

Life Sentences for Bell Killers

Victim's father regrets dog-fighting ring

Two men convicted of killing Asia Bell, the north Portland mother of four gunned down six years ago on her porch on North Mississippi Avenue, received life sentences last week with the possibility of parole after 35 years.

The case had gone cold for several years. Police investigators had trouble finding connections to the drive-by shooters of 22 bullets that killed Bell, 24, and blinded her husband as they sat on the family porch as their children watched a movie inside.

The victim's father, Steve Bell,



Asia Bell

regretted involvement in a dog-fighting ring that authorities say led to retaliation for a previous murder. Considering how vehemently his daughter condemned

gangs and violence, however, Steve Bell admonished the killers for shooting innocent people.

The month-long trial this winter became heated. Asia's friends and family members wore T-shirts calling for the guilt of Deprince Hale and Alexander Klein, while the suspects had a contingent of their own to contribute to a packed courtroom.

Courthouse deputies had been alerted of the rivalries and gang connections of certain members of the audience.

Hale and Klein had spent much of their adult lives committing crimes or in prison, according to the prosecution.

The Bell family has been struggling to overcome the grief intensified by the ordeal.

Kennedy Has Brain Tumor

(AP)-- A cancerous brain tumor caused the seizure Sen. Edward M. Kennedy suffered over the weekend, doctors said Tuesday in a grim diagnosis for one of American politics' most enduring figures.

Doctors for the Massachusetts Democrat say tests show a tumor in his left parietal lobe.

"He has had no further seizures, remains in good overall condition, and is up and walking around the hospital," said a joint statement issued by Dr. Lee Schwamm of Massachusetts General Hospital and Dr. Larry Ronan, Kennedy's primary care physician.

How well patients fare with a cancerous brain tumor depends on



Edward Kennedy

what specific type is determined by further testing. Average survival can range from less than a year for very advanced and aggressive types or to about five years for different types that are slower growing.

Kennedy, 76, the second-longest serving member of the Senate and a dominant figure in national Democratic Party politics, was elected in 1962, filling out the term won by his brother, John F. Kennedy.

Kennedy eldest brother, Joseph, was killed in a World War II airplane crash. President John Kennedy was assassinated in 1963 and his brother Robert was assassinated in 1968.

Protest Filed on Racial Profiling

Oregon Action's Community Campaign to End Racial Profiling presented petitions signed by over 600 concerned community members to the office of Mayor Tom Potter Monday.

The action marked the two-

year anniversary since a series of racial profiling listening session between the community and police. Since that time, the committee has produced an outline of steps to be taken, but Oregon Action charges that substantive

actions have lagged without a definite timeline.

It mostly blames the Portland Police Association, the union representing police officers for refuting the reality of police racial profiling.

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Columbia River CROSSING

The Columbia River Crossing project is a bridge, transit, highway and pedestrian/bicycle improvement project for I-5 between Vancouver and Portland.

Wednesday, May 28

Open house: 5-8 p.m.
Public hearing: 6-8 p.m.
Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay
100 Columbia Street
Vancouver, WA 98660

Thursday, May 29

Open house: 5-8 p.m.
Public hearing: 6-8 p.m.
Portland Metropolitan Exposition Center, Hall D
2060 North Marine Drive
Portland, Oregon 97217

We need your input.

On May 2, 2008, the project's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was released for public review and comment. We are seeking input on the findings in the Draft EIS, including the performance of the alternatives, transportation effects, community and environmental effects, and proposed findings of *de minimis* impacts* to public parks.

The Draft EIS public comment period closes July 1, 2008.

Learn more or comment online:
www.ColumbiaRiverCrossing.org
Questions? Call 1-866-396-2726

*In addition to input on the Draft EIS, we are seeking public review and comment on the draft Section 4(f) Evaluation that includes proposed findings of *de minimis* impacts to several public parks in Vancouver, in compliance with Title 23 U.S.C., 138, Title 49 U.S.C., 303, and 23 C.F.R. 774.

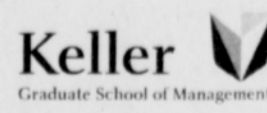
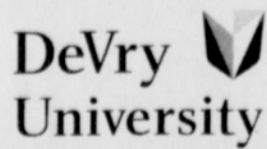
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