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No clues on slain teacher's children

By Art Carey
Inquirer Staff Writer

State Police continued their search yesterday for the two children of an Upper Merion High School teacher whose body was found in the trunk of a car at a Harrisburg-area motel Monday.

Four state troopers from the Harrisburg barracks were sent to Philadelphia yesterday to interview friends and acquaintances of the victim. They are being assisted in the search by troopers from the Belmont barracks as well as several police departments from the Philadelphia area.

The body of Susan J. Gallagher Reinert, 36, of Woodcrest Avenue, Ardmore, was discovered about 5:30 a.m. Monday in the parking lot of the Hunt Inn in Swatara Township near Harrisburg. She had been criminally assaulted and suffocated, police said.

The victim was last seen alive last Friday, police said, when she picked up her son, Michael, 10, from a softball game. Also with her was her daughter, Karen, 11. State Police said yesterday that they had no clues as to the whereabouts of the children, nor any suspects in the case.

Mrs. Reinert, who was divorced, had been scheduled to give a workshop Saturday at a regional conference in Allentown of Parents Without Partners, an organization for single parents and their children.

She had planned to bring her children and she had made reservations for them in the children's program," said Sally Hilderbrand, president of the regional council.

But Mrs. Reinert, who was formerly a director of the organization's Valley Forge chapter, never arrived. She also did not check in at a local motel where a room had been reserved for her, State Police said.

Mrs. Reinert began teaching English at Upper Merion High School in the fall of 1971. She was also coadviser for the school yearbook, said J. Richard Bolton, the district's deputy superintendent.

Mrs. Hilderbrand, also a member of the Valley Forge chapter of Parents Without Partners, said that Mrs. Reinert had been quite active in the organization until recently.

"She helped train other people in chapters throughout Pennsylvania on how to be good moderators," Mrs. Hilderbrand said. "She was intelligent, verbal and could express herself well. She was very good and had a very good reputation." Another chapter member characterized Mrs. Reinert as "somewhat avant garde, but very reserved. She was a very petite, quiet person."

Philadelphia Inquirer / MICHAEL VICLA

IT'S A LONG, hard climb to the top in this world, but the view is great and the ride down is fun. Youngsters from the South Philadelphia Day Care Center get a lesson in sliding board philosophy yesterday in Marconi Park near Pattison Avenue.

U. S. indicts 5 in leasing scheme

By Jan Schaffer
Inquirer Staff Writer

A federal grand jury yesterday indicted five persons connected with a Northeast Philadelphia equipment-leasing company, accusing them of defrauding their customers of more than $200,000 in deposits that were made on rentals.

The indictment is part of a federal investigation into allegations of loan-sharking activities involving the firm, Alco Industrial Development Corp., also known as A.I.D. Leasing, 9600 Roosevelt Blvd.

Among the five charged with mail fraud and conspiracy yesterday was the firm's president, Alexander Albert Schwartz, 62, of the 9600 block of Ashton Road. In 1972, he and two reputed organized-crime figures, Philip Testa and Frank Sindone, were acquited of federal loan-sharking charges.

The indictment handed down yesterday alleged that A.I.D., while claiming to lease airplanes and office and mining equipment to corporate clients, did not have sufficient funds to provide such equipment. It charged that the company would use deposits made by potential customers for "wrongful purposes," which the indictment did not specify.

When customers demanded refunds on their breached lease agreements, they were paid with bad checks or with money from deposits made by other customers, the indictment alleged.

Those named in the indictment were Schwartz; his wife, Adele, 43, the firm's bookkeeper; Francis J. Schieber, 45, of the 4300 block of Greenmount Road, the firm's vice president; Joseph F. McConnell, 63, of Drexel Hill, a salesman, and Robert J. Swinehart, 41, of the 400 block of Hendrix Street.

Swinehart, the former head of Hourly Messenger Service, recently was sentenced to three years in jail for bankruptcy, fraud and embezzling from the A.I.D.'s employe pension plan after government prosecutors said that he had failed to live up to an agreement to cooperate with them in the A.I.D. investigation.

Hospital's purchase of scanner vetoed

SCANNER, From 1-B

government says is needed to justify the purchase of a scanner.

David Markson, the Blue Cross representative on the agency board, pointed out that Sacred Heart purchased the scanner without waiting to learn whether the HSA had taken final action on its application.

"I don't see how as a board member — no matter how sympathetic I may be to the substance of what Mr. Godin presented — I could vote in favor of a project under these circumstances, because I think that is simply a vote against area-wide planning," Markson said. "It would be a vote for an institution's judgment above that of a community-supported agency such as the HSA."

Blue Cross has consistently backed the HSA in the dispute.

Agnes Ferraro, a Montgomery County nurse sitting on the board, supported the hospital's position in the sometimes heated debate before the vote.

"I feel that they do need the scanner and it is necessary for the area," she said.

The HSA has approved a plan to provide a portable scanner for use by four hospitals in the area, instead of one scanner at Sacred Heart.

Shelton College seeks to reopen after 8 years

Associated Press

CAPE MAY, N.J. — The board of trustees of Shelton College has filed an application to reopen the fundamentalist Bible school here, but New Jersey authorities say the college will not be allowed to resume classes this September.

Shelton College, strongly supported by the Rev. Carl McIntire, a fundamentalist radio preacher, has been operating in Cape Canaveral, Fla., since September 1971, when New Jersey authorities revoked its accreditation.

The college was founded in September 1964 and was housed in a building behind McIntire's Christian Admiral Hotel here. It lost its New Jersey accreditation when former State Chancellor of Higher Education Ralph A. Dungan disapproved of the college's educational standards.

Haddonfield attorney Keith Balshaw, a college trustee, says an application to reopen and grant degrees was filed in February. But an official of the State Department of Higher Education said that it would be "absolutely impossible" to reopen the school this fall.

Amorita Suarez, director of the state's Office of Independent Colleges and Universities, said that her staff is investigating the application, but that there are a number of obstacles to it.

She said, for example, that it takes one year to review one college program. But, she said, Shelton wants to reopen with programs in biblical literature, Christian education, elementary education, secondary education, English, history, business management, music education and natural science.

Ms. Suarez said it was possible that the state could reach a decision in time for a January term.

SEPTA hires new chief, passes budget

SEPTA, From 1-B

total of $146 million of the $296 million budget. That figure includes a proposed 10 percent fare increase on commuter trains next April 1. (Commuter fares went up an average of 10 percent last April 1.)

The other $156 million of the budget will come from local, state and federal government subsidies. The state will provide $67.8 million, compared to $60 million allocated in the fiscal 1979 budget.

Rochford strongly criticized the federal government for providing "unrealistically low" subsidies for mass transit.

"In the face of the energy crisis the Carter Administration has seen fit to cut almost $500 million out of federal mass transit funds," he said.

SEPTA will receive $53 million from the federal government, compared to $45 million allocated in the current fiscal year. The board had hoped for substantially more from the federal government in the upcoming budget.

Had those funds been provided, Rochford said, the budget would be one "we could have worked with rather than suffered with."

The Scene

In Philadelphia and the suburbs

United Press International

A CAT IN THE BIRDHOUSE is worth more than two in the bush in Annville, Pa.? Maybe that's not how it goes, but how many cats do you see in birdhouses these days? It is not clear what happened to the bird.

Gasoline, *It must be Ike's fault*

The gas line was stretched on 42d Street just south of Chestnut when she sauntered by, sucking an orange. It was not quite 10 a.m. and some drivers had been waiting 90 minutes for the Getty station to open, but she eyed them without pity, small pieces of orange dribbling down her chin. It was warm yesterday morning, and the gasless drivers stood outside their cars and watched her stroll by. "It's Eisenhower's fault," she suddenly shouted. "If he had done something about this in 1961 ...." No one heard the end of her remark.

School, *Give me a hand, teacher*

Michael Matthews knew that his high school graduation ceremonies would be boring. That's the way high school graduations are. It's part of the rules. So when he told his classmates what he intended to do, they urged him on. One even bet him $25 he didn't have the nerve to do it.

So when the Cedar Ridge High School seniors were graduated last week in Old Bridge, N.J., Matthews was ready. When his name was called, he rose and walked to the spot where he would shake the hand of Patrick Torre, school superintendent, and get his diploma from the school principal.

But after Torre shook the student's hand, he was left with a plastic hand, a rather undignified thing to suddenly have in your possession. The students howled. Matthews' trick bogus hand had worked. But Mr. Torre didn't think it was so funny. He jammed the hand down Matthews' back, and the principal has refused to give him a diploma until he apologizes.

Sales, *Wanna buy a hot plate?*

Hear about the new Three Mile Island commemorative plate with the four-color picture of the cooling towers in the center? Just $9.95, and that includes postage, shipping and tax.

It's no joke. There is really such a plate being manufactured by an insurance agent in Middletown, Pa., who would like to make some money from what happened at the nuclear plant. Residents of the Harrisburg area began seeing television commercials for the plate last week. "There have been questions raised about whether it is in good taste or bad taste," said Ray Coble, a Harrisburg advertising man who is handling the marketing of the plate. "I don't think it's in poor taste."

The plate is a standard dinner dish with a brief history of the nuclear plant on the back. "Some people who object think the incident should be forgotten," Coble said. "I think it should be remembered, but I can understand some who would object to the way we are remembering it." The brains behind the nuclear plate is Russell Earhart, 42. "My (unidentified) partner in this works at TMI. He said to me, 'Everybody's making money in this situation — how can we?'" Earhart said. They found a picture taken when TMI opened on Labor Day, 1974, when all four cooling towers were working, and decided to use it on a commemorative plate. They've sold 400 already, but Coble said business was rather slow now. After seeing a commercial for the plate, a State Department of Commerce official we know had this to say: "Ever watch one of those things where your jaw drops? I would take Benny Kraus over the Three Mile Island commemorative plate."

People, *Working the gas lines*

Like everyone else, we cannot escape the gas lines and the humanity we encounter in them. Yesterday, at a Hess station on Easton Road and Township Line in Horsham, there was a line of more than a mile waiting for gas. Unlike some other lines we've seen, however, this trail of trapped motorists was being catered to by a group of youthful entrepreneurs. Young boys were selling coffee for 25 cents a cup, and a free refill was included. Doughnuts, soft pretzels and lemonade also were being hawked. Don't be surprised if we next see youngsters charging to "car-sit" for you in the gas line.

Nostalgia, *Remember when bricks were bricks?*

Trivia and nostalgia buffs have really gotten tunnel vision. You can ask a sports buff the most arcane question about Ed Bouchee, for instance, but he'll look at you as though you're crazy if you ask him about an old Cary Grant movie. There are television fans and local history fans, and just about every other legitimate field of learning has its experts. But now, ever vigilant about the compartmentalizing of our lives, we have discovered a new nostalgia and trivia field: local building and realty history.

Yes, fans, that esteemed journal, the Building and Realty Record, has a popular, riveting column about nostalgia from the annals of the industry. The latest issue, just in case it comes up at a cocktail party or in a gas line, reminds us all that it was only 25 years ago that landlords were told that they would no longer have to provide window screens. And in 1954 washstands were required in the bathrooms of all new construction. Gosh, it seems like only yesterday.

— Murray Dubin

City and Suburban News in Brief

2 area Scouts to attend jamboree in Sweden

Two Philadelphia-area Boy Scouts will attend the 1979 World Scout Jamboree in Kopparbergh, Sweden, next month.

Eagle Scout Stephen Troia, of Northeast Philadelphia, a member of Frontier District Troop 160, will represent the Philadelphia Boy Scout Council. Life Scout Sam Lange of Abington, sponsored by Troop 72, will represent the Valley Forge Council.

They leave Monday for Madrid, where they will spend a week as guests of the Spanish Boy Scouts. After a week in Stockholm as guests of the Swedish Scouts, they will then join 3,000 Boy Scouts from around the world for the week-long jamboree in Kopparbergh.

Penn vice president chosen president of Buffalo college

Dr. D. Bruce Johnstone, vice president for administration at the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed fifth president of the 106-year-old State University College at Buffalo, N.Y.

Johnstone, 38, an administrator and faculty member at Penn for seven years, was the unanimous choice of the Buffalo State College Council to head the 10,500-student school. He will assume his new post on Aug. 15 and will also hold the title of professor of economics and education. He succeeds Dr. E.K. Fretwell Jr., now chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

2 indicted in heroin sale to undercover officers

A federal grand jury yesterday indicted two men on charges of conspiring to sell $29,850 worth of heroin to undercover police officers attached to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force.

Leonard Newton, 36, of Society Hill Towers, and Paul Hill of Meehan Street were charged with distributing the drug from March to June.

Mummers, fireworks to open Freedom Week

Philadelphia's Freedom Week celebration will begin tomorrow with a Mummers parade at 6 p.m. and a fireworks display at 10 p.m.

Twenty-three string bands, eight fancy divisions and 10 comic clubs will march in the parade, from 20th Street and the Parkway by way of 17th, Chestnut and Third Streets to Third and Market. Fireworks will be set off on the roof of the Penn Mutual Building at Sixth and Walnut Streets.

SEPTA will detour several center city bus routes during the parade. They are Routes A, D, 2, 5, 12, 17, 33, 38, 42 and 44, and the Airport Express. Detour routes will be posted at bus stops.

House votes to curb use of hypodermic needles

The Pennsylvania House voted 185-9 yesterday to approve a bill outlawing the sale of hypodermic needles to all except legitimate users.

Under the bill, manufacturers licensed under the Controlled Substance Act, doctors and individuals with legitimate uses for hypodermic needles would be exempt.

"We're trying to get to the guy who's illegally selling hypodermic needles to the user," said Rep. Frank A. Salvatore (R., Phila.), the bill's sponsor. "This is one step in the right direction. And the penalties are quite stiff — for the first offense, five years or a $10,000 fine maximum."

Firm that overcharged on oil agrees to give to charities

Diamond Industries Inc., a Wilmington heating oil distributor, has agreed to pay four United Way organizations in Pennsylvania $1,500 each under the terms of an unusual settlement negotiated by the State Bureau of Consumer Protection.

The organizations serve areas where Diamond overcharged residential customers from 1976 to 1978. They are the United Way of Southeast Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, the United Way in Lehigh County, the United Way of Southeast Delaware County in Chester and the Coatesville District United Charities.

The money will be used to buy heating oil for needy families next winter, bureau officials said. They added that Diamond also had agreed to cut its finance charges for overcharged customers and notify them of the settlement.

City to sponsor 5-mile jog through Wissahickon Valley

The Department of Recreation will sponsor a five-mile jog through the Wissahickon Valley beginning at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Runners will begin at the Valley Green Inn, proceed to Lincoln Drive and then return to the inn.

Lawrence Spiegel, the department's District 5 supervisor, said awards will be presented to the first 10 finishers and to top finishers in each age division. Divisions are 16 and under, 17 to 39 and 40 and over. Males and females will compete in separate divisions.

The entry fee is $2 if paid before Tuesday and $3 on the night of the jog. Registration details can be obtained from the meet director, Paul Bryson, at MU 6-1776.

Maritime Festival to open at Penn's Landing

The third annual Penn's Landing Maritime Festival will be held Saturday through July 8, on the Delaware River between Market and Lombard Streets.

On Saturday, two vessels, the lightship Barnegat and a reproduction of the barge used by William Penn between Philadelphia and his Pennsbury Manor home upriver, will go on display. On Sunday, a fleet of sailing ships will be escorted upriver from Marcus Hook, led by the full-rigged Polish training ship Dar Pomerza. Other sailing ships participating will include the Gazela Primeiro and the Young America.

Woman gets 5 to 10 years in Tyrone Everett death

Carolyn McKendrick was sentenced Tuesday to 5 to 10 years in prison by Common Pleas Judge Robert A. Latrona for the May 26, 1977, slaying of boxer Tyrone Everett.

Everett, a junior lightweight contender, was found shot to death in a bedroom at the defendant's home in South Philadelphia. He was 24.

Ms. McKendrick, 25, was convicted in December 1977 of third-degree murder. She contended that she had been brutalized by Everett, her lover, and had shot him in self-defense.

Marilyn McCoo, Billy Davis cancel concert in Phila.

The appearance of singers Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, her husband, at the July 3d Freedom Week concert on Benjamin Franklin Parkway has been canceled because Miss McCoo is undergoing surgery.

Comedian Rodney Dangerfield and singer Bobby Rydell will be featured instead. The concert will begin at 8 p.m. Tuesday on the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

As part of the Freedom Week activities, a thrill show with aerial acts will begin 90 minutes earlier in VonColln Park.

Police release man queried in S. W. Philadelphia killing

Philadelphia police early yesterday morning released a man who had been brought in for questioning Tuesday night in the sniper slaying of Rodney Tracey Chambers, 13, in Southwest Philadelphia on June 17. It was still unclear whether the man was a suspect or witness, and police declined to identify him.

Two other men have already been charged with murder, weapons offenses and conspiracy in the case.

Bucks car dealer withdraws guilty plea in bribery trial

Vincent Pilkington, 41, of the 2200 block of Bridge Street, a used-car dealer, yesterday withdrew his guilty plea to charges of attempting to bribe a Warrington Township official.

Pilkington had pleaded guilty to the charges in Bucks County Court last December **and had** been scheduled for **sentencing yesterday.**

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