

Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC COUNTY, WIS.

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50 cents

Saturday

November 12, 2005



Bates has improved Green Bay defense, BI



Churches can be safe havens for domestic abuse victims, CI

Gum may help GIs keep their teeth clean

By Amy Weaver

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — America's fighting men made their way across Europe during World War II with Juicy Fruit in their rucksacks. The GIs of the future could be carrying a type of chewing gum that is better for their teeth.

Army and civilian scientists are working to develop gum for combat soldiers too busy to brush.

The gum, described at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists convention this week in Nashville, would contain a special bacteria-fighting agent to prevent plaque, tartar and gum disease.

Soldiers in the field often do not have the time or the means to brush and floss. Beyond that, the stress of combat can encourage bacteria growth in the mouth, said Col. Dennis Runkin, commander of the Army Dental and Trauma Research Detachment in Great Lakes, Ill.

Gum was considered an ideal solution because the Army already issues gum to soldiers in their field rations.

Dr. Patrick Deluca, a University of Kentucky drug product developer, is working to perfect the prototype, trying to make it taste better and ensure that it retains its bacteria-fighting ability and flavor for 30 minutes to an hour.

Scientists will begin field-testing the gum, possibly with Army units, sometime in the next year.

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A GANNETT NEWSPAPER

Avery faces homicide charge

Investigators say DNA links local man to Halbach slaying

BY AMY WEAVER
Herald Times Reporter

CHILTON — In 2003, DNA evidence proved Steven Avery innocent of sexual assault after he'd spent 18 years in prison. Now, DNA evidence could send him back for the rest of his life.

County authorities said Friday that blood and unspecified DNA evidence analyzed by the state crime lab links Avery, 43, with the slaying of Teresa Halbach, 25, a photographer who disappeared after keeping an appointment at his family's auto salvage yard Oct. 21. District Attorney Ken Kratz, serving as a special prosecutor

DNA exonerates, then implicates Steven Avery

Sept. 11, 2003: Avery was released from prison after serving 18 years for a rape he did not commit. DNA evidence was used to clear his name. Avery returned to live and work at his family's auto salvage yard near Manitowoc.

Oct. 21, 2005: Photographer Teresa Halbach disappeared. Her last residence assignment was to shoot a remembrance for Avery Auto Salvage. Over the next weeks, her SUV and burned furrier remains were found on the Avery property.

Nov. 11, 2005: Investigators announced that Avery will be charged with first-degree intentional homicide for the DNA was found in Halbach's SUV.



Searchers discovered blood while combing Avery salvage yard

BY KEVIN BRALEY
Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC — Investigators searching for a missing 25-year-old photographer from St. John found blood in several places on the Avery property, according to affidavits returned to the Manitowoc County Courthouse on Friday.

Prosecutors said Friday they plan to charge Steven A. Avery, 43, with first-degree intentional homicide in the death of an adult woman whose remains were found this week at the Avery Auto Salvage yard. Forensic scientists still are determining if the remains found are those of Teresa Marie Halbach, who has been missing since Oct. 21.

Stabbing suspect remains at large

Officials cease search for man who assaulted Manitowoc policeman, but will continue looking for leads



Law enforcement officials, above, man a perimeter along railroad tracks west of the intersection of Rapids Road and Hessel Court on Friday as they search for Eric Schuette, a 35-year-old man suspected of stabbing a Manitowoc police officer.

Other searchers, at right, gear up before combing 50-acre Camp Vito Park west of Rapids Road. The search was called off Friday night, pending new leads.

Stabbing suspect

BY KRISTOPHER WEIN
Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC — Law enforcement officials called off their search late Friday afternoon for a man suspected of stabbing a police officer Thursday night.

Officers will not resume search efforts for the suspect, Eric James Schuette, until officials have another confirmed sighting, said Manitowoc Police Chief Perry Kingsbury.

Schuette, 35, was believed to be hiding from police at Camp Vito, an 50-acre city park in the Manitowoc Rapids area. Police, with the help of the Two Rivers Police Department and the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department, were unsuccessful in finding any trace of the suspect in the park on Friday.

Meanwhile, police will print and distribute flyers and notify residents in the surrounding neighborhoods that the suspect is still at large, Kingsbury said.

"It's likely he's waiting for it to get dark so he can move around," he said. "He'll off his medication and he needs to come back home and get help."

Eric James Schuette

ERIC JAMES SCHUETTE is 35 years old, 5-foot-10, 170 to 180 pounds. He may be wearing a dark sweatshirt with an arm slit, brown pants and glasses.

"It's likely he is waiting for it to get dark so he can move around. He is off his medication and he needs to come back home and get help."

Manitowoc Police Chief Perry Kingsbury

than most individuals."

On Thursday, Aaron Golden, a 26-year-old Manitowoc police officer, approached Schuette after dispatch was alerted of a suspicious man pointing a rifle into the woods along Rapids Road near Currier Street in Manitowoc, Kingsbury said.

Schuette allegedly was the individual matching the description, but he did not have a firearm in his hands. The officer attempted to talk to him, but he refused and ran into a wooded area west of Rapids Road, according to Kingsbury.

"You have to take your time."

"He is a survivor who can blend into areas well and has a knowledge of the terrain better

Honoring those who served



From left, veterans Art Schmitt, Al Karl and Steve Petruschak gather after the Veterans Day ceremony Friday morning at the Manitowoc County Veterans Memorial. The ceremony included a 21-gun salute and the playing of taps. Veterans Day marks the anniversary of Nov. 11, 1918, which ended World War I.

Lowe's cash registers start ringing up sales

National chain opens new store in Manitowoc

BY CHARLIE MATHEWS
Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC — The Lowe's in Manitowoc at Harbor Town Center on the city's west side with some 40,000 items at a 196,000-square-foot building, representing an \$18 million investment by the North Carolina-based national home improvement retail chain that has 1,150 stores in 49 states.

"I went to Sears first, before going to Greenwood," said Richards, looking at the stainless steel refrigerator with French doors and large freezer on the bottom.

The price tag at Lowe's, which opened its doors to the public for the first time

at 7 a.m. Friday, was \$1,797.

The Lowe's in Manitowoc at Harbor Town Center on the city's west side with some 40,000 items at a 196,000-square-foot building, representing an \$18 million investment by the North Carolina-based national home improvement retail chain that has 1,150 stores in 49 states.

"We need to paint from one end to the other," Gibson said of the home they're occupied for the past year. "We're here because the store is new and we want to check out the price," added Niamann.

Who are we? Lowe's? other 60 would work the

second shift later on Friday, Store Manager Tom Cole said he expected strong first-weekend sales for the store, now open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays.

Patricia Niamann and Scott Gibson were looking at different shades of paint for their Two Rivers home.

See LOWE'S, A6

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HERALD TIMES REPORTER

SEARCH

From A1

Search warrants were executed starting Nov. 5 at the disused Avery Auto Salvage yard, looking for Halbach, her vehicle, clothing and property...

According to an affidavit filed with the Manitowoc County Clerk of Courts Office, investigators found blood on a number of vehicles at Avery's Auto Salvage, 12930 Avery Road, Two Rivers.

Investigators also found what they say appears to be blood on wood trim, a door and the bathroom floor in Avery's residence, the affidavit says.

Steven Harrington of the State Crime Laboratory said technicians found presumptive blood evidence in the rear cargo area and the front seat near the driver's side door.

Items seized from Avery property

- According to a search warrant obtained Nov. 5 by the Calumet County Sheriff's Department, and returned five days later to Manitowoc County Circuit Court, the following items were seized from the Avery family property west of Manitowoc in the search for Teresa Marie Halbach:
- Personal identifiers of Steven Avery including his Social Security number
- "Auto Trader" magazine
- "Fox Sale" sign
- Sheet of "Auto Trader" material
- CD case (tan vinyl style) containing two CDs
- 22-caliber long rifle containing two CDs
- 22-caliber brass casings
- Wisconsin registration
- Chartered material that may be a cell-phone
- Chartered material that may be a cell-phone
- Broken pair of eyeglasses
- Possible blood evidence
- Chartered remains of a woman
- Blooded material containing fiber and other forensic evidence
- Broken cellular phone
- One pair of metal hand-cuffs
- One pair of metal leg-cuffs
- Vision cleaner, bug and filter
- Chisel
- Cutting instruments
- Hammer
- Rubber hammer
- Electrical cord
- Discs, including one from a computer containing fiber and other forensic evidence

from the Avery family, including Steven Avery's nephew Bobby A. Dasey, 19, and Bryan J. Dasey, 20. Photos were also taken of Steven Avery, his brother Charles Avery, 31, and Bobby Dasey, search warrants say.

Search warrants were also executed to obtain DNA samples, fingerprints and palm prints

Halbach family's strength touches Packers chaplain

Teresa Halbach's brother works for football franchise

By PAUL STRUBAS

When the Green Bay Packers players and staff, including the team chaplain, meet Sunday for services, they can expect Teresa Halbach and her family to figure heavily in the sermon.

The Rev. James Baraniak used the family as the theme of his homily last weekend and plans to do so again this Sunday.

Teresa Halbach, 25, of St. John disappeared on Oct. 31 while taking photographs in Manitowoc County, and indications from investigators are that her remains may have been recovered in the auto salvage yard where she had lived.

Teresa's brother, Michael, works for the Packers in their video-department.

"I know that all this has affected some of his colleagues at the Packers," Baraniak said. "When an individual on the team dies, it hurts the whole team."

The Catholic liturgy this time of year focuses on issues surrounding death, dying and people's readiness to meet their maker.

Baraniak said that the goal message deals with the tragedy surrounding Teresa Halbach's disappearance and probable death.

"It reminds us that we never know what is happening in our lives," he said. "The message is, 'Are you ready for the Lord?'"

"They are good, faithful people relying on their faith to sustain them."

Rev. James Baraniak, Packers team chaplain, on the Halbach family

Halbach's family, Michael has publicly expressed his and his family's religious faith. Following Thursday's press conference, in which police announced finding a woman's chartered remains on the salvage yard property where Teresa Halbach's car had been found, Michael Halbach held a press conference of his own, in which he expressed faith that the family would see Teresa again.

Baraniak cited that faith and quoted Teresa's mother, Kam Halbach, as having said "It is our hope our faith will sustain us in whatever comes."

The bottom line, Baraniak said, is that they are good people, faithful people relying on their faith to sustain them through the difficult times.

Baraniak said that the focus on the harvest, the end of the season and preparations for the winter, is a message of hope and faith.

"We should be doing in our daily lives, in good and bad times, what we should do on our day of death," Baraniak said. "I found Mike's words, and Mrs. Halbach's words truly provocative and faith-filled."

As the spokesman for the law enforcement agencies, as has been suggested by Avery and others, No law enforcement officer entered the SUV after its discovery last Saturday in the salvage yard, he said.

Kratz said it was taken in a sealed container to the state crime lab in Madison where it was "opened, searched and we now know, in the interior portion, Mr. Avery's DNA is found."

The blood evidence, was detected, was found by state of Wisconsin crime lab employees, not by any law enforcement officials at all.

Thousands of cars at the salvage yard were searched in an attempt to find Halbach, Pagen said. Calumet County, the lead investigation agency, will continue to follow up on leads, he said.

The state crime lab is analyzing and processing other items related to the investigation, Kratz said.

The Appleton Post-Crescent contributed to this story. Any Weaver, 920-685-2668 or awww@htrnews.com

TOMORROW

Sunday, November 13, 2005



Local craftsmen find success working with soupstone

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EVERY

From A1

"Like much of the other evidence, it was hidden in one location, to avoid detection, to avoid prosecution," Kratz said.

He said he did not see positive identification of the victim's remains in the forensic professional homicide charges against Avery before Tuesday, when Avery's date in court for a weapons trial.

He is being held in the Calumet County Jail, his court appearance is scheduled in the Manitowoc County Circuit Court.

Aerial searches by law enforcement couldn't detect Halbach's Toyota sport utility vehicle on the salvage yard property, three miles west of Manitowoc, because it was covered with branches and vehicle parts, including car tools, Kratz said.

The vehicle was found by volunteer searchers, including members of Halbach's family, on Saturday.

Because the DNA evidence was found on the key and Mr. Avery's blood was found inside the vehicle, it is no longer a question of who is responsible for, in this case, the death of Teresa Halbach," he said.

Avery served 18 years in prison for a 1983 sexual assault he did not commit. Six years of his 23-year sentence were for running a deputy sheriff's wife off the road at gunpoint. His conviction on DNA evidence in 2003 led both houses of the Legislature to pass reform legislation this year.

Avery has a \$36 million lawsuit pending against Manitowoc County officials for his incarceration.

Kratz said his office continues to look at others involved in the case, but Avery is responsible for her death. He said the lady was killed Halloween, the day she was last seen by her photographer clients.

Avery admitted to news



A sign outside the St. John-Sacred Heart School in Sherman shows support Friday for the family of Teresa Halbach, who coached volleyball at the school. Prosecutors plan to charge Steven Avery of Manitowoc with killing Halbach, whose vehicle was found near his home.

Pagen said Friday the remains of a cell phone and camera might were found in the barrel, zine, but he said she left within five minutes of her arrival.

Kratz said the investigation continues into how she was killed. Authorities said Thursday a burnt barrel just outside Avery's house is "pertinent to the investigation." As signs of a failed attempt to burn a body were discovered, including bones of an adult woman and human teeth. The crime lab has yet to verify the remains are Halbach's.

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on his sister's death Friday.

"I'm sure Teresa has many pictures of smiling faces to take in Heaven," he wrote in the obituary. "God must have needed a photographer."

Ryan Hilliges, a family friend who coordinated efforts by more than 200 volunteer searchers, said the Halbachs' evening would be spent with family and friends who were arriving by mid-afternoon.

"They just keep rolling in," he said of the sympathizers.

Law enforcement personnel remained at the Avery salvage yard Friday to oversee search warrants. Members of the Avery family who live at the property have been prohibited from staying at their homes since last Saturday.

Kratz said he has asked some media outlets to abstain tape and notes from interviews with Avery to aid the investigation. Pagen said Avery lied to investigators in a taped interview when he said he had never been in Halbach's vehicle.

Kratz said there was no possibility the evidence found in the barrel was the victim's.

James A. Benzmilller, MD will be joining Dermatology Associates of Wisconsin effective Nov. 14, 2005.

Dr. Benzmilller is a dual board certified dermatologist and dermatopathologist.

Dr. Benzmilller is a 1994 graduate of Creighton University School of Medicine in Nebraska. His dermatology residency was fulfilled at the University of New Mexico in 1999, and his dermatopathology fellowship completed at Allegheny University, Pennsylvania, in 1999. Dr. Benzmilller brings to the practice over six years of experience and expertise in dermatology and dermatopathology from the Mankato Clinic in Minnesota.

Dr. Benzmilller moved to Manitowoc in October with his wife, Tania, and three children. Dr. Benzmilller will be providing general dermatology services in our Manitowoc office, including diagnosis and treatment of skin cancer, acne, warts, rashes, psoriasis, including biologic therapies, and laser surgery.

Call 683-8276 to schedule an appointment today!

Dermatology Associates of Wisconsin

1311 Randolph Ct., Manitowoc

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