SAY CHEESE

■ The Police Bureau got over being camera shy pretty quickly. Just two months ago some cops stopped members of the Flying Focus Video Collective from videotaping arrests (NewsThins, W.W., Aug. 29, 1991). Portland's finest argued that camera operators had to warn the parties involved that their voices were being recorded. (The right to capture photographic images was not disputed.) But a week before President Bush hit town, after prodding from the National Lawyers Guild, the bureau notified all officers that videotaping an arrest on the street is perfectly legal, even without notification.

Now the cop shop's internal investigations unit has asked to see the videotapes made by members of Flying Focus during last month's presidential protest—to help detect possible police misconduct, says bureau spokesman Derrick Foxworth. But the amateur camera crew suspects that police would use the tapes to identify protesters for future harassment and refuses to hand them over-to police, that is. Flying Focus has given a tape to Portland lawyer Spencer Neal, who is representing a protester, Robert Luxton of Eugene. Luxton claims police knocked him to the ground, pulled his hair and broke his nose-only to realize he was not the person they wanted and release him "without any explanation or apology."