

# POLICE



Helpline (Make The Call): 800-923-HELP  
 Linea de Ayuda (Spanish): 877-515-7848  
 Youthline (Teen Helpline): 877-553-TEEN



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## Portland Disarms

John Canda (left), director of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods and Portland Police Officer Michael Leonard were on hand Saturday to take in guns at the Ceasefire Oregon collection site on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. More than 350 unwanted guns were turned in to six collection sites Saturday at Ceasefire's 10<sup>th</sup> annual gun turn-in event. The firearms will eventually be melted down.

## Family Seeks \$10 Million in James Death

### Wants jury to hear their side of story in police shooting

The family of Kendra James, the 21-year-old African-American woman fatally shot by a Portland police officer at a traffic stop last May, filed a wrongful death lawsuit Tuesday for \$10 million.

According to the family's attorney Ernest Warren, the civil suit names the city of Portland, the police bureau, former Police Chief Mark Kroeker, Officer Scott McCollister, who shot James, and other two officers at the scene of the shooting.

McCollister was acquitted of criminal wrongdoing by a Multnomah County Grand Jury, but was suspended for five-and-a-half months for decisions he made leading up to the May 5 shooting.

Warren said that his forensics experts will dispute McCollister's distance from the car when he shot James, which has been a focal piece of evidence and the subject of many reenactments.

McCollister claims his body was 80 percent inside the car when James began to drive away. McCollister said he fired the fatal shot because he feared he would be dragged by the car.

The family hopes their side of the story will finally come out in open court, before a jury. They plan to set up a trust fund for James' young son, Melvin, with money awarded in the lawsuit.

The city and police bureau declined to comment until they've had time to read through the lawsuit.

## Measure 11 Fills Prisons

(AP) — After three years of decline, the number of Measure 11 criminals sent to Oregon prisons has surged 14 percent.

State corrections officials said 716 offenders entered Oregon prisons during the 2003 fiscal year, which ended June 30. The statewide total was up from 626 in 2002, 656 in 2001, and 657 in 2000.

Measure 11 took effect April 1, 1995. It required mandatory sentences for 21 serious felonies. The non-negotiable sentences apply to criminals 15 and older. By July 2013, there will be 16,481 prisoners in the state, 37 percent higher than July of this year, corrections officials said.



It's not whether you win or lose,

but how you play  
**the game**



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If playing isn't fun anymore, call:  
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Or visit [www.oregonlotteryhelp.org](http://www.oregonlotteryhelp.org) for:

- Warning Signs
- Treatment Centers
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▶▶ When gambling is more than a game, no one wins.

## CRIME STOPPERS

### Police Track Down Armed Robber

The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, is asking for your help in identifying and apprehending the suspect in a robbery.

On Friday, Aug. 22 at about 3:45 p.m. a man, armed with small caliber handgun, entered the Ripplebrook Ranger Station convenience store in Estacada and robbed the clerk at gunpoint.

The suspect is described as a white male, 18 to 22 years of age, 6 feet tall and weighing approximately 170 pounds with a thin build and course, thick, brown hair. The man had a small piercing type scar on both his left eyebrow and left earlobe and a very noticeable freckle on both his right forehead



A police sketch shows a robbery suspect.

and under his right nose.

The suspect vehicle, which was last seen westbound on Highway 224 and possibly driven by a white female, is described as possibly a white 4-door Toyota Camry with Oregon plates.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to an arrest in this case, or any unsolved felony crime, and you need not give your name. Call Crime Stoppers at 503-823-4357.

## Officers Cleared of Excessive Force

### Jury rules hog-tying bleeding suspect was justified

(AP) — A federal jury has cleared seven Portland police officers of excessive force charges, ruling they were justified in binding the ankles and wrists of a man who was bleeding to death.

The parents of the man, Damon Lowery, had filed a wrongful death suit against the city of Portland and the officers, saying that hog-tying the 29-year-old had contributed to his death.

During a trial that began Sept. 23, testimony showed that Lowery was under the influence of several drugs when officers found him in the backyard of a house.

After attacking a friend, Lowery jumped through a window and landed on a concrete pad 12 feet below, according to testimony. Police officers said that when they

ordered Lowery to show his hands, he cut his neck with a shard of glass, then became combative.

Police tried unsuccessfully to restrain him with pepper spray and bean bags, before handcuffing him, tying his ankles and fastening his ankles to his wrists.

The city's attorney, Mary Danford said evidence from the medical examiner showed that Lowery died of the self-inflicted neck wound, and asphyxiation was ruled out.

But attorney Erik Heipt suggested that Lowery didn't bleed to death but died of asphyxiation after one officer stood on Lowery's back and head for two minutes after the restraint was employed.

Heipt said Lowery already was low on air from loss of blood, the drugs and the struggle with officers.

"Two minutes is an eternity," Heipt said. "For Damon Lowery, it was a lifetime."