

Police find suspect in 1978 Eugene murder case

□ Prisoner who bragged of 10 murders is suspect in investigation

By Matt Bender
Emerald Reporter

Police announced Thursday they have a suspect in a 15-year-old homicide of a Eugene girl, and are hoping citizens will provide new information that will lead to a conviction.

The Eugene police department reopened the investigation of the murder of Karen Whiteside and have found a focal suspect. Whiteside was 16 years old when her

body was found at Fairfield Elementary School in Eugene in March 1978.

Police now suspect Manuel "Manny" Cortez in the Whiteside murder, said EPD Sgt. Rick Gilliam. Cortez is currently serving a double-life sentence at the Oregon State Penitentiary for the 1979 murder of two 11-year-old Ashland girls.

About one year ago, EPD Detective Les Rainey was assigned the Whiteside case. He said Cortez became a suspect because of the similarities between Cortez's past crimes and the Whiteside case.

Cortez's victims were all young girls who were walking in public areas when they were abducted. Rainey said all of the abductions were sexually motivated and

occurred in close proximity to Cortez's residence. At the time of the Whiteside murder, Cortez lived about a mile from where the girl's body was found.

Rainey said police have information that Cortez has boasted he had killed as many as 10 people.

In addition to being convicted for the murder of the two Ashland girls, Cortez was twice arrested in California on charges of kidnapping and rape in 1976. He was also charged with attempted kidnapping of two separate California girls in 1975 and 1977 and an Ashland girl in 1979.

Cortez is also a suspect in the 1977 murders of a 19-year-old woman and a seven-year-old girl in Los Angeles, Calif.

Committee promotes rule to crack down on stalkers

□ Women's complaints of stalking demand change in Student Conduct Code

By Mandy Baucum
Emerald Contributor

University student Stephanie Stover was unable to study, go to class or walk home without feeling uncomfortable because of the unwanted actions a male student was making toward her.

The man would ask her if he could walk her home and Stover would say no. He would follow her anyway. She said she tried in vain to rid herself of the stalker's strange behavior.

Stover said she was not the only one whose life was disrupted as a result of the man's unwanted behavior. Apparently the same man had been frequenting the Honors College. Stover said she knew of eight other women who complained that they, too, were followed by the man despite their protests.

Stover and the others went to Honors College officials in hopes of finding legal recourse against their offender.

Stover said the Honors College could do little to help and so referred Stover and the others to Elaine Green, student conduct coordinator with the Dean of Students Office.

A representative for the group of women approached Green for assistance. Green said although the Honors College incident did not raise concern over the girls' lives, it did raise enough concern to consider revising student conduct codes.

"We began the process with the Unwanted Sexual Behavior task force looking into revising conduct code so that it more clearly addressed issues of stalking," Green said.

Stover said Green told her little could be done because the stalker never had physical contact with the women.

But some of the women had been touched, Stover said. When she told Green, Green said nothing could be done because too much time had passed for

Proposed bill aims at stalkers

□ Legislature will vote on bill that would make stalking a Class C felony

By Lisa Kneefel
Emerald Associate Editor

Stalking will become a crime in Oregon if a bill proposed in the House of Representatives is adopted by the Legislature.

Rep. Kevin L. Mannix, D-Salem, introduced legislation Jan. 15 that would make stalking a Class C felony punishable by up to five years in prison or a \$100,000 fine.

Mannix said he drafted the legislation because no statutes outlawing stalking currently exist. There are statutes covering crimes related to stalking, such as trespassing or burglary, but following a person is not a crime, Mannix said.

"Unless you can establish they had threatened to harm you, it's not a crime," Mannix said.

A person commits the act of stalking

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legal action to be taken.

"The University has to react within six months of being notified of an incident," Green said. "In this case we were notified, but there was not a complaint filed."

In response to the Honors College events and stalking reports made to the University Office of Public Safety, the USB task force, which began three years ago, formed a special stalking committee to deal with some of the more difficult-to-define cases of misconduct.

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Read all about it



Photo by Randy Thieben

Dana Zyrasky takes a closer look at a book sculpture outside the addition to the Knight Library.

WEATHER

Mostly cloudy skies with a couple of showers. Temperatures should remain in the upper 40s.

Today in History

In 1940, the radio play *The Adventures of Superman* began airing on the Mutual network with Bud Collyer as the Man of Steel.

PAUL & ART TO REUNITE

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel, whose hits "The Sound of Silence" and "Bridge Over Troubled Water" enraptured a generation, will reunite next month for a concert to benefit homeless kids.

The March 1 acoustical performance at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion will benefit Children's Health Fund, which provides free health care to thousands of homeless and needy children, said event spokeswoman Debby Klein.

Tickets at prices ranging from \$100 to \$500 go on sale Monday. The concert also will feature a performance by Neil Young and an appearance by comic-actor Steve Martin.

SPORTS

The Oregon men's golf team will return from a three month break to begin its spring season this week when it plays in the Big Island Intercollegiate in Kona, Hawaii February 12-14.

The Ducks are coming off a disappointing fall season when they finished in the top five at only two of their four tournaments. The team hopes the extended layoff will help.

"We didn't play to our full abilities in the fall," Oregon head coach Steve Nosler said. "All of our guys want to see us succeed in the spring so we can advance to regionals and hopefully nationals."