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SERVING HAMPTON ROADS SINCE 1896

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Cases still unsolved

COLONIAL PARKWAY KILLINGS HAUNT 20 YEARS LATER



The first case
On Oct. 12, 1986, two bodies were found in a Honda Civic near the Colonial Parkway in York County, the first of the "Parkway Murders." (Photo by AP/WIDE WORLD)

BY WATT SARD
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Twenty years ago this month a tourist on the Colonial Parkway made an odd discovery on a steep bluff overlooking the York River. It was a white Honda Civic resting in chilling stumps. The car soon yielded its macabre contents: two young women, their hands bound and throats slit and bodies soaked in diesel fuel. Catherine Thomas, 27, and Rebecca Dowski, 21, were the first of what would become known as the "Parkway Murders," a string of similar and still unsolved serial killings around Hampton Roads over three years.

The slayings of three young women and the disappearance of two Christopher Newport University students out on their first date — they've never been found — has confounded investigators and haunted families of the victims.

"It's agonizing," said Teri Hasky, whose 16-year-old sister Cassandra Hasky vanished on the parkway on April 10, 1988. "It's agony every day wondering where my sister is and what happened to her."



The second case
David Kneeling, 26, and Robin Edwards, 14, were found Sept. 21, 1987. Karl Kneeling, David's father, later has a poster in his truck. (Photo by AP/WIDE WORLD)

The killings all occurred in the months of September. October and April, spread out over nearly three years.

The bodies of Thomas, a Norfolk stockbroker, and Dowski, a student at the College of William and Mary, were discovered Oct. 12, 1986, just east of Chestnut Avenue. Curiously, both women's purses were under their seats, but Thomas' wallet was on the floor.

Investigators theorized that the killer attempted to burn the car but couldn't get the diesel fuel to ignite.

Almost a year later, another pair of slayings shocked Hampton Roads.

On Sept. 21, 1987, the car of David Kneeling, 26, was found just after midnight in Ragland Island Wildlife Refuge in Isle of Wight County. The engine was running, the wheels were on and the radio was playing.

Powerful earthquake shakes up Hawaii

No fatalities are reported but at least 170 bridges on the Big Island might be damaged.

BY TARA COOMER FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU — When the strongest earthquake to hit Hawaii in 50 years jolted people awake Sunday morning, causing minimal damage to roads and buildings, it carved a path of destruction for many into a nightmare.

In Waikiki, one of the state's busiest tourism areas, workers began lining up outside downtown convenience stores to buy food, water and other supplies. Many shoppers, fearful of chaos, left tourists in one at a time.



Newlyweds Karle and Bryan Cross waited an hour to buy bottles of water, chips and bread.

"It's quite a horrendous scene," said Karle, as she and her husband sat in lounge chairs surrounded by grocery bags at Resort Shores Waikiki Beach Hotel.

The quake, estimated to be between magnitude 6.5 and 6.6, hit at 1:07 a.m. local time, 30 miles north-northwest of Kailua Kona, a town on the west coast of Hawaii Island, also known as the Big Island, said Don Blakeman, a geophysicist at the National Earthquake Information Center, part of the U.S. Geological Survey. It sent rocks tumbling onto highways, crashed the ceiling of a hospital and caused minimal damage to buildings and bridges.

After-shocks — one measured at magnitude 3.8 —

Is it time to adjust the hands of the Doomsday Clock?

The timepiece shows the world's movement toward nuclear war or global harmony.

BY JEFFREY M. HUNTER FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — It is one of the best-known symbols of the Atomic Age: a simple clock with only the last quadrant marked, whose hands are moved forward toward midnight (indicating nuclear disaster) or back (meaning global harmony).

The Doomsday Clock hangs inside a tiny room on the University of Chicago campus, a short walk from the laboratory that first harnessed the power of the atom.

Every time a new threat to international security occurs — such as North Korea's announcement last week that it had carried out a successful underground nuclear test — the clock's ominous hands are bombarded with a simple question: "Is it time to change the clock again?"

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The number of times the clock hands have been moved since 1947. The last time was February 2002.

Photo by DOUG BAYLUM

In Baghdad at war, some find peace in 'Dr. Phil' show

To an Iraqi family, the foibles on the popular U.S. program are a respite from their daily fears.

BY MONIKA DANAGANIELO ANGELIS TIMES

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The young men at the checkpoint couldn't have been older than his own teenagers. Wielding guns, they brusquely ordered 20-year-old Shamal Hashem Subhali and his 16-year-old son, Ahmad, out of their car.

They demanded identification. Where are you going? Where are you coming from?

Frightened and angry, Subhali headed home for lunch with his wife and three children. Afterward, he powered up his television and found there his nerves with one of the few things that give him comfort: The "Dr. Phil" television show.

In a world of armed gangs, random shootings, blackouts and trash heaps, subhals are where you find them. For Subhali, they're a family lunch, gardening and Dr. Phil, the American talk show host from Texas, whose weekly television program airs here with Arabic subtitles on a popular Lebanese-owned satellite channel.



DR. PHIL
Photo by DR. PHILIPS

<p>INSIDE PEOPLE</p> <p>'Grudge 2' scares up big audiences The horror sequel takes in \$22 million in its first weekend in theaters. A2</p>	<p>TODAY'S ISSUE</p> <p>Courting voters in abortion debate Four abortion activists in South Dakota avoid the movement's familiar slogans. A3</p>	<p>WORLD</p> <p>Pope names four new saints Those elected to sainthood include a man who established an order in Indiana. A3</p>	<p>INDEX</p> <p>Admiral D6 Carnio D7 Elliott A4 Nancy & Walt C7 Nolan D2 Obama C6 Sporn B1</p>	<p>COMING WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Yorktown battle history A Daily Press special section details the critical fight.</p>
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