

Bodies Identified As Two Missing SR Girls

by BONY SALUDES

Skeletal remains found Thursday over an embankment on Franz Valley rd. have been identified as those of two Santa Rosa girls, missing since last Feb. 4.

The coroner's office today identified the victims as Maureen Sterling, 12, daughter of Mrs. Arleen Sterling Place, 3545 Midway dr., and Yvonne Weber, 13, daughter of Mrs. Sheila Herrington, 3365 Holland dr.

Coroner's Investigator Donald Noriel said the girls were identified yesterday through dental charts.

Santa Rosa police, who have been investigating the girls disappearance, suggested to the sheriff's office that the remains were those of the two girls.

Maureen and Yvonne were reported missing from the Redwood Empire Ice Arena where one of their mothers left them off about 7:30 p.m., Feb. 4, but could not locate them when she went to pick them up at 11 p.m.

According to authorities and friends, the two girls, students at Herbert Slater Junior High School, were last seen getting into a car, either voluntarily or forcibly, on Guerneville rd.

The girls disappeared exactly a month prior to the discovery of the body of Kim Wendy Allen, a 19-year-old Santa Rosa Junior College student on Enterprise rd.

Miss Allen's nude body was found over an embankment on March 5.

Circumstances also are similar to the discovery of the nude body of another Santa Rosa girl, Lori Kursa, 14, over an embankment on Calistoga Grade early last month.

Sheriff's officials said there was no evidence that there was

any clothing on the remains found on Franz Valley rd.

Should it be determined that Miss Sterling and Miss Weber were victims of foul play, they would be the 20th and 21st homicide victims in Sonoma County this year more than twice the previous record of nine in one year.

Both the sheriff's office and Santa Rosa police are now investigating the deaths.

Miss Weber's stepfather, David Herrington, pointed out that all along Santa Rosa police insisted the two girls were runaways.

"It is obvious that they weren't," he said.

He said the girls may have been hitchhiking and added, "I hope other girls will learn by this and not hitchhike."

Among Miss Weber's other survivors are her brothers, Mark Weber, Aaron Herrington and Emily Herrington, who was born after Miss Weber disappeared.

Other survivors of Miss Sterling are a sister, Theresa Sterling, and her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Theo H. Siri, Santa Rosa.