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Good morning

North: Cloudy today with chance of showers. High 55 to 65. Chance of showers and cooler Monday. Details on Page A5.

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CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

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Neighbors battle Portland prostitution

By Lisa Levitt Ryckman  
 of The Associated Press

PORTLAND — Every day, strangers have sex outside Edna Robertson's home. They don't know each other and they don't know Robertson, but she's seen hundreds of hookers do business on her street. And she's ready for them.

"They park in front of my door. I just take my hose and water right into the car," she said, making it clear that even thinking about it gets her steamed. "I'm at the point now where I'll take a baseball bat and I'll go out there and break glass. I can't just stand by as a citizen and let this stuff happen."

The argument that prostitution is a victimless crime falls apart on the inner-

northeast side of Portland, where virtually everyone is a walking casualty in the no-win war among residents who want to raise families in decent surroundings, prostitutes who have sex in the streets and police who can do little more than chase them from block to block.

Limited jail space, coupled with a civic group's recommendation that prostitution be legalized, has contributed to the city's reputation as an easy place to walk the streets.

By noon each day, some of the city's estimated 2,000-plus hookers are lounging or strolling along Union Avenue, which cuts through the heart of this racially mixed neighborhood, flagging down customers and riding with them onto nearby residential streets.

Hookers get help in quitting street life ... Page A8

Tricks are being turned in the parks, in the parking lot of a senior citizens complex, in front of children, residents say.

"Girls and women can't wait at the bus stop without being hassled constantly by johns," said Sharon McCormack of Inner Northeast Neighborhood Against Crime. "On each block of Union, you could identify people who have witnessed oral sex acts, who have heard the dickering for prices, who have witnessed the robbery of the prostitutes after she left the trick."

"Most people just flat out don't believe this when we tell them," said Robert Nel-

son, a realtor and chairman of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods.

"They say that can't happen in this day and age. Well, it is happening. And when the city permits it to happen, people begin to say, 'I must be pretty scrappy and my neighborhood must be pretty scrappy if we're not even worth a cop coming out here to stop some of this stuff.'"

Police Chief Penny Harrington came to her job less than a year ago with prostitution high on her hit list, the neighborhood complaints she heard as captain of the East precinct still ringing in her ears.

"We tried everything (in the precinct). We arrested prostitutes all the time, and nothing worked," she said. "I thought, 'Why do we keep doing this when it's not accomplishing anything?' So I started talk-

ing to these neighborhood groups, and they had these ideas."

One group sat in lawn chairs along their street this summer and photographed every car that drove by. Others marched with protest signs while prostitutes were on the street.

Another man regularly patrolled his block, shining flashlights into cars and taking license plate numbers. "Nobody worked his block because it was too much of a hassle," one former hooker said.

Other residents, like Toni Williams, also confront the problem face-to-face. When her morning yardwork was interrupted recently by a sex act about to happen in a black Mercedes-Benz, anger got the best of her.

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House with a bad past

Residents say it's friendly; neighbors say death scene continues to be sore spot

By George Wiener  
 of The Gazette-Times

The rooming house at 854 S.W. Jefferson Ave. is not "murder hotel," says one of its residents.

But a double killing is hardly commonplace in Corvallis. Neither are neighbors who brandish and fire weapons.

Sandwiched between a six-plex apartment complex to the west and a stately brick house to the east, the three-story rooming house was the scene of two shooting deaths on May 5. The episode forced nearby residents from their homes and resulted in a two-block area being sealed off for more than 15 hours while a Eugene S.W.A.T. team roamed the otherwise bucolic neighborhood.

Police surrounded the building again Tuesday night after a man with a pistol fired a shot inside one of the apartments. Nobody was injured.

"It's better than living in my

car, and that's where I had been living" until a few months ago, said Jim Richards, who lives in apartment 6. He says \$50 a month — water and electricity included — to live in what he described as a "9-by-12 room."

"That's a pretty good deal for a place that's dry, has a roof and walls," said the unemployed 28-year-old. Most of the tenants pay about the same rent for their rooms, he added.

Passerby on a warm afternoon can usually count on seeing groups of people gathered on the green-carpeted front porch, or standing around older model cars and motorcycles that clog its driveway and sometimes spill onto the front yard or sidewalk.

Young girls are frequently seen there, and loud parties are not uncommon, say neighbors.

Despite its checkered reputation, one of the occupants involved in the Tuesday night fracas said it is

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The building at 854 S.W. Jefferson Ave. has a history that includes two shooting deaths.

CIA plans action against Khadafi

By Bob Woodward  
 of The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Reagan has authorized a Central Intelligence Agency covert operation designed to undermine the Libyan regime headed by Col. Muammar Khadafi, according to informed government sources.

The plan, which involves CIA assistance to another country or countries in North Africa and the Middle East that oppose Khadafi, has run into initial resistance from the House and Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, which oversees the CIA. The chairman and vice chairman of the Senate panel recently wrote Reagan to outline opposition to the covert operation.

However, a narrow majority of the members of both panels so far supports the covert action, administration sources said. Secretary of State George P. Shultz appeared before the House committee as recently as last week to support the plan.

The operation, authorized in a formal presidential "finding" signed this fall, is at first designed to disrupt, preempt and frustrate Khadafi's subversive and terrorist plans, the sources said. Secondly, they said, it might lure him into some foreign adventure or terrorist exploit that would give a growing number of Khadafi opponents in the Libyan military a chance to seize power; or such a foreign adventure might give one of Khadafi's neighbors, such as Algeria or Egypt, a justification for responding to Qaddafi militarily.

After 4½ years of ineffective economic sanctions and perhaps some minor financial support or encouragement to Libyan dissidents in exile, the administration has decided that Khadafi is such an international menace to U.S. interests that covert action should be undertaken, officials said.

Shultz and CIA Director William J. Casey, according to sources, have argued that the new covert plan is designed to stop terrorism, not to support the assassination of Khadafi.

Administration sources said there is no doubt that Reagan, Shultz and Casey would like to see Khadafi toppled, and believe that support operation could cost several million dollars through a third country in the type of antiterrorist operation that can safely and legally be undertaken.

The president has authority to begin covert operations that he deems necessary for the national security. Under the law, the congressional oversight committee must be informed fully and in a timely fashion. If Congress objects to the operation, the only recourse is to cut off the funds, as was done with the CIA covert support against Nicaragua.



Patricia Sanney, left, sits with her daughter Patricia Schwartz and granddaughter Kristen Schwartz, along with the Sanney boy, son given her before he was shot at 854 S.W. Jefferson Ave on May 5.

Victim's mother: There'll be more

By Wendy Madar  
 of The Gazette-Times

Patricia Sanney, mother of the 21-year-old man who was shot to death in May, says she's convinced there will be more killings in the house where her son died.

"I feel there's going to be more violence in that house. I feel it in my heart," she said of the building at 854 S.W. Jefferson Ave. where her son, Gerry, was shot by his former roommate, Jeffrey Norton.

That's the same building where William A. Coleman was arrested early Wednesday morning for allegedly firing a gun in a basement apartment several hours earlier.

Unable to hold back tears, Sanney said she doesn't hate Norton. She lays the responsibility for her son's death partly on the Veterans Administration, which she says failed to deal properly with mental problems stemming from Norton's involvement in the Vietnam War.

Sanney also blames the house itself for her son's death. She said the low rent there draws all kinds of people with one thing in common — poverty.

"For a lot of the people that live in that house, that's the only place they can live because they're poor," she says. "But there should be more places for poor people to live in this town, so the ones that don't want to live in that kind of

place have somewhere else to go."

Sanney's daughter Patricia Schwartz agreed. "The problem is that this is a college town, and that makes the rent high. There aren't enough cheap places to live for the poor people that grew up here."

Sanney and Schwartz said Gerry told them before he died there was a lot of drug use and dealing in the house.

"The kids that don't have jobs make money that way. They buy and sell pot and I don't know what all," said Sanney. She said a number of young people, including girls, hang around the house hoping to get drugs.

Sanney said Gerry hadn't lived in the house for several weeks because she'd convinced him to move. "I was afraid for him," she said.

Schwartz said she knows people who stay in the house because it's cheap, but they keep their doors locked. One has bought a handgun, she said, and others say they're going to buy guns. She also said several residents claim to have had dreams in which Gerry Sanney appeared and said there would be more killings soon.

"The way I feel in my heart," said Sanney, "is that Gerry's in heaven looking down and saying 'That place is gonna go.' ... All I know is, I don't want other parents to go through what I've been through."

Report details Rajneeshee 'hit list'

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — As Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneeshee expressed disappointment that he was denied him an immigration charge, a published report said informants have told police that followers in Oregon were involved in an alleged plot to kill nine people.

The guru's leader was being held in his lair after his arrest last week during what was said to be a stopover en route out of the country.

Meanwhile, the Oregonian newspaper of Portland reported in a copyright story in its Sunday edition that investigators have been told that Rajneeshee's former personal secretary said three associates used false identification to buy guns in Texas as part of an alleged plot to kill nine people.

Quoting unnamed informants, the newspaper said investigators were told that Ma Anand Sheela, 53, the guru's former personal secretary, and three other disciples went to

New York last spring to obtain false identification.

They went from there to Texas where they bought guns.

The alleged hit list included: — U.S. Attorney Charles Furber, who was involved in a criminal investigation of Rajneeshee. — Attorney General David Proxmire. — Karen H. Green, a former assistant attorney general who now is assistant county counsel for Deschutes County.

— Daniel C. Durow, Wasco County planning director. — James L. Coimist, a Wasco County commissioner. — Helen C. Byren, of Santa Fe, N.M., a former deputy who was awarded \$1.7 million from Rajneeshee Foundation International in May in a lawsuit over a loan to the sect. — Barbara J. Byren, 53, also of Santa Fe and a former deputy who testified for her mother. — Leslie L. Zeitz, an Oregonian reporter.

