



Week in The Review

Government Warns of Bomb Plots

Terrorists might try to bomb buses and rail lines in major U.S. cities this summer, according to a government bulletin issued to law enforcement officials nationwide.

Travelers to U.S. Fingerprinted

A program requiring foreigners to be fingerprinted and photographed before entering the country is being expanded to include millions of travelers from some of America's closest allies, The Associated Press learned Friday. The move affects citizens in 27 countries - including Britain, Japan and Australia - who had been allowed to travel within the United States without a visa for up to 90 days.

Summer May Increase STDs

The long sunny days of summer may increase the risk of catching a common sexually transmitted infection. Researchers using data from Holland found that detection of papilloma virus infection during routine cancer screening peaks during August. Their theory: Sunlight suppresses women's immune system defenses.

Viacom Wants Gay TV Network

Viacom has "tightened up" its decency standards in the wake of Janet Jackson's racy Super Bowl performance and is in preliminary discussions to launch a gay cable network in the United States, its chairman and chief executive said.

Rice to Address 9/11 Panel

National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice will go before the federal panel reviewing the Sept. 11 attacks on Thursday. Rice will testify under oath for about 2 1/2 hours, with much of the questioning expected to focus on what outgoing Clinton officials told her about the al-Qaida threat and her response afterward.

Officers Convicted in Coverup

Three Miami police officers were convicted Thursday of charges that they joined a cover-up after guns were planted near the bodies of two robbers fatally shot by police.

Bank of America to Cut 12,500 Jobs

Bank of America Corp., now the No. 3 bank in the country, will cut 12,500 jobs - or nearly 7 percent of its 180,000-employee work force - over the next two years. Last week, it completed its \$47 billion merger with FleetBoston Financial Corp., creating a bank with operations stretching from North Carolina to New England to California.

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# Justice Tested

## Police officer throws obstacle to inquest

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Hopes for speedy police accountability in the death of an unarmed black motorist have collapsed as the police officer who killed James Jahar Perez files a lawsuit to block a public inquest, despite its demand by the mayor, police chief and district attorney.

Police Chief Derrick Foxworth continues asking for the public's patience as Officer Jason Sery claims an inquest would taint future grand jury proceedings.

Details surrounding the shooting death has come to a halt as African Americans and the city at large, hurt and frustrated by the death of a second unarmed African American at the hands of white police officers in less than one year, demanded justice. Hundreds of residents gathered to demand police accountability Sunday during an emotionally charged rally held at Terry Schunk Plaza, downtown.

Still, some community leaders say that a public inquest will accomplish little, regardless of Sery's refusal to appear.

"It makes no sense other than appeasing the community," said Roy Jay, director of the African American Chamber of Commerce. "A public inquest is nothing more than us watching the 'People's Court' and that's not going to bring the kid back."

No facts have been released since Foxworth held a press briefing following the shooting, stating that Sery shot Perez following a struggle with his partner after he was pulled over for failing to signal a turn. Foxworth said the officer told investigators he believed Perez had a weapon, although no weapon was found.

No further information, including the transcripts of interviews with the officers involved, will be made available to the public in the immediate future, according to Sgt. Cheryl Robinson, a spokeswoman for the police department.

"We've released any details that we can without damaging the integrity of the investigation," she said.

But the patience of the community is

wearing thin as a date for the public inquest has not yet been set and the questions that the inquest aims to address have already been answered.

The fact-finding nature of a public inquest will only address who the deceased person was, when and where he died and the cause and manner of death, according to officials at the district attorney's office. The testimony, heard by a jury of six, does not lead to criminal or civil charges. The district attorney's office has the option to

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Destiny Tsunani shows concern for the future of community and police relations at a rally to remember James Jahar Perez at Terry Schunk Plaza on Sunday.



Tabitha Turner attends Sunday's rally to also seek justice for Kendra James, who was shot and killed by police after a routine traffic stop nearly one year ago.

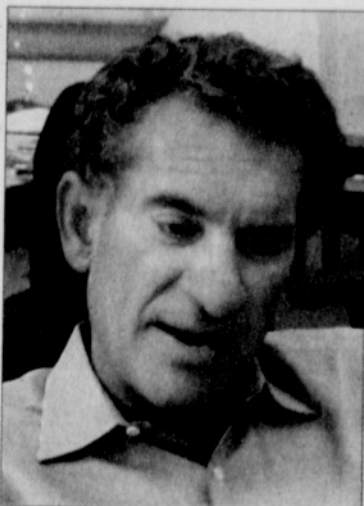
# Mayoral Candidates Address Police Shooting

## Childrens' forum veers off course to discuss police accountability

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

At a mayoral candidate's forum in northwest Portland, police accountability and a need for rebuilding ties between the cops and African Americans was on the lips of politicians and participants alike.

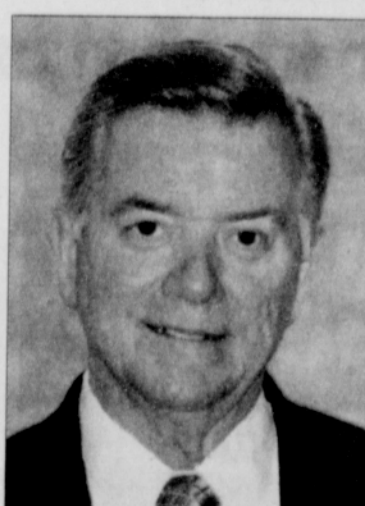
The debate sponsored by Stand for Children and the African American Chamber of Commerce, opened up a dialogue about education and a minority achievement gap between invited mayoral candidates Tom Potter, Commissioner Jim Francesconi, James Posey and city commissioner hopefuls Nick Fish



Jim Francesconi



James Posey



Tom Potter

and Sam Adams. When moderator David Sarasohn, an "Oregonian" columnist, accepted questions from the audience, it was impossible to keep off the topic of the recent police shooting death of James Jahar Perez, the unarmed African-American motorist who was pulled over

for not signaling 100 feet before a turn.

Most candidates expressed support for Police Chief Derrick Foxworth, and voiced a need for increased training, community policing and a more diverse police force.

"This is something we need to

shed light on," said Francesconi, who said he supports Mayor Vera Katz in her call for a public inquest, in addition to grand jury proceedings. He identified a need for more diversity in the police force and more job opportunities for young people.

According to Posey, a racist

culture in the police department reflects attitudes manifested in the city.

"The police force reflects us and we've allowed this to exist," he said.

Adams, a former chief of staff to Mayor Vera Katz, proposed an audit to the Independent Police Review process, which has been in place for three years.

"I think we have been short-changing training. Are police getting the training they need to handle these life and death decisions?" said Fish, a former board chairman of the Portland Housing Authority.

Neither African-American activist Woodrow Broadnax, nor dozens of other candidates running for city commissioner, were invited to participate in the debate. Only three of the 23 candidates running for mayor were invited.

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