

NEWS-PRESS Charlotte SECTION 8 WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1979

Reports From Staff Writers, Bureau And Wire Services

Efforts to interview murder suspect prove futile

By KAREN FELDMAN News-Press Bureau
PUNTA GORDA — Efforts by Charlotte County investigators to interview a suspect in the Linda Piskuritz murder investigation took them on a futile trip to Connecticut last week, a sheriff's department official said Tuesday.

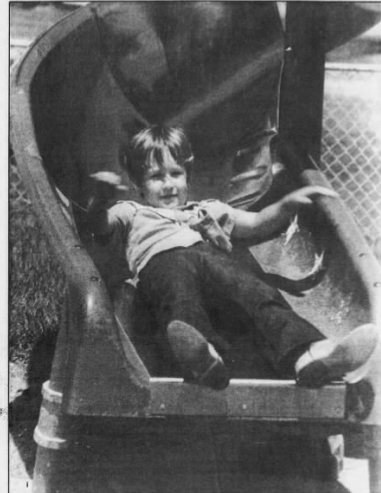
spite repeated attempts last week. The 15-year-old Port Charlotte youngster is believed to have been abducted Oct. 12 at about 7:15 p.m. as she was returning home on her bicycle from a nearby convenience store. Just before midnight, firefighters were called to put out a blaze in a remote Port Charlotte field discovered her charred body among the burning cinders.

disappointing because they were unable to interview Moser. Accompanied by a Connecticut State Police investigator, they went to interview Ben Moser, Edward's brother, who, Jones said, refused to speak with them. The officers then met with a state attorney, in an attempt to set up a meeting with Solomon Korrali, who is the Moser's attorney. He, too, refused to talk with them and instructed his clients to have nothing to do with the investigation, Jones said.

Conway is employed by Ben Moser, however, and could not speak with them, according to Jones. Moser, a native of Rockville, Conn., is the latest in a long list of persons that Charlotte County officials have named as suspects in the case or said they wanted to question. Many of the earlier suspects were subsequently cleared of involvement. Moser came to Charlotte County more than a year ago, according to his former wife, time, and opened Moser's Hill Market, a



LINDA PISKURITZ



Taking it laying down Six-year-old John Henry McQueen of Punta Gorda lies in taking it easy — even when it comes to slithering down the sliding board at Gilchrist Park.

Comatose prisoner is costing taxpayers \$1,000 a day

By KATE PHILLIPS News-Press Staff Writer
PUNTA GORDA — A prisoner who tried to commit suicide last November in the Medical Center Hospital with his medical expenses costing Charlotte County taxpayers about \$1,000 a day.

and placed on a respirator and other devices. "The situation is so bleak. The doctors say they don't expect him to regain consciousness," said his father, Lt. Col. John Hogg Jr. of Port Charlotte. Hogg's attorney, Robert Norton, said the parents have discussed the possibility of cutting off the artificial devices, but have made no decision.

children and Hogg's ex-wife are living. His father said it has been a painful experience for the family and a rather hopeless one. "I just don't know how much we can do. We call every day to check on him, and visit when we're up to it but according to doctors, there's no way he can be able to function again," the father said.

the time that Hogg had been increasingly dependent while in jail. Today, Hogg does not respond and has not moved, "except for muscle spasms" since the attempted hanging, Hogg's father said. "It's purely mechanical at this stage," Norton said.

Kim said he has an authority to suggest cutting off the support system and could not do so. "I'm only a part of this and it is up to the family," Kim said.

Englewood man files motion for new trial

By KATE PHILLIPS News-Press Staff Writer
PUNTA GORDA — An Englewood man who pleaded guilty to a burglary charge and is serving a 15-year prison sentence after violating probation, filed a motion for a new trial to overturn his conviction, according to court records.

Shattuck contends in his motion that he attempted to commit suicide two days after first entering Charlotte County Jail on the burglary charge and was placed on "medicating" drugs in jail awaiting trial. He said his state of mind at the time of trial was confused, and that his counsel did not provide "effective assistance."

Shattuck claims that Hathaway should have acted for a competency hearing and psychological exam. Turn To MOTION, Page 38

Alexander turns in first budget proposal

By KEVIN BLOOM News-Press Bureau
PUNTA GORDA — The first budget proposal for the 1979-80 fiscal year has been submitted by the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Clerk Buddy Alexander has submitted a \$20.65 budget to the county commission.

Other categories are the same as last year or decreased. This is a "bare essentials budget," Alexander said. "It is enough to cover the four categories I am charged by statute to carry out. These functions are serving as a precedent to the commission.

Inside Today's B-Section
THE SENATE passes a bill that could obligate the state to pay part of any cost overruns on a Broward County expressway if local bonds won't pay for the project.
CRIME CONTINUED on the rampage during the first three months of the year, showing sizable increases in every major type measured by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.
SCHOOL DESEGREGATION cost black educators their status as a link to the white community, an educator testifies in a suit challenging Florida's functional literacy test as discriminatory.
IT WAS held as a non-controversial revision of Florida's school code that would take the Legislature out of the business of being "a super school board" but that was before the Senate heard out that the lengthy measure would also repeal the state law requiring Florida schools to teach a Civil War era course called "American vs. Communism."
JUDGES IN Florida's Broward County tell law enforcement agencies that radar alone will no longer be enough evidence to convict a driver of speeding.