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Class gets shot at solving real mystery



SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Amateur sleuths in a community college seminar will get a chance to help police unravel a

real-life murder mystery that has gone unsolved for 11 years.

"Hopefully, this class will lead into new areas of inquiry," said Campbell Police Sgt. Russ Patterson, an instructor for the Feb. 26 seminar, "WHODUNNIT: An Unsolved Mystery."

Patterson is one of the investigators working on the case of Cynthia Munoz, a 19-year-old Campbell woman who was fatally stabbed in 1983.

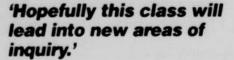
The four-hour seminar offered by San Jose-Evergeen College District's Institute for Business and Community Development will concentrate on the case.

Munoz was last seen alive leaving a hospital where she had visited her boyfriend. who had been injured in an automobile accident. Her body was found several hours later in a bedroom of the home she shared with her boyfriend and his family.

Those taking the seminar will be briefed on how a homicide investigation is conducted and then the crime will be re-created. Evidence developed from the scene and later in the investigation will be presented.

Afterward, the participants write a paper on what they think happened. Whoever comes up with the most plausible scenario wins a \$50 certificate toward another class.

There already has been a good deal of interest shown in the seminar. After a story appeared about the offering in Monday's San Jose Mercury News, school officials reported getting more than 20 calls from people wanting to take it, said Marie Schaefer, the school's community education specialist.



- Russ Patterson, Campbell Police Sgt

The class is pattered after one offered last year through Hartnell College's Community Education program in Salinas and, police said, helped crack the August 1992 shooting death of a taxi cab driver outside a conference center. Three people were arrested in the case.

One seminar participant submitted an essay that was so good, police said, that it would have led them to the suspects. However, the publicity generated by the class led one of the suspects to turn himself in before police could act upon it.

Man arraigned in teacher shooting

SEATTLE (AP) — A man who said he was sexually abused by one of his former middle-school teachers pleaded innocent Tuesday to first-degree murder in the teacher's shooting death.

Darrell Allen Cloud, 24, dressed in sandals and a red jail jumpsuit, entered the plea in a brief appearance before King County Superior Court Judge Joan E. DuBuque. She scheduled a hearing Feb. 22 to set a trial date.

Cloud said he understood the charge, read by deputy prosecutor Timothy Bradshaw, and in a strong voice replied "not guilty" when asked for a plea.

Defense lawyer Karen O'Shea said Cloud cried after they left the courtroom as he was led back to jail.

Cloud, a standout high school and college athlete, was charged last Friday with first-degree murder in the Jan. 31 slaying of Whitman Middle School teacher Neal Summers. Summers, 45, was shot once in the back as he entered the school.

Cloud told police he shot Summers with an AR15 rifle from a distance of about 150 feet, court papers showed.

Cloud was unable to give police a reason for his actions, court papers said. But he described waking early the day of the shooting, dressing in combat gear and driving to the school, where he waited for Summers, then aimed for his heart and fired one shot. Cloud told police Summers initiated a sexual relationship with him once Cloud left middle school for high school. Cloud described a 10-year sexual relationship between the two.

Cloud is held on \$250,000 cash-only bail.

Bradshaw said prosecutors have asked Cloud's defense attorneys for permission to conduct a psychological examination of Cloud. Prosecutors have retained Jon R. Conte, as associate professor of social work at the University of Washington for an examination, Bradshaw said. His expertise includes adult survivors of sexual abuse.

"If there is a mental defense ... the defense needs to establish that there was an imminent fear" of harm, Bradshaw said.

Cloud's lawyer, John Henry Browne, has said he plans to have Cloud examined by a neuropsychologist to see whether head injuries Cloud suffered during school sports could have damaged his mental abilities. Cloud also will be examined by a psychiatrist who is an expert in the area of abusedchild syndrome, Browne said.

If convicted of first-degree murder, Cloud faces a sentencing range from 20 years to 26 years, eight months. Under the state Sentencing Reform Act, a judge is allowed to impose a lesser sentence if a defendant has suffered a continuing pattern of abuse and the offense was in response to that abuse.

Abuser against treatment

ROSEBURG (AP) - Aconvicted sex abuser has chosen prison over a treatment program that includes looking at pornography because he doesn't want to sin any more.

Ron Paul Brown, 53, of Glide was sentenced to 16 months in prison on Monday after turning down a chance for probation that includes a sex offender's treatment program.

Part of the program tests a person's reaction to sexually explicit material to see if they should remain under treatment.

"I don't believe that I, as a Christian, can knowingly expose myself to pornography," Brown said at an earlier court hearing.

Judge to rule in rape, kidnapping of teen-ager

COLVILLE, Wash. (AP) - A judge will rule next month whether a man who admitted raping a teen-ager in front of her mother will be sentenced under the state's new "three strikes" law.

An attorney representing Michael Elton Johnson, 35, said Tuesday he will argue that Johnson has only two Class A felonies, one fewer than necessary to qualify for a mandatory life sentence without parole.

Johnson pleaded guilty Monday in Stevens County Superior Court to two counts of first-degree rape and one of second-degree kidnapping. Stevens County Prosecutor Jerry Wetle said he will ask Superior Court Judge Fred Stewart to sentence Johnson to life in prison as a habitual violent criminal.

A hearing scheduled March 23 before Stewart will determine whether a judge or jury considers Johnson's criminal background. Sentencing was tentatively scheduled April 6.

Both Wetle and public defender John Troberg agreed that while the intent of citizens who approved Initiative 593 last November is clear, there is difficulty in implementing it.

"The courts are going to have to take a look at the procedure," Wetle said. victions are counted toward the three "strikes."

"Under the old habitual criminal statute, the jury would make specific findings on prior history. Under the Sentencing Reform Act, that's a function for the judge alone," Troberg said. "Under Initiative 593, there is a complete void there."

Wetle said he will ask for an exceptional sentence of nearly 70 years, should the three strikes law not apply in Johnson's case, or be overturned.

Johnson agreed to plead guilty in order to have some charges dismissed and to spare the victims the trauma of a public trial, but retained the right to challenge the sentence, Wetle said.

Troberg said he will contest inclusion of some of Johnson's prior convictions and will appeal any sentence above a standard range of 20-25 years.

In court Monday, he admitted raping the Springdale girl in her home Christmas Day while her mother watched, then kidnapped the girl and her mother the following day and raped the girl again in Lincoln County.

As part of the plea agreement, the Lincoln County rape and kidnapping charges would be dropped, as well as a rape charge stemming from an accusation that he sexually assaulted a woman in Waldport, Ore., last September.

Troberg said the first issue he will raise in challenging Johnson's potential sentence is the process used to determine which prior con-

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