

National

Discovery of body ups Atlanta death toll to 28

United Press International
ATLANTA — The body of a black teen-ager was found lying on a dead-end street Tuesday and officials said he probably would be listed as the 28th victim in Atlanta's string of murdered and missing young blacks.

rently had been dead for about three hours when his body was found. The body was discovered on the southeastern fringes of the city at 1:30 a.m., about the same time he was reported missing. Prior to Tuesday's discovery, 26 young blacks have been found slain in Atlanta during the past 21

months. In addition, another child, 10-year-old Darron Glass, is listed as missing. Barrett's name was not immediately turned over to a special task force established to investigate the baffling string of slayings, but officials said the killing "fit the profile," and the task force was called to the scene.

was received by DeKalb County police almost simultaneously with the report that a body had been found on the dead-end road that runs parallel to Interstate 20 just outside Atlanta's southeastern limits.

bags with items culled from the ground.

Even of the 26 who have died since July, 1979, have been found since January and six of those were recovered from two rivers — the Chattahoochee and the South — that wind through the city's suburbs.

The discovery followed by one day a trip to Washington by Mayor Maynard Jackson and officials of Fulton and DeKalb counties who asked for \$1.2 million to help fund supervised recreation for area youngsters during the summer.

Vice President George Bush told the officials that he would "expedite a decision" on the request. Jackson asked for \$700,000 and officials of the two counties asked for lesser amounts to keep children off the streets while school is out for the summer.

Atlanta setting up summer program

United Press International
ATLANTA — Mayor Maynard Jackson and other city officials made a promise from Vice President George Bush to expedite their request for \$1.2 million to fund a summer youth program and "reduce drastically the vulnerability" of the city's black children.

Twenty-six young blacks have died in the last 21 months, and authorities are worried more youths will be abducted this summer unless they are involved in supervised activity.

One child, Darron Glass, 10, is still missing. A second previously missing turned up unharmed Monday night. Jackson said at the end of his half-hour meeting about the summer program with Bush in Washington Monday the vice president promised to "take a hard and fast look at it and they would try to give us an expedited answer."

Pete Teeley, Bush's press secretary, said a ruling on the federal money could come as early as the end of this week.

Following the meeting, Jackson said, "I'm convinced he's (Bush) deadly serious and deeply concerned about the tragedy in Atlanta."

SPECIAL NOTICE

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Investigation of unexplained hospital deaths continues

United Press International
RIVERSIDE, Calif. — A deputy coroner says early results of some autopsies on bodies exhumed in the investigation into 27 mysterious hospital deaths are inconsistent with their death certificates.

The Riverside County Coroner's Office, threatened with a \$100 million suit by a male nurse questioned in the deaths, was going to release results of the autopsies Monday but did not.

But Deputy Coroner Carl

Smith Jr. said the results of "some" of the autopsies on 11 exhumed bodies did not appear to be consistent with the causes of death listed on the certificates. He would not elaborate.

The state attorney general's office said it was considering some type of action against Community Hospital of the Valleys in Perris, site of 25 of the mysterious deaths.

Ten of the exhumed bodies have been reburied and the 11th returned to a medical school. Samples from the bodies have been sent to the Center for Human Toxicology in Salt Lake City.

Earlier autopsies on six bodies which had not yet been buried or cremated indicated those patients did not die of causes listed on their death certificates.

The former director of nursing at the Perris hospital told the Los Angeles Times Monday she repeatedly urged officials to investigate a string of mysterious deaths

but the hospital took no action.

Nurse Patricia Christensen said she became concerned about the deaths before the arrival of Robert Diaz, a registered nurse who has threatened to sue the county for defamation. Although he has not been named as a suspect, he was questioned in the case because he worked at the Perris hospital, where 25 elderly patients died in the intensive care unit in a two month period, and at San Geronimo Pass Memorial Hospital in Banning, where two patients died mysteriously.

At least six Los Angeles County hospitals where Diaz worked are also being investigated.

A raid on Diaz' home turned up two vials of Lidocaine, a half-vial of morphine sulfate, a syringe and intravenous tubing. He told investigators he probably had put the drugs in his pocket during a hospital emergency and failed to return them.

Authorities said the some of the bodies autopsied so far have contained large doses of Lidocaine, a drug commonly used in intensive care units to control the heart beat of patients suspected of having heart attacks.

Improper administration of drug can produce convulsions, death but the coroner has not ruled out Lidocaine as the cause of any of the patients.

The nursing director who came concerned over the serious series of deaths said that occurred March 26, three days before Diaz was sent to the hospital as a temporary employee.

"He just walked into a room just like I did," said Christensen. In the next several days there were more deaths in the intensive care unit and Christensen went to the hospital administration seeking help. She said no action was taken. Administrator Jean McCormick refused comment on the allegations.

Youths give own version of laws

United Press International
MADISON, Wis. — There ought to be a law against people who work too hard, referees with poor eyesight, lake flies and, of course, homework on weekends, say junior high school students.

"People shouldn't overload themselves with work, although they should work up to their potential," said Sue Mitchell.

Mitchell was one of the winners of a contest conducted by Sen. Gary Goyke, D-Oshkosh, who asked 7th and 8th graders in his district to tell him what laws should be passed. The winners will receive a trip to the state Capitol.

The winners wanted laws elimi-

nating unnecessary laws, positioning car bumpers at uniform levels, cracking down on child abuse and requiring annual safety inspections for vehicles.

Many of the more than 200 letters dealt with serious issues such as war, abortion, gun control, capital punishment, pollution, smoking and crime. Some of those who didn't win had less weighty problems on their minds.

"There ought to be a law that says referees should have perfect eyesight," wrote Wayne Arndt. "That way they would see everything that happens."

Nicole Huebner said she wanted a law against "people who procrastinate and give excuses" —

and she proposed some penalties.

"People who procrastinate would be held in a prison what they wanted to get months ago was finished," said. "The people who make excuses would be prosecuted different way. They would swallow this icky syrup, whenever they would try to make an excuse, nothing would come out of their mouths."

Tracy Asmuth had an annoying entity in mind.

"There ought to be a law that lake flies shouldn't be able to fly in Wisconsin because they are a nuisance," said Asmuth.

The Board of Education's ordinance, TI many copies, 5,583 total, and 13,719, 1983.

Teachers, a natural subject of complaints from students, were mentioned in some of the proposed laws.

"There ought to be a law that keeps teachers from giving homework to their students weekends and vacations," Kevin Henning.

Nancy Sahli probably proposed the ultimate law.

"There ought to be a law enforcing all the little laws already have," she said. "There's a lot of little laws that no one pays attention to."

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