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Celebrating Kirk Reeves

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popular street performer*

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Dawson Unveiling

*Historic park
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'City of Roses'



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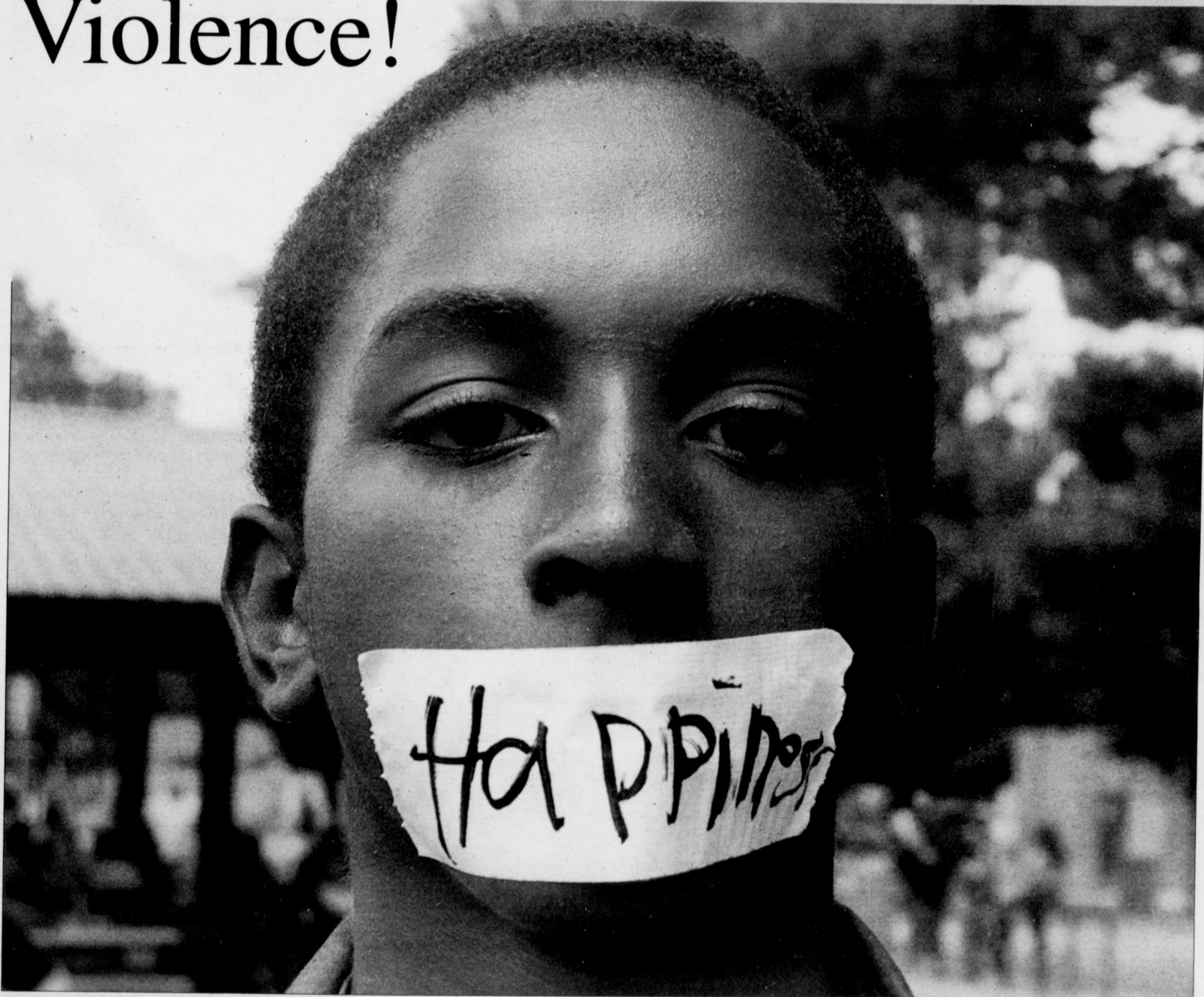
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Silence the Violence!

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Calvin Jackson takes a stand against violence at north Portland's McCoy Park. He was among a group of about 90 young people and adults who rallied at the park Friday, many wearing tape over their mouths stating ideas important to them, to protest a rash of shootings in north Portland and elsewhere that has cost lives and left the community traumatized.



Youth take a stand to stop the bloodshed

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland youth gathered in McCoy Park, just down the street from where a young man was recently shot and killed, to say this, "Silence the Violence".

They were among nearly 90 people, kids and adults likewise, who filled the New Columbia greenspace in north Portland on a blazing hot Friday afternoon to spread a message for peace against a backdrop of summer gun violence that is up from previ-

ous years.

The majority of the victims have been black males in their 20's and younger. One of the latest shootings saw five people injured outside the Soobie's Bar & Grill on Southeast 122nd Avenue and Oak Street, leaving 26-year-old Hahrachio Branch dead just hours after Independence Day. Days later, a

5-year-old boy was struck in the leg in what police said was an unintentional target of a 'gang-related' shooting outside his southeast Portland apartment.

Other summer shootings police have tied to gang violence have occurred in north,

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