

Inmate being held as suspect in Dahmer killing



MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Jeffrey Dahmer was attacked and killed while

cleaning a prison bathroom Monday in a gruesome end for the former chocolate-factory worker who strangled and dismembered 17 boys and men and ate some of them.

Another inmate was being held in Dahmer's slaying and in the severe beating of another prisoner at Columbia Correctional Institution. Authorities wouldn't identify the suspect, who was serving a life sentence for murder, or offer a motive.

All three men were working on a cleaning detail in the recreation area of the maximum-security prison when the attack occurred.

A bloody broom handle was found at the scene, but Corrections Secretary Michael Sullivan said he didn't know if it was the murder weapon.

"One could surmise a number of things. Their heads could have been smashed against a wall," Sullivan said.

"There was a great deal of blood in the area of the attack," Corrections Department spokesman Joe Scislowicz said.

The 34-year-old Dahmer had extensive head injuries and died at a hospital about an hour after he was found.

Dahmer, who had been imprisoned since his crimes came to light in 1991, had been attacked once before. In July, an inmate tried to cut his throat during a chapel service, but the razor blade attached to a plastic handle fell apart before it could hurt Dahmer.

At the time, Sullivan said that it appeared to have been an isolated incident and that Dahmer, who was serving 16 life sen-

Dahmer crimes reveal horrific nature of solitary man

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Friends were hard to come by for the solitary Jeffrey Dahmer. So when he invited attractive young men he met at shopping malls and gay bars home for drinks, he wanted them to stay.

Forever. Even if he could keep only parts of them.

When police finally burst into Dahmer's apartment on July 22, 1991, they found torsos soaking in acid, severed heads in the refrigerator and freezer, skulls in boxes, a hand and a genital organ in a 80-quart kettle pot, and photos of victims in various stages of dismemberment. Two human hearts and a bicep muscle Dahmer said he planned to eat were in the freezer.

A sickening stench permeated the whole scene.

"I should have stayed with God," Dahmer told a judge at his sentencing in February 1992. "I tried and I failed, and created a holocaust."

As gruesome as the discovery was, it merely swung wide a door into a secret, murderous life Dahmer had been living for 13 years, during which he claimed 17 victims. The nation was stunned by the depravity of the murders, the dismemberments, the cannibalism.

In Dahmer's neighborhood, that shock was tempered with rage. He killed his four final victims only after a close call with police in May, when two officers returned to his custody a 14-year-old Laotian boy found staggering naked in the street.

Dahmer told police the boy was his homosexual lover and had drunkenly wandered

out of his apartment. After his arrest two months later, he admitted killing 14-year-old Konerak Sinthasomphone moments after police left.

Officers had dismissed witness' concerns that the boy was really in trouble and had joked about the incident over their radios. In the poor, largely minority neighborhood, the actions confirmed suspicions that police were indifferent to the disappearances of young gays and minorities.

Neighbors at the low-income apartment building just northwest of downtown had long suspected something was seriously amiss in Apartment 213. For months they had heard sawing, scuffling and screaming coming from the apartment. For a year they had complained among themselves about the smell.

No one called police, they said, because people in the neighborhood believe it is better to mind your own business.

But Glenda Cleveland did call police after her daughter and niece told her of the naked boy. She repeatedly asked an officer if he was certain Sinthasomphone was an adult.

"As positive as I can be," the officer said. Police recordings also reveal that one officer laughed as he reported finishing his investigation.

"Intoxicated Asian, naked male," the officer said. "Was returned to his sober boyfriend."

"My partner is going to get deloused at the station," he said with more laughter.

Dahmer was arrested two months later when a handcuffed man managed to escape

the apartment and flag down police. The officers who handled the Sinthasomphone investigation were fired but won reinstatement after a two-year court battle.

Although Dahmer often targeted gays and minorities, he said race and sexual orientation had nothing to do with his preference for victims.

"My only objective was to find the best-looking guy that I could. I went to bath houses, I went to bars, shopping malls," he said in a jailhouse interview broadcast last March on *Dateline NBC*.

"Their sexual preference didn't matter to me," he continued. "Their race didn't matter to me. The first two young men were white. The third young man was American Indian. The fourth and fifth were Hispanic. So, no, race had nothing to do with it. It was just their looks."

He didn't lure them home specifically to kill them, he said.

"The killing wasn't the objective. I just wanted to have the person under my complete control to do with as I wanted."

Eating parts of his victims "made me feel like they were a permanent part of me," he said. "And it gave me a sexual satisfaction to do that."

Dahmer pleaded guilty but insane, but a jury found him sane on all counts. He said he had hoped to learn why he had been "so bad and evil."

"I didn't ever want freedom. Frankly, I wanted death for myself," Dahmer said.

tences, was not believed to be in imminent danger.

"Oh my God! My son! How could this happen?" Dahmer's mother, Joyce Flint, said when TV's *Hard Copy* informed her of his death.

The other victim in Monday's attack was Jesse Anderson, who

was serving a life sentence for stabbing and bludgeoning his wife to death. Anderson's case drew widespread attention in Wisconsin because of his claim that two black men attacked him and his wife, both white, as they left a restaurant.

Dahmer's body was found in

the staff's bathroom and shower area next to the basketball court. Anderson was found in the prisoners' bathroom across the court and was hospitalized in critical condition with head injuries.

A guard overseeing the three inmates had just left the basketball court when the attack occurred, Sullivan said. He did not know the whereabouts of another guard assigned to watch the prisoners.

"Dahmer had a death wish, and I know that he didn't have the gumption to do it himself, so I had predicted that the day would come when he would be killed in prison," said Gerald Boyle, Dahmer's lawyer at trial.

"He never expressed fear," his stepmother, Shari Dahmer, told WJW-TV in Cleveland. "From the day he was arrested he felt he deserved anything that he got."

Dahmer's gruesome past came to light in July 1991, when a handcuffed man flagged down police and led officers to Dahmer's reeking apartment. Police later lugged oil drums packed with body parts from the one-bedroom apartment.

Within days, the sandy-haired factory worker had confessed to killing 17 men and boys since 1978 in Milwaukee and Ohio.

Dahmer drugged, strangled and dismembered his victims, having sex with one corpse and

eating parts of others. He flushed brains down the toilet, kept skulls and other parts as mementos and saved one or two hearts "to eat later."

Dahmer pleaded guilty by reason of insanity to 15 Wisconsin slayings at his 1992 trial, but the jury found him sane on all counts. He later pleaded guilty to a killing in Ohio. He wasn't charged in one other Wisconsin slaying because of a lack of evidence.

Michael McCann, the district attorney who prosecuted Dahmer, said that he was saddened and distressed by the slaying and that authorities should have known Dahmer's life was in danger because of the July incident.

"That's not justice. This was murder. I'm hoping that whoever did it doesn't emerge as a folk hero," McCann said.

For a year, Dahmer was kept in isolation at the prison in Portage, about 40 miles north of Madison; then the staff determined he could mix with other prisoners, Sullivan said.

The slaying came as relatives of Dahmer's victims try to auction off his possessions as partial payment for the judgments they have won against him. The contents of his apartment included a lava lamp, a toothbrush, homosexual pornographic items and an 80-quart kettle.

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ET ALS

MEETINGS

Japanese Student Organization will meet tonight from 5 to 6 p.m. in EMU Cedar Room A. For more information, call 484-1307.

Students For Life will have an organizational meeting tonight at 7 in EMU Century Room A. For more information, call 686-3973.

MISCELLANEOUS

Debussy Trio will present a lecture on "Composers and Performers as Collaborators: Creating New Music for an Ensemble by Debussy" today at 4 p.m. in the Gerlinger Alumni Lounge. For more information, call 346-3934.

CORRECTION

On Monday, Nov. 28, the *Emerald* ran the wrong photograph in the sports sidebar. A photo of Kenny Wheaton ran in the edition instead of the correct picture of Herman O'Berry. The *Emerald* regrets this unfortunate error.

The Knight library will close at 1 a.m. beginning Wednesday, but Friday and Saturday it will close at 11 p.m.