



# POLICE/VANCOUVER

## Oregon Woman Accused of Anthrax Hoax

(AP)—An Oregon woman suspected of mailing a piece of paper with the misspelled words "ANTRAX VIRUS" and a white, powdery substance as a practical joke has been indicted by a federal grand jury.

Patricia Jones, 51, of the mid-Willamette Valley town of Dallas, was charged last Wednesday with mailing a

threatening communication and mailing a nonmailable substance, according to the U.S. Attorney's office in Portland.

Police have said the envelope was sent to a Monmouth resident, whom police have declined to identify.

A mail carrier reported seeing the powder falling out of the envelope and the Monmouth post office was shut

down while investigators searched the area.

The postal worker who touched the powder was taken by ambulance to Salem Memorial Hospital, where she was treated and released.

The powder was determined to be harmless.

If convicted, Jones could face up to six years in prison and \$350,000 in fines.

## Emergency Workers Offer Advice on Suspected Terrorism

The regional 911 center for Clark County has been inundated with calls from concerned citizens ever since the nationwide anthrax scare began. The incidents have ranged from simple letters with handwritten addresses or no return address, to unidentified powders in various locations. To date, all such incidents within Clark County have not been related to terrorism and did not represent any threat to the community.

Citizen concerns about terrorism are understandable, however, the vast majority of citizens are

not at risk of receiving a dangerous letter or package, police said.

In order to utilize emergency responders effectively, Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency will assist public safety agencies in determining the degree of threat with a reported incident.

All reports of possible terrorism will be taken seriously. If a citizen reports a suspicious package or substance, the 9-1-1 dispatchers will ask additional questions. The added queries should relieve the anxiety of the caller, as

additional information may be obtained that sharply reduces the index of suspicion that the occurrence is an act of terrorism.

If, after extensive questioning, terrorism cannot be ruled out, public safety personnel will err on the side of caution and respond appropriately.

Additional or more specific questions related to public health should be directed to the Southwest Washington Health District during normal business hours at 360-397-8215.

## Passengers Stop Greyhound Hijacking

(AP)—Passengers on a Greyhound bus that originated in Portland overpowered a hijacker Thursday who grabbed the steering wheel and threatened to flip the vehicle.

Authorities in Utah say the man and a woman accomplice fled after the driver safely stopped the bus. The two people were later taken into custody. No one was injured.

Troopers arrested 34-year-old Troy Matzek and 25-year-old Becky Hyde, both of Wichita, Kansas. Police say the unarmed couple gave themselves up at a downtown Salt Lake City truck stop.

Authorities say several passengers wrestled with the unruly man as the driver was trying to stop the bus.

## O.J. Simpson Testifies in Miami Road Rage Trial

(AP)—O.J. Simpson testified in his road rage trial Tuesday that the other driver lied about the confrontation, prompting the prosecutor to ask the former football star whether he has ever lied or been aggressive.

The defense rested after Simpson, the sole defense witness, ended about three hours of cross-examination over two days in his trial on auto burglary and battery charges. He could get up to 16 years in prison if convicted.

The prosecution rested after

calling a detective who took Simpson's statement the night after the encounter, and the judge told jurors to return for closing arguments Wednesday.

In response to prosecution questions about his believability, Simpson said he can be convincing but filled the courtroom with laughter when he said: "I don't think I've ever been accused of being an actor."

Prosecutor Abbe Rifkin asked if Simpson ever called himself a liar or would lie "especially if your



O.J. Simpson heads to trial in Miami to face a road rage charge.

life depended on it."

Simpson, 54, responded: "I've never been put in that position to

have to lie with my life on the line."

Rifkin also asked Simpson if he's ever been aggressive, but Circuit Judge Dennis Murphy cut off questioning in an area that was getting close to Simpson's relationship with his ex-wife.

Aside from being on the same street at the same time on Dec. 4 in their neighborhood in suburban Kendall, the drivers in the road-rage trial gave drastically different accounts of their nighttime encounter.

Simpson said the confrontation

began after he rolled through a stop sign while the other driver, Jeffrey Pattinson, was approaching the intersection from another direction. Pattinson said he had to brake hard twice to avoid hitting Simpson.

With both men out of their SUVs, Simpson said Pattinson "just puffed up like a bullfrog, got animated and just went off." Pattinson has testified that he stayed in his vehicle, that Simpson stormed at him, shouting, and that he asked Simpson if he was "a madman or something."

## Portlander Gets 20 years For Killing Girl in Forest Park

A Portland man was sentenced to 20 years in prison in the shooting death of a girl in Forest Park on her 19th birthday in 1996.

Adisa Johnson, 24, pleaded guilty to criminal conspiracy to

commit aggravated murder in the death of Maggie Overlund.

"I'm sorry to the family for what has happened," Johnson said, during his recent sentencing.

Another man, Rosney Devore

Johnson, 24, faces a charge of aggravated murder in the death.

Adisa Johnson told police that he was aware that Rosney Johnson was going to "187" Overlund, referring to the California code for

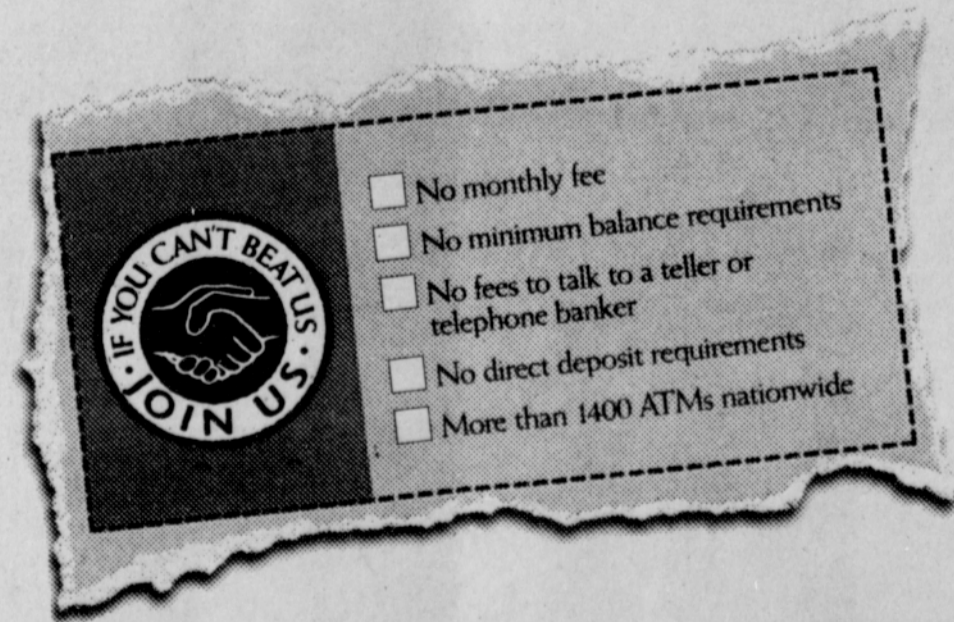
murder.

He indicated that his co-defendant was angry at Overlund because she threatened to snitch on him about drug dealing, court records said.

He told police that the two picked up Overlund in Portland and drove her to the large Portland park, saying that they were going to conduct a drug deal, but that Rosney Johnson shot her.

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