

The Portland Observer
World of Autos
REVIEWS ON EXCITING NEW VEHICLES BY THE WORLD'S LEADING MANUFACTURERS

2004 Nissan Maxima SL



Price tested..... \$32,990.00
Engine..... 265 HP 3.5 liter DOHC 24-Valve V6
Transmission..... 4 Speed Automatic w/ Gated Shifter

The 2004 Nissan Maxima SL is intended to amaze its driver with refinement and available equipment.

The Maxima has a unique highly styled personality with emphasizes on performance.

With Altima assuming the role of a bigger more powerful car the Maxima has moved up market to a pricier position.

The Maxima SL starts at \$28,900 moves up to \$32,990 with all the extras. The sporty Maxima SL provides a luxurious ride that is smooth and quiet.

The cost saving beam axle between the rear wheels handles bumps with more refinement than previous models. The V6 delivers responsive performance for quick passes and effortless when cruising the highway.

The SL offers some futuristic features like the center console and the interesting sky view roof, a glass panel that extends lengthwise over the front and rear seats.

The broadness of the dash and the sterile look of the center console takes from the interior luxurious look.

Also available is the rear bucket seats with a center console that has two-cup holders and rear-heated seats with a wood panel trim.

The Maxima will find comparable competition in the sporty luxurious class with Infiniti, Lincoln and BMW.

The 2004 Nissan Maxima offers a bold innovations and design that will dazzle the driver.

POLICE

Deadly Force Bill Gets Hearing

Goal is to bring higher level of scrutiny to police shootings

(AP)—The use of deadly force by police would be handled much differently under legislation proposed by Rep. Jeff Barker, an Aloha Democrat.

The legislation had its first hearing July 2, one day after 450 people jammed into Portland's Mount Olivet Baptist Church to discuss the police shooting of 21-year-old Kendra James.

Under the bill, grand jury investigations of deadly force cases would be recorded and the records made public after the fact. It would also recraft the way police are trained and how deadly force cases are investigated.

"The goal is to raise a higher level of understanding and a higher level of scrutiny," said Sen. John Minnis, R-Wood Village and a Port-

land police detective. "It's to lift the veil of secrecy over the process."

The bill has been modified by a series of amendments and more are anticipated, as district attorneys, sheriffs, chiefs of police and the Attorney General's office offer modifications.

At last week's hearing of the Senate Judiciary Committee, House Bill 3426-A received lukewarm support from those groups as well as the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.

"Any lifting of the veil is going to send a signal to the public at large," said Sen. Margaret Carter, who attended the James forum. "The current level of mistrust means we're sitting on a powder keg, and that's not good."

Sen. Avel Gordly said she favors the bill because it addresses the issue of police training.



Sen. Margaret Carter

Basic training now offered by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training in Monmouth lasts only 10 weeks. That's less than half of the national standard of 22 weeks, Gordly said.

The bill would also require that police use of deadly force be investigated by the local district attorney and by a law enforcement agency other than the one for which the officer works.

The Oregon attorney general's office would review the final investigation reports and collate statewide statistics on deadly force. No one keeps those records now, said Michael Schunk, Multnomah County district attorney for more than 20 years.

The bill would also require that grand jury deliberations of deadly force be recorded. Right now, there are no records kept in Oregon. Federal grand jury deliberations are recorded.

Bank Robbery Suspect Wanted

The FBI's Violent Crimes Task Force is asking the public's help in finding a bank robbery suspect.

The man entered the Washington Mutual Bank branch located inside the Fred Meyer store on Southeast 82nd Avenue shortly after noon last week. He handed the teller a note and left the bank with cash. Although he threatened that he had a weapon, no gun was seen.

Portland Police Bureau officers spotted



A bank surveillance video shows the suspect in a bank robbery.

a truck in the store parking lot just minutes later. The silver-colored Dodge Ram with an extended cab had red smoke pouring out its windows. The driver was also throwing cash out the window. The officers were unable to stop the suspect. He was last seen driving north on 82nd. It is believed that the truck had California license.

Witnesses described the suspect as a white man in his early 30s. Call the FBI at 503-224-4181 if you have information.

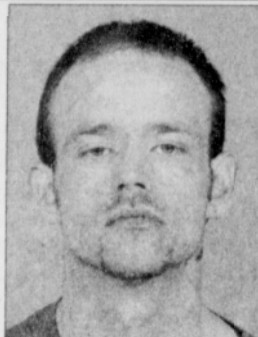
CRIME STOPPERS
(503) 823-HELP 111 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204

'Lil' Joker' on the Loose

The Portland Police Bureau's Auto Theft Task Force, and Crime Stoppers, are asking for your help in locating and apprehending Michael Paul "Lil' Joker" Scoggins.

Arrest warrants, charging Scoggins with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, are on file in both Multnomah and Clackamas counties.

Scoggins, who has used the alias of Christopher Michael Wagers and several different dates of birth, is a 25-year-old white male. He is 6 feet 2 inches tall and weighs approximately 190 pounds, with brown hair and hazel eyes and the word "Chronic" tattooed on his right forearm and "Lil' Joker" on his left forearm.



Michael Scoggins

Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, that leads to an arrest in this case. Call Crime Stoppers at 503- 823-4357.

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