

# Shasta Girl's Death Appears Premeditated

By JAMES E. REID

The sheriff's office investigation into the death of Caroline Nadine Davis appeared to be snowballing this morning as detectives announced they may be close to establishing a cause of death.

Det. Sgts. Robert Walker and Joseph Thibodeau went to Shasta County yesterday to contact friends and relatives of the 15-year-old Anderson Union High School student whose nude body was found July 31 dumped off

an embankment on Franz Valley Road north of Santa Rosa.

Undersheriff Robert Hayes this morning said he had not heard from detectives but they were expected to return late today.

A letter, supposedly written by the girl around the time she left home near Anderson on Feb. 6, was forwarded to officials here by the Anderson Police Department, where her mother, Mrs. Rose Anderson, filed a missing person report.

Hayes said several names were mentioned in the letter and Walker and Thibodeau would contact those people before returning from Shasta County.

While efforts to trace the girl focused on Shasta County, Dist. Atty. John Hawkes announced here yesterday lab technicians are close to a positive identification of the exact substance that killed the girl.

However, he declined to release preliminary results until additional tests can be made to pinpoint the substance.

Officials did indicate the evidence at this point seems to show considerable premeditation on the part of her killer.

Caroline's body was identified late Wednesday by Santa Rosa dentist Dr. R. C. Tangeman on the basis of dental charts forwarded to sheriff's officials here by the girl's relatives.

She was the fifth girl slain in Sonoma County during the past 12 months.

The nude bodies of all five victims had been thrown down steep banks off county roads, four of them in remote areas.

Caroline's body was found within four feet of where the skeletal remains of two Herbert Slater Junior High School students were discovered Dec. 22, leading officials to conclude all three were slain by the same person.