portland and in Washington County.

"We have no idea what happened, as far as we knew, Loni was a really good guy," said Martin Nepaial, the husband of Okaruru's cousin. "She always made us laugh when we were down."

Washington County detectives said it was likely

the killer picked up Okaruru walking along Southwest Tualatin Valley Highway, thought he was a woman and became enraged when he found out otherwise.

Okaruru, who was 5-foot-9 and 130 pounds, was wearing acid-washed designer women's jeans, a gray sweatshirt and white sneakers. Okaruru's fingernails were painted dark green and his long, thick, dark hair was tinted red.

More Legal Action Against Vancouver School

(AP) - Two more families have filed claims against the Washington School for the Deaf in Vancouver, saying officials there failed to protect children from sexual abuse by other students.

That makes seven cases alleging sexual abuse by older students or staff on the school campus since 1988.

In one of the new claims, a boy is accused of sexually assaulting an 11-year-old girl three times in September 1994. The claim says the

girl's aunt reported the previous year that the same boy and two others had tried to rape her.

A medical exam confirmed sexual contact between the girl and boy named in the complaint, but charges were not filed after police decided the sex was consensual, said Mark Kamitomo, an attorney representing the girl.

The girl, now 18, is asking for \$1 million in damages.

"The school had the duty to protect her from him after her aunt reported the attempted rape," Kamitomo said.

The same boy is accused of raping a 14-year-old student in a campus bathroom in April 1999. The state agreed to pay that family \$125,000 to settle the lawsuit.

In the other case, a mother who alleges her 10-year-old son was raped by another boy in May 1999 has filed two claims: one seeking \$2 million for her son and another seeking \$500,000 for her, for emotional and psychological damage.

Customs Find Nearly 70 Pounds of Cocaine

(AP) - Federal customs agents in Portland arrested a Honduran seaman and confiscated nearly 70 pounds of cocaine from a ship that had sailed from Colombia, according to an affidavit filed last week in U.S. District Court.

The U.S.-flagged Overseas Harriette tied up at the Cascade General Shipyard Aug. 26.

Two days earlier, the captain had informed customs officials that, during a routine safety check, an officer had found what appeared to be cocaine in an overhead compartment in a common area of the ship.

An itemizer swipe of crew quarters found traces of cocaine in Luis Rochez's, 27, cabin and in nobody else's. Itemizer swipes analyze minute traces of controlled substances.

Rochez then told customs agents that while he was in a bar the first night in port in Buena Ventura, he was promised \$93,000 to bring the drug into the United States.

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