

Who Is the Slain Girl Found Off County Road?

By JAMES E. REID

The identity of the girl whose nude body was found late Tuesday off Franz Valley Road was not established as of this morning and the pathologist was unable to determine the cause of her death.

Sonoma County Sheriff Don Striepeke said his investigators are poring over missing persons reports in efforts to learn

the victim's name, but he said identification will depend on dental charts because of the decomposed condition of the body.

Striepeke said the girl was probably the victim of the "same person or persons" who killed the two young girls last year.

"It looks like we've got a guy here who likes young girls," he said.

District Attorney John Hawkes released the girl's physical description based on the preliminary autopsy report.

He said the victim is believed to have been 14 to 16 years of age, five feet, seven inches, with blondish-brown hair about 10 inches long.

The pathologist estimated she had been dead 10 to 14 days. He was unable to determine if she had been sexually assaulted before her death, Hawkes said.

There was no clothing or jewelry

found at the scene, northeast of Santa Rosa, to aid officers in trying to identify the girl.

The most outstanding clue available to investigators was the fact that the girl's right ear had a small hole in it, similar to a hole for pierced ears. There was no hole in her left ear lobe.

Striepeke said the pathologist will make chemical tests on the girl's blood and tissue to establish the cause of her death. He said he hoped to have that report today.

Her body was found by a motorcyclist who called the sheriff's office at 8:35 p.m. Tuesday.

Striepeke said the girl's body "was lying face down, not four feet from the exact, same spot" where the skeletal remains of two Herbert Slater Junior High School students were found Dec. 28.

Cause of their death has never

been established and there have been no arrests.

The girls, Maureen Sterling, 12, and Yvonne Weber, 13, were last seen Feb. 4 last year at the Redwood Empire Ice Arena where one of their mothers dropped them at 7:30 p.m.

Investigators working on the new case guessed the body of the latest victim was thrown off the Franz Valley Road either by a very large man or by two men, because it cleared tall brush 10 feet down the steep embankment.

Sonoma County Sheriff's Det. Sgt. Erwin (Butch) Carlstedt was in Canada to question a suspect arrested by Canadian authorities.

Sheriff's Lt. John Hess said he advised Carlstedt about the body of the latest victim found here when he learned that Albert Richard Voorhes, 27, had "passed through" Santa Rosa

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Body Found

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her death would be established by the pathologist today.

The body was removed late yesterday and guards were posted at the scene. Identification experts combed the area for evidence today.

But he admitted there were a bunch of discouraged guys out there last night.

He said Detective Sgts. Robert Walker and Joseph Thibodeau were assigned to the case this morning.

Officials were checking missing persons reports to assist in possible identification of the victim.

Anyone knowing of a missing person who has not reported it to authorities was asked to contact the sheriff's office as soon as possible.

The remains of the two Herbert Slater Junior High School students were found Dec. 28.

They had been missing since Feb. 4 when one of their mothers left them at the Redwood Empire Ice Arena at 7:30 p.m.

Then when she returned to pick them up at 11 p.m. they were missing.

The Secret Witness program has posted a \$1,000 reward for information about the girls' disappearance or slaying.

Officials said the cause of their death has never been determined.

The girls disappeared exactly one month prior to the day Kim Wendy Allen dropped out of sight while hitchhiking from San Rafael to Santa Rosa. Her nude body was found March 5 down an embankment on Enterprise Road between Sonoma Mountain Road and Bennett Valley Road.

She had been raped and slowly strangled to death, her wrists and ankles bound with a thin cord or wire.

A \$1,000 reward was also offered through the Secret Witness program for information leading to the capture of her killer, as well as a similar reward for information about the death of 13-year-old Lori Lee Kursa, whose nude body was

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found Dec. 14 of Calistoga, entirely alive when she was thrown down the steep embankment. Officials said she died of a broken neck, but was appar-