

Police say hazing led to NY student's death

HAUPPAUGE, N.Y. (AP) — Police and St. John's University officials were in disagreement Sunday on circumstances surrounding the stabbing death of a 20-year-old student.

Police said the death occurred Friday night and was "part of a hazing program for the deceased to enter a fraternity." A spokesman for the university maintained hazing was not involved in the death of Thomas Fitzgerald of Queens, a prospective member of an ROTC fraternity at St. John's.

"If it were hazing, they all would have been charged, since it is illegal," said the university spokesman, adding, "They elected to go out on their own for additional training."

Another student, a cadet second lieutenant in the Pershing Rifles honorary drill society, was charged with second-degree murder in the death of Fitzgerald.

Police on Long Island said the stabbing occurred when a block of wood worn by Fitzgerald on his chest as a shield apparently slipped and the other student plunged

the knife into him, severing the main artery to his heart.

Police identified the weapon as a bayonet, but a spokesman for St. John's University said later it was a knife.

Charged with the killing on an uninhabited island off Long Island's south shore late Friday was James Savino, 21, also of Queens.

Savino, who was held without bail, stood at attention in an appearance before District Court Judge Joseph O'Donnell. He clicked his heels when he turned from the prisoner's box to face the bench.

Officers said about 10 members and pledges in the society paddled in rubber rafts from Lindenhurst to 50-acre Indian Island, where Fitzgerald was required to play the part of a prisoner of war with Savino posing as an enemy officer trying to intimidate him into divulging information.

Lt. Col. James Raggerty, commander of ROTC at St. John's, said the activities on the island were not sponsored

by the unit and amounted to "unauthorized training." He declined to describe the activity as a hazing.

Fitzgerald died almost instantly and the cadets paddled back to shore and called police, officers said.

While Savino and Fitzgerald belonged to the ROTC unit at St. John's, neither attended the school.

Savino is a senior majoring in mechanical engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, N.J. His lawyer said he had attended the Air Force Academy in Colorado but dropped out because of asthma attacks.

Fitzgerald, a Regis High School graduate, was a junior at Queens College.

Neither Queens nor Stevens has an ROTC unit, but students may join a unit at a school that has one. About 40 of the 225 ROTC members at St. John's attend other schools.

The victim was the youngest of 10 children and lived with his widowed mother.

To children drinking colas

Panel divided on caffeine risk

WASHINGTON (AP) — A scientific panel told the Food and Drug Administration Thursday that it is divided on the possible health hazard to children from caffeine in cola soft drinks.

Some members of the 11-person study panel "believe it is prudent to assume that a potential health hazard may exist for the segment of the population, particularly children, that is exposed daily to doses of caffeine added to foods that are of the order of the dose known to be effective as a central nervous system stimulant," said a tentative report to the FDA.

Other members, however, believe that the use of caffeine as a soft-drink flavor for decades without confirmed human injury should reduce those fears, although they advocate more safety studies, the report said.

"They believe the evidence indicates no hazard from the addition of caffeine to beverages as now practiced but since uncertainties exist, they regard it necessary to obtain additional data," said the chairman, Dr. George Irving Jr.

In three other new reports submitted to the FDA, the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology recommended:

- A formal ban on use of the flavor enhancer monosodium glutamate (MSG) in baby and junior foods.

- More safety studies on the preservative butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT).

- Prohibiting use of the flavor enhancer vegetable protein hydrolyzates in commercial baby and junior foods.

Baby food manufacturers voluntarily stopped using MSG in their products in 1970, after scientific studies suggested it may cause brain damage in animals. However, there still is no formal prohibition against its use.

The glutamates study panel said MSG is safe for adults at present consumption levels but recommended more testing. Used in a natural form in the Orient for several centuries, it first became available commercially in the United States during World War II.

The preservative BHT, which prevents fats from going rancid in canned soups and other foods, increases the weight of animal livers in laboratory tests. That study panel said BHT should be of concern because of the possible effects on women who take birth control pills.

Baby food manufacturers

began using hydrolyzates as a meat flavor enhancer after MSG was discontinued, according to another panel's tentative report. Studies indicating that animal and vegetable protein versions caused central nervous system damage in infant animals should preclude use of any except casein hydrolyzates in human infant foods, it said.

The caffeine report did not take into account intakes of caffeine from coffee and tea, since they are not considered food additives. About 1.4 million pounds of caffeine were used in food, primarily cola beverages, in 1970.

The reports were part of the government's review of about 360 food additives which have been generally recognized as safe for decades or centuries but which not regulated by federal safety rules.

The FDA said the reports will be aired at public hearing to be completed by next spring or summer.

If the study panels do not change their tentative opinions and if the caffeine panel resolves its difference of opinion, usage of those substances will probably be frozen at current consumption levels until new research is completed.

ECKANKAR THE PATH OF TOTAL AWARENESS

An Introductory Lecture
"The Living ECK Master: The Spiritual Guide"

MONDAY NOVEMBER 8

7:30 P.M.

ERB Memorial Union
ADMISSION FREE

HAIR TODAY

561 E. 13th Ave. — Across from Max's — 344-1714
NATURAL HAIR DESIGNS FOR WOMEN & MEN!

\$10.00

includes shampoo, moisturizing conditioner, hair cut designed for you, and air-waved — a completed easy care style

\$7.50

a wet cut designed for you and your hair for easy care, and air-waved — a completed style to go anywhere.

\$5.00

a dry cut for those who prefer dry cuts — designed for your hair and you. Remember: we carry the finest of professional hair care products for you to use

Look for our **DUCK DOPE** coupon

REDKEN

Love is
a giving thing



Keepsake
Registered Diamond Rings

Give the perfect symbol of love. A brilliant perfect permanently registered keepsake diamond.

Fine jewelry, watches and gifts.

Don's Jewelers
Keepsake Corner
VALLEY RIVER CENTER

Individual Class Portraits for the 1977 Oregana yearbook

(Graduating Seniors, Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores, Freshmen)

Now through Nov. 24, 9 a.m. to noon

and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

**Conference Room, M-109, EMU
(on the mezzanine level by the Oregana office)**

Photography by Kennel-Ellis Studios of Eugene

Color or black and white poses at 20 to 30 per cent off regular studio prices

Thinking of a Christmas gift? Personal portraits are available at up to 30 per cent off studio prices

**For more information, call 686-4305
(All portraits include a sitting fee)**