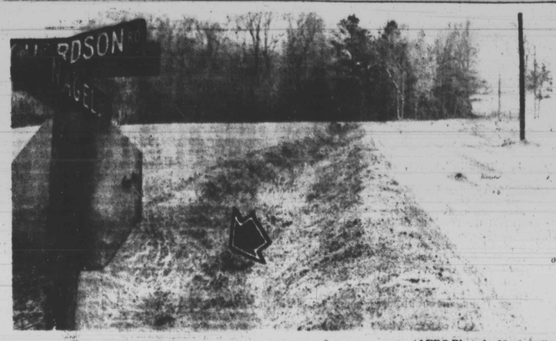

(AFRO Photo by Mark Gail)

BODY OF LEONARD POPE was found in ditch off muddy road in Eastern Shore community of Harmony. "Arrow" marks spot where body was found.

—Teen ends in shallow grave

(Continued from Page 1)

is anything he could have done to prevent it. He said he has a "sick" feeling now... it stays with him and haunts him, mostly because he cannot understand it all.

But despite his feelings, he knows, deep within himself, that there really is nothing he or anyone else, apparently, could have done to prevent anything.

Boys were friends

Dr. Jones said that both Pope and Robinson were friends. They had some classes together, played football together on the team this year, and sometimes were seen socializing together after school.

Robinson was described as a quiet boy, a relatively good student, nothing outstanding. He was reportedly very religious.

"He was 'saved'... whatever that means," Jones said with some amusement.

Pope on the other hand it seemed, was a gregarious sort, full of life and mischief. Jones said he was "one of those people that have something to say to everybody." He was popular, a fair student, and a "ladies man."

"He had a lot of personality," Jones smiled.

On the day of the incident, Jones said, Pope reportedly showed up at school at a little after 8:00 a.m. and told a friend to tell his first hour teacher that he would be a little late. He said he had something to do, and he left the building.

He was seen leaving the building with Robinson. They were laughing together, Jones said. At about 8:20 a.m. Robinson returned to school, alone.

A friend, Susan Wilson, who had reportedly helped dig the grave the night before and who had allegedly been told that Pope would be killed noticed Pope was not in class later that morning.

She became afraid and went to the assistant principal, Joe Lovelace, and told him she was worried that something was terribly wrong.

The two of them rode to the graveside where they found Pope's bullet-ridden body face down in the grave. He had been shot in the head several times and there was no way, they knew, he could be alive.

While they called the police and Pope's mother, meanwhile, Robinson continued his classes, all day long, as though nothing had happened.

Two had been arguing

Detective Joe Little, who has been investigating the case since it all happened, is about as baffled as is Jones and the entire community. He has, however, talked to Robinson, who apparently revealed to him that the two boys had been arguing about some still obscure issue for about two weeks prior to the incident.

"The kids at the school say they were arguing about drugs," Little said. According to classmates, Pope had allegedly showed Robinson some "good dope" and was later turned over to school authorities. Little said that Pope supposedly thought Robinson had turned him in, and an argument ensued.

No drugs, however, were ever found, and Dr. Jones does not remember any such incident.

And Pope's friends deny that he was into drugs. He talked a lot, but when it came to producing, that was another story.

A crucial point, however, is that Pope allegedly threatened to rape the accused girlfriend during the course of those arguments, and even though she has denied ever having met or even spoken to Pope, it may be that the threat was enough to provoke wrath.

It is only a possibility, however, nothing concrete, nothing real.

Whatever the motive which led to Robbinson's indictment it was strong enough to have inspired him to tell several of his friends that he planned to kill Pope, and for several others, after it was all done, to be told that at he had done it. He apparently talked with no emotion, maybe a little pride. It is hard to say. But he told. He wanted people to know that this person named Leonard Pope had said just a little too much, had taken one step too many. Charged as an adult

Robinson sits now in a Caroline County jail. He has been charged as an adult, and bail has been set for $500,000.

"There's going to be an appeal for bail reduction," Detective Little said, "but I don't think it's going to be granted."

Robinson's family has been quiet. His father, a retired police officer, had looked forward to moving his family to their present location after having lived for years in an urban area. They have not visited the high school or talked to any teachers or the principal of Colonel Richardson, although they have kept their younger son enrolled in the junior high school next door.

They are, people say, a good, Christian family.

Pope's mother has left her small bungalow located front of a cemetery, at least for a while. She has visited the school and talked to Dr. Jones, searching for answers, trying to see if he at least understands the whole thing better than she.

But there are no answers.

Detective Little says Robinson will undergo a psychiatric examination in the near future, and maybe that will let everybody know just a little more.

But for the time being, Harmony is harmonious only in that the residents, both black and white, are trying to understand and forget that the violent death of Leonard Pope ever happened.

Landlord want tenants to pay for detectors

A spokesman for Baltimore landlords said this week that tenants should have to buy and maintain smoke detectors if a bill is passed making the devices mandatory in most city multi - family buildings.

William Kunz of the Property Owners Association of Baltimore told the Senate Economic Affairs Committee that nearly every tenant could afford smoke detectors and be able to maintain them better then the landlords.

"Even in the case of welfare recipients, they have enough to buy refrigerators and suites of furniture. They can afford $10 for a smoke detector," Kunz said.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Verda Welcome (D - Baltimore) calls for smoke detectors to be placed in all buildings with three or more housing units in Baltimore by 1984 — nearly 8,000 of the city's 9,000 licensed multiple unit dwellings. State law requires only buildings with 10 or more units — about 900 in Baltimore — must have the devices.

Last year, 51, of the 126 deaths caused by fire occurred in Baltimore, the state fire marshal's office said.

Kunz said battery - type smoke detectors will be difficult to maintain and will be easy prey for vandals in vacant buildings.

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Jewelry. All Stores except Eastern and Belvedere
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Orig. 90.00
Lamps. Eastpoint, Hartford and Security Square
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Orig. 29.99
Housewares. All Stores except Easton and Feiserstown Plaza
14.99

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Orig. 12.50. With silverplated servers.
Silver Shop. All Stores except Easton and Feiserstown Plaza
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Facesetter Dresses. All Stores
22.99 to 59.99

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Orig. 16.00. Pull-on pants and matching long sleeve shirts in assorted colors. Sizes 10-18.
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ENTIRE STOCK JUNIOR FALL AND HOLIDAY SPORTSWEAR
Orig. 17.00 to 75.00. Includes sweaters, blouses, skirts, pants, blazers, and tops. Sizes 5-13, S-M-L.
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11.99 to 29.99

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Orig. 7.00 to 12.00. Assorted sizes and colors.
Daywear. All Stores except Easton.
4.79 to 9.99

JUNIOR WINTER COATS & JACKETS
Orig. 40.00 to 134.00. Long wools, jackets, and ski parkas. Sizes 5-13. All sizes not at all stores.
Juniors. All Stores
25.99 to 88.99

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Orig. 7.90 to 26.00. Shetlands, fair isles, boucles, velours and jacquards in the group.
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3.99 to 17.99

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Men's Shop. All Stores
12.99 to 31.99

ENTIRE STOCK BOYS' VELOURS
Plush sweaters/shirts for big and little boys.
Sizes 4-7, orig. 16.00 to 17.50
Sizes 8-20, orig. 17.00 to 21.00
Boys' Shop. All Stores except Easton and Feiserstown Plaza
10.99 to 15.69

Md. Pen inmate did not kill himself; was victim of murder plot

A Maryland Penitentiary inmate whose death Dec. 28 was thought to be suicide was declared this week to be the victim of a murder plot, the state medical examiner has ruled.

The body of Rodney Pulley, 23, who was serving a life sentence for murder, was discovered hanging inside his cell in the apparent suicide. The death occured the same day a group of other convicts tried to escape from the prison.

Dr. Ann Dixon, the medical examiner who performed a month - long autopsy, said Pulley was strangled, then hanged in an apparent attempt to make his death look like suicide.

Police Detective Donald Kincaid said there may be a link between the killing and the escape attempt, but would not elaborate. He said the cells in the prison were opened after the escape attempt, but said guards were at their posts at the time of the killing.

"This is a touchy investigation. You're dealing with hardened criminals here," Kincaid said.

The autopsy took a month because of complicated series of tests, Dr. Dixon said.

Kincaide indicated more than one inmate was involved in the killing.

Child's first trip to dentist should be early

By Dr. Wenzell Carter.

At some point in our lives, all of us have witnessed or participated in a so-called "horror" trip to the dentist. Because of that memory, and subsequent memories of painful experiences, adults visit the dentist as infrequently as possible— often not until pain is so great that treatment to alleviate the pain is extensive...and expensive.

But the more unfortunate part about the misconceptions and experiences held by adults is that the children suffer. Because the parents are afraid... the children's dental care is neglected...until they, too, are suffering from dental problems that never needed to get as severe as they have become.

Ideally, the child should make his first trip to the dentist by the time he is three years old. Doctors recommend this age because by that timme, most children are capable of understanding an explanation by the parents of where he is going and what is going to occur. The explanation, devoid of the emotions of the parents, is a crucial part of that first trip.

Parents should take as much time and care as possible in selecting a dentist for their children. It is not always the case that the dentist used by the parents will be the best for the child. Inquiries should be made, with parents finding out how many child patients any particular dentist has, and how well he gets along with the little ones. Conversations with parents who have taken their children to the dentist being considered can be and often are extremely helpful in making the final decision.

In making the first trip to the dentist, parents should make as little fuss as possible. Although an explanation is necessary, extensive conversation about the trip before the visit should be avoided.

A trip to the dentist should never be offered as punishment for misbehavior.

The first trip should be an easy one for your child. He will have an opportunity to meet the dentist. (some dentists spend the entire first visit talking to the child and making friends with him and look at the equipment.

The diagnostic procedures of the first visit are likewise easy. The child's mouth will most likey be x-rayed, and an impression may be taken to determine if the child has an overbite. A regimen of treatment is prescribed as a result of the tests, and fees are set.

Forgetting your own feeling about the dentist and taking your child in for checkups now will have long-lasting benefits and rewards: care now may be the difference between healthy teeth or a generation of 50-year olds who are forced to wear dentures.

Curfew imposed on Atlanta Youth

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

Parents of black children in Atlanta have been keeping closer tabs on their offsprings since a rash of child murders have hit the southern city over the last year and a half.

Now Mayor Maynard Jackson wants to keep a closer eye on black youths under 15 as well and has imposed a 9 p.m. curfew in the troubled city.

The mayor issued his executive order Tuesday and it is expected that the City Council will act on a bill to impose a 7 p.m. curfew which would come with some stiff fines.

The Rev. Arthur Langford, city councilman, who organized the weekly Saturday searches for the missing children more than three months ago, says he plans to vote against the bill.

"I'm opposed to this bill because it's taking too much freedom away from the children," he said. "We must give youngsters the normal amount of time for recreational activities that are common for their ages."

The councilman also pointed out that most of the disappearances of the children have occurred during normal hours and in the daylight.

"Some people are very eager to impose this curfew, but they're confusing the issues," he said.

Longford, who received opposition to an 11 p.m. curfew bill he introduced two years ago, stated that he expected the bill to pass but with some comprises and amendments when it comes on the council floor for a vote next Monday.

Dorothy Carr, a spokesman for Mayor Jackson, stated that the mayor's 9 p.m. curfew was aimed at placing some control on the whereabouts of youths under 15 and help parents as well.

"This is just one of the steps the mayor has taken to minimize the number of children being out late.

"But he knows this is not a cure all," she said.

After exhausting all possible means of investigation which has already cost the city nearly $500,000, Mayor Jackson, in a telegram this week, pleaded to the new president for assistance.

While he did not specify monetary help, he asked for "whatever additional resources that might be available."

The mayor also requested a meeting with the president and Georgia Gov. George Busbee. The meeting with Busbee could take place as early as next week.

The number of black children found dead in Atlanta now totals 14, with the lastest victim, 15-year-old Terry Lorenzo Pue's body found Jan. 23 in suburban Rockdale County. Three other children still remain missing including Jeffery Lamar Mathis, who has missing since March 1980, Darron Glass, last s-en in September and Lubie Geter who just disappeared in December.

COUNTERFEIT GIVEN REDUCE TERM

A printer who ran off $500,000 in counterfeit money has been given four — instead of 15 — years in prison because he cooperated with Secret Service agents after he was caught.

Secret Service agents said Bruce Perry, 21, entered a guilty plea and helped them nab four others involved in an attempt to print and pass bogus $20 bills.

A clerk at Security Mall in Baltimore County became suspicious of the bills when the group tried to pass some of the bills, Secret Service agents said. (UPI)

Native - Baltimorean Trazana Beverley is in town directing Alice Childress' "Wedding Band" for the Free Spirit Theatre at Community College of Baltimore. Play opened yesterday (Thursday).

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