



'City of Roses'

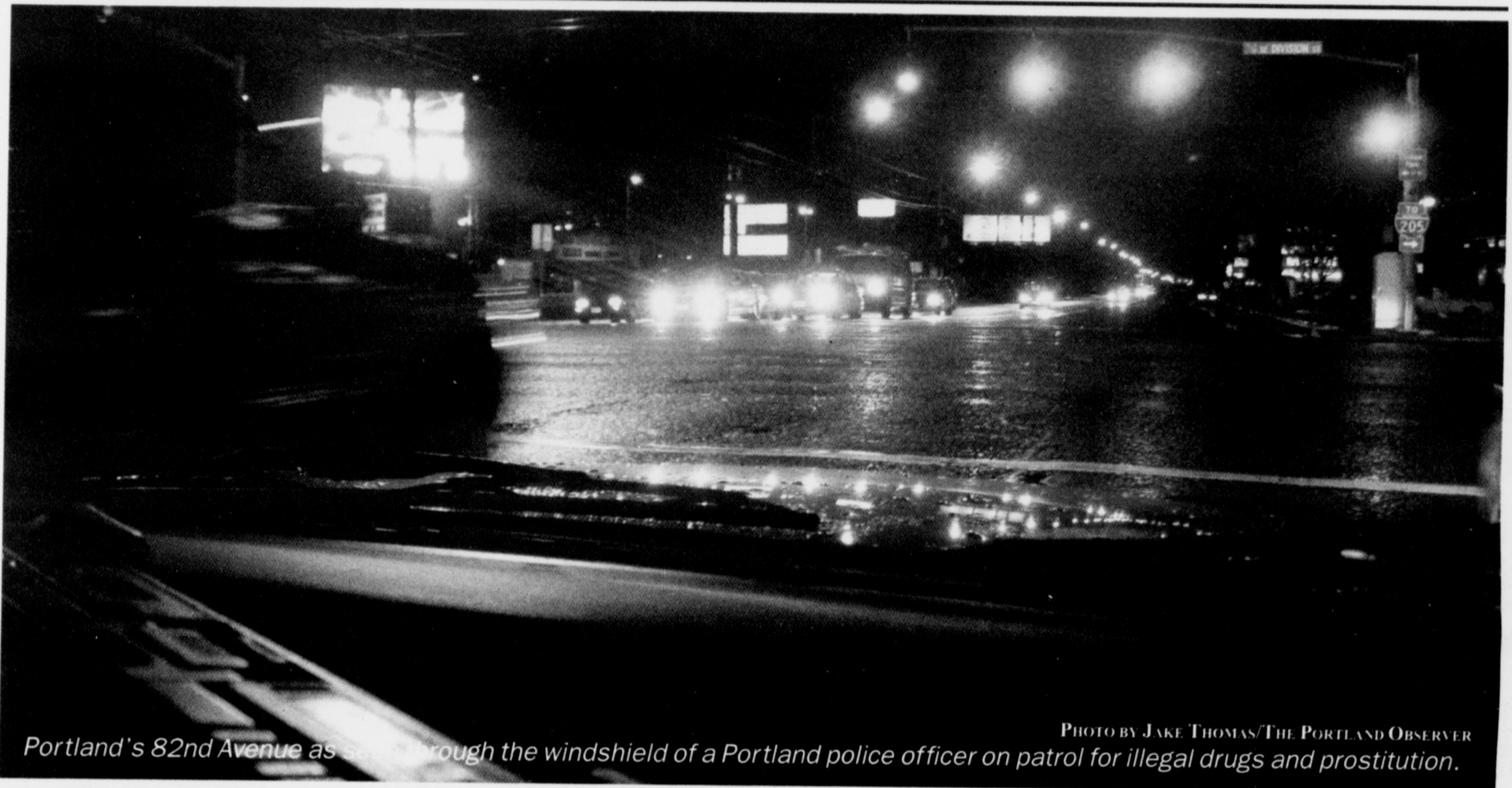


Jazz, Funk and Fusion
Versatile Mike Phillips makes
Portland debut

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40
years of
community service

Committed to Cultural Diversity



Portland's 82nd Avenue as seen through the windshield of a Portland police officer on patrol for illegal drugs and prostitution. PHOTO BY JAKE THOMAS/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Vice Patrol Fighting drugs, prostitution on 82nd Avenue

BY JAKE THOMAS
The Portland Observer

The unmarked Ford Crown Victoria police cruiser takes a sharp turn from Stark Street onto

82nd Avenue in southeast Portland. A pattern of cheap hotels, strip clubs, and Asian food restaurants that mark the landscape blur by as the car speeds up.

It's a damp, frigid Friday night. But the police are still present in a part of the city that has grown notorious for prostitution and meth use.

The officer I'm with, who asked not to have his name in the paper for safety reasons, has been on this beat for about a year and half. He has a friendly and chipper de-

meanor, not unlike a school teacher who wants to be on good terms with his students, but isn't

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Families Tackle Weighty Issues

Obesity takes a toll on young and old

BY JAKE THOMAS
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Frances Biagioli, a family doctor at Oregon Health Science University, has seen people come to her with joint aches, leg pain, high blood pressure, insomnia, and shortness of breath.

All the ailments of her patients have something in common: they're all either overweight or obese.

Biagioli, who has been practicing since 1998, tries to encourage her patients to take better care of themselves, but often finds herself achieving limited success.

She has also become so accustomed to treating overweight patients that she almost considers it normal.

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

University Park recreation leader Amourie Downing and mentor Christopher Bradley supervise local kids. Curtis Hooks IV (from left), Makalia Brooks, Taviania Tolbert, Jaya Stone, Kayla Pierce, and Jericho Sly-Davis, as they participate in Portland Play, a new program that aims to keep young people active and prevent them from putting on pounds.