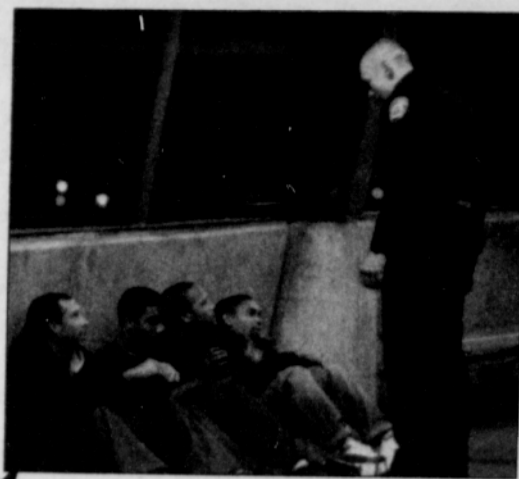


The
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Tracking License Plates

Portland Police technology gathers huge database
See Local News, page 3



Provocation on Transit

Our Opinionated Judge reviews the film 'Fruitvale Station'
See Metro, page 9

The Portland Observer 43

'City of Roses'



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Rattled Drivers

PHOTO BY DONOVAN M. SMITH/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Dan Martin, a TriMet bus operator for nearly 15 years, feared for his personal safety and that of another transit driver after what he called a life-threatening encounter with man brandishing a gun.



TriMet operators shaken up after violent attacks

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

They drive us from point A to point B throughout the metro area every day, and rarely do we interact with them besides showing them proof-of-fare and a pos-

sible shout of thanks upon reaching our destination. They are TriMet bus operators, and violent episodes have left them questioning day-to-day safety.

For 15 years Dan Martin has been at the wheel of a TriMet bus. He likes to think as himself as a happy

driver, one that tries to avoid conflict even if it means letting the occasional person get a free ride, "I don't want to give you grief about the fare, you know, just sit

continued ▼ on page 4