



# POLICE / VANCOUVER

## Sheriff Says Kidnapped Girls Faced Certain Death

(AP)—Two teenage girls kidnapped from a remote lovers' lane in Southern California were reunited with their families after an intense 12-hour search that ended when sheriff's deputies shot and killed their abductor.

Tamara Brooks, 16, and Jacqueline Marris, 17, were treated for minor injuries Thursday after barely escaping an almost certain death.

Kern County Sheriff Carl Sparks said he was certain the suspect,

Roy Dean Ratliff, 37, who was wanted for rape, was just minutes away from killing the girls as authorities closed in on him in a remote location in the high desert, 100 miles from where they were kidnapped.

"He was hunting for a place to kill 'em and bury 'em," Sparks said on CNN's "Larry King Live." He said the girls had been raped.

When two deputies arrived, the man pointed a gun at them, authorities said. The deputies shot

at him numerous times while he sat in the car and struck him twice in the head, Sparks said.

The two girls were in the back

of the vehicle at the time, but were not visible to the deputies when the shooting started, Sparks said.

**He was hunting for a place to kill 'em and bury 'em.**

—Kern County Sheriff Carl Sparks.



Tamara Brooks



Jacqueline Marris

He said the girls still had duct tape stuck on them when they were rescued but were no longer bound by it. Television footage showed the sobbing girls being bandaged for what appeared to be

minor injuries.

Authorities credited new electronic roadside alert signs to aggressively publicize kidnappings with helping bring in tips that led to the rescue.

## Hot Spots Listed in Shootings

(AP)—With 40 shootings and 12 people wounded in north and northeast Portland since the beginning of June, police say they are having one of their busiest summers ever.

Police say the shootings often involve younger members - ages 17, 18 and 19 - of neighborhood gangs.

A spokesman says some are retaliatory strikes for prior violence, while others are unrelated to prior attacks.

Police have identified six locations that are hot-spots, where they say much of the violence is occurring.

They are: Northeast Alberta Street between 9th and 10th Avenue, North Albina Avenue from Killingsworth to Alberta Street, North Kerby Avenue and North Skidmore Street, Unthank Park, Northeast 17th Avenue between Alberta and Killingsworth Streets and North Congress Avenue and Prescott Street.

## Executives Arrested

(AP)—Two former WorldCom executives were arrested Thursday on charges of falsifying the books by \$3.8 billion at the now-bankrupt long-distance company—the second time in a week that American business leaders were led away in handcuffs.

Former chief financial officer Scott Sullivan, 40, and former controller David Myers, 44, surrendered to the FBI in the latest blow to the company and corporate America, which has seen investors bail out of the stock market because of one accounting scandal after another.

"With each arrest, indictment and prosecution, we send this clear, unmistakable message: Corrupt corporate executives are no better than common thieves," Attorney General John Ashcroft said.

Sullivan and Myers could get up to 65 years in prison if convicted on charges of securities fraud, conspiracy and filing false statements with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Sullivan was released on \$10 million bail, Myers on \$2 million. Sullivan's bond was secured by a multimillion-dollar mansion under construction in Boca Raton, Fla.

Outside court, Sullivan's attorney, Irv Nathan, called him "an honest and honorable man" and accused the Justice Department of making him a scapegoat. "We deeply regret the rush to judgment and the political overtones involved," Nathan said.

Myers' lawyers said he would plead innocent if indicted. WorldCom, which owns MCI, the nation's second-largest long-distance company, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy July 21 after disclosing the accounting abuses. It was the biggest such filing in U.S. history.

Sullivan is accused of directing Myers to conceal about \$3.8 billion in expenses on the company's balance sheet. That enabled WorldCom to report profits when it was actually losing money.



Scott Sullivan, the former chief financial officer for WorldCom, is led to jail in handcuffs. (AP photo)

## Liquor License Pulled for Drugs

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission has issued an immediate liquor license suspension to Taqueria Playa Azul, 7008 N. Interstate Ave., for alleged illegal drug activity at the restaurant.

Licensees Jose Herrera and Maria Estela Aguilar Herrera were ordered by the OLCC to stop selling alcoholic beverages at the facility until further notice.

According to the OLCC suspension

notice, the licensees permitted repeated unlawful activity on the premises. Police said that on at least five different occasions in March through July 2002, an employee sold methamphetamine. And, on July 10, the licensees or their employees were found to possess methamphetamine, authorities said.

The licensees have the right to an administrative hearing on the suspension.

## Rape Charge Dropped Against Abdirahman

Rape charges were dropped Thursday against Abdirahman Said, 25, because of "insufficient evidence," police said.

Police arrested Said a few days earlier after a girl said she was raped in northeast Portland's Rose City Park. The authorities were looking to

question up to 10 other witnesses.

The Multnomah County District Attorney decided to drop the case against Said before taking it to a Grand Jury. Deputy District Attorney Bob Leineweber, who handled the case, would not comment on the specific reason.

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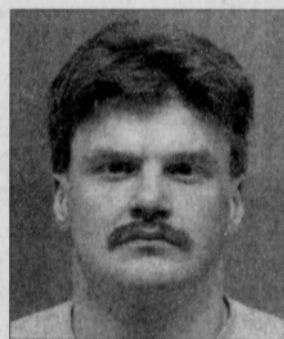


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## Reward Offered in Drug Case

The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, is asking for your help in locating and apprehending Tracy Lloyd Cansler on charges of driving under the influence of intoxicants, driving while suspended and failure to appear on charge of possession of a controlled substance.

Cansler is a 32-year-old white male, with a date of birth of Oct. 17, 1969. He is 5 feet 11 inches tall, weighs approximately 200 pounds, has brown hair,



Tracy Lloyd Cansler

brown eyes, and a tattoo of a Tasmanian Devil on his right shoulder. According to Investigators, Cansler is believed to be staying on the Oregon Coast, possibly in or near the Astoria area.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to an arrest in this case, or any unsolved felony crime, and you need not give your name. Call Crime Stoppers at 503-823-HELP.

## Bicyclist Struck by Pickup Dies

Police are investigating a fatal traffic accident that killed a bicyclist identified as Jason Miller, 35 of Vancouver.

The accident happened on July 27 when Miller, entered the northbound lane of Fruit Valley Road and was struck by a pickup truck traveling north, police said. The victim died at

Emanuel Hospital in Portland.

There was no indication that the driver of the pickup truck, Jesse Hefely, 22 of Vancouver, was impaired, police said.

Any witnesses to the accident should contact Vancouver Police Officer Jim White at 360-696-8292, extension 3271.

## Men Wanted in Theft and Gunfire Case

Robbery detectives are attempting to identify two men involved in an attempted robbery and auto theft near Lloyd Center that ended in an exchange of gunfire.

The incident began at 2:16 p.m. on July 22, near Northeast 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Halsey Street when the victim, a 40-year-old Boring resident returning to his parked pickup, saw two suspects attempting to steal it. When he physically intervened, one of the suspects removed a loaded assault rifle from behind the seat of the victim's pickup. The victim and suspects struggled near the vehicle and while the victim regained control of the assault rifle, one of the suspects pulled out a handgun and began to run.

As the suspects fled the victim pulled sec-

ond gun from his pickup and fired 4 shots at the suspects who had gotten into their pickup.

One of the suspects also fired one shot towards the victim. Detectives believe the victim's bullets hit the front or sides of the suspect vehicle, which is described as a dark blue or black extended cab Ford F250 pickup, with big tires, chrome bumpers and fresh bullet holes from a 7.62 caliber round. The two suspects are described as white males in their 20's, 5 feet, 9 inches to 6 feet tall. A third suspect, also a white male was driving the suspect vehicle.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Portland Police Bureau Detective Division at 503-823-0400 or the information and referral line at 503-823-4636.

## Safety Promoted at Clark County Fair

The Vancouver Police Department and Clark County Child Passenger Safety Team are once again hosting informational booths at the Clark County Fair, Sunday, Aug 4 through Thursday, Aug. 8.

The Vancouver Police Department booth will feature crime prevention information and

other interactive safety demonstrations. The Child Passenger Safety booth will offer child car seat and booster seat information and demonstrations.

Several Vancouver Police specialty units will also be participating in the booths in the fair's "safety zone":