The Portland Observer _

Banking on our Future

A Portland school is part of a nationwide initiative to give young people the skills they need to manage their financial future.

Operation Hope founder and author John Bryant joined Bank of the West executives at David Douglas Alternative School in southeast Portland last week to announce the establishment of an Operation Hope Banking on Our Future local chapter.

The kids got some tips on the ABC's of money management, like how to open and maintain a checking and savings account, lessons on the power of credit and how basic investments lead to a more prosperous life.

A recent study by the Securities and Exchange Commission found that 66 percent of the nation's high school students flunked a basic economic literacy test.

"We can't afford to let our kids grow up without the basic skills they need to make informed, financial decisions and protect their financial future," Bryant said. "This is especially important for our kids growing up in under-served communities, where there are fewer resources available.

With Bank of the West's support, the local chapter plans to recruit a banking and corporate "Hope Corps" to teach economic literacy to every child in Portland.



Operation Hope founder and author John Bryant teaches kids the ABCs of managing money at David Douglas Alternative School in southeast Portland.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Gaming Season Begins



Christopher Washington (right) is dazzled by Nintendo's newest games and gadgets, out just in time for holiday shopping. Craig Dysart, a member of team Nintendo, brought the Nintendo Holiday Van through northeast Portland last week to showcase the company's newest features.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



66 100,000 hours of community service

last year. It's no wonder it seems wherever there's a worthy cause, there's someone from PGE out there sweating. It's an cause, there's someone from your first day of work: **99** commitment isn't on a time clock around here.

> Bill Mullenburg PGE Project Manager

We Do This Every Day



Guns on Safety

Locking

Chris Cominsky from Project ChildSafe and Portland Police Officer Colby Panter distribute free gunlocks and educational material to local residents Friday at Fisherman's Marine and Outdoor in north Portland.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHING-TON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Gunshot Wasn't from Police

(AP) - A teenager killed during an exchange of fire and a car chase with police died of a close-contact wound to the head that did not come from police, according to law enforcement authorities.

Eddie Homsombath, 19, was killed early Tuesday after occupants of the car he was driving exchanged fire with officers at North Portland Boulevard and I-5.

An autopsy determined that the wound would have been immediately fatal or disabling, Schmautz said, adding that officers returned car struck a pole. fire during the initial stop but did drove. The chase ended when the other source inside the vehicle,"



"Investigators have not deternot shoot during the ensuing mined if that gunshot wound was chase, in which Homsombath self-inflicted or if it came from an-

Schmautz said

"All we know is that somebody put a gun to his head and pulled the trigger, and it wasn't us.'

He said Homsombath had another wound but that it would take time to determine whether it came from an officer's gun.

Police said at least one occupant of the car fired at police during the stop and again during the chase. Guns were found in the car.

Schmautz said police had had contact with Homsombath related to gang activity but did not elaborate

Two occupants of the car were injured in the crash but have not been charged.

Bounty Hunter Faces Fines

Bounty hunter Duane Chapman arrived in Portland to track down 16-year-old Michelle Smith and her Beaverton softball coach, Andrew Garver, 38. But the Oregon Board of Investigators may stop Chapman from searching because he does not have a private investigator's license in Oregon. If Chapman continues his investigation, he could be fined \$500 per investigative act.

While Chapman says he's confident that he'll find Garver and Smith, Beaverton police say his involvement will hamper their search. Investigators, including the FBI, are treating the case as a kidnapping. Chapman is known for capturing rape suspect Andrew Luster in Mexico.

Baby Shot Doubts

(AP) - Police are questioning the credibility of a father who claimed that his 3-year-old son was hit in the buttocks with a bullet in a drive-by shooting.

The father told police he was holding his son outside Saturday evening when he heard gunshots, and that the boy started to cry.

Portland Police spokesman Sgt. Brian Schmautz said he doesn't believer there was a drive-by. Witnesses who were interviewed claimed they heard no gunshots.

Schmautz said the gang enforcement team is investigating the shooting

HOUSING TIPS TO THE PUBLIC

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