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Trooper returns to work after auto parts probe
ALLEGANY COUNTY

CUMBERLAND

CUMBERLAND -- A trooper suspended last Friday in connection with a probe of auto parts thefts from the Cumberland state police barracks is back on duty, but has been transferred to another post, officials said.

The unidentified trooper -- who has not been charged with any criminal offense -- was transferred from the Cumberland barracks, where the auto parts were stolen, to the McHenry barracks in Garrett County, said 1st Sgt. Gregory M. Shipley, a state police spokesman.

Man wanted in assault, kidnapping is arrested

BALTIMORE CITY

BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE -- A convicted rapist wanted in North Carolina on charges of kidnapping and assault was arrested yesterday at the home of his stepdaughter, the FBI said.

Gerald A. Abernathy, 52, of Norfolk, Va., is charged with kidnapping Joan Frances Dostal in Charlotte, N.C., while she was jogging on the University of North Carolina soccer field June 23. Mrs. Dostal, 58, remains missing, the FBI said.

7 emerge as finalists for Circuit Court seat

BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE -- Six lawyers and a District Court judge were named yesterday as finalists for a newly created seat on the Circuit Court bench.

The finalists, announced by the state Administrative Office of the Courts: Bonita J. Dancy, a Circuit master; Susan K. Gauvey, a partner at Venable Baetjer & Howard; John M. Glynn, state People's Counsel; Albert J. Matricciani Jr., a partner at Whiteford Taylor & Preston; William Quarles, a partner at the Washington law firm of Venable Baetjer Howard & Civiletti who was nominated last year for a federal judgeship; Baltimore District Judge Carol E. Smith; and Gary I. Strausberg, a partner at Janet & Strausberg.

The list of finalists was received yesterday by Gov. William Donald Schaefer, who will appoint a judge subject to state Senate

confirmation.

Essex man is slain after leaving area bar

BALTIMORE COUNTY

ESSEX

ESSEX -- Homicide detectives are searching for the killer of Lawrence Bruce Anderson, a 47-year-old Essex man who was found shot to death on the street early yesterday.

Mr. Anderson, of the first block of Punte Lane, was seen leaving a bar in the 1700 block of Eastern Ave. about 9:45 p.m. Wednesday, said E. Jay Miller, county police spokesman.

About 10 p.m. a Langley Park resident noticed what he thought was an intoxicated Mr. Anderson between two cars in the 100 block of Langley Road.

Returning to the area about 2 1/2 hours later, the resident noticed that the figure was in the same position and called police.

Police determined that Mr. Anderson had been shot once in the chest with a small-caliber bullet. They said they do not know why he was killed, but they have ruled out robbery.

Anyone who may have seen Mr. Anderson after he left the bar is asked to call police at 887-2198.

Agreement is reported on saving the academy

TOWSON

TOWSON -- A tentative agreement to save Baltimore's Talmudical Academy has been reached between the school, the Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore and the federal Resolution Trust Corp. (RTC), which holds an overdue \$1.1 mortgage on the campus.

Darrell Friedman, Associated president, said in a prepared statement yesterday, "We believe we have reached a mutually acceptable solution, subject to approval at senior levels of the RTC."

Dr. Michael Elman, board president of the 76-year-old, 640-student Jewish boys school located at Old Court Road and the Beltway, said, "I think we've come to an agreement. I'm optimistic."

Both refused to reveal any details pending RTC's final approval. The school, which has a total debt of \$4 million to \$5 million, wasn't able to pay teachers salaries this spring.

A fund-raising drive has now raised \$295,000 toward that end, though \$440,000 is needed to pay the teachers to the end of June.

Company takes over running Hickey School

CUB HILL

CUB HILL -- An Owings Mills company that already runs programs for juvenile offenders in Frederick County, Tennessee and Iowa took over the troubled Charles H. Hickey School yesterday.

Youth Services International Inc., founded in 1991, has officially assumed responsibility for the Baltimore County school that houses 288 juvenile offenders between the ages of 13 and 20.

The company hired Richard Singleton, a former Maryland House of Correction warden, as the school's executive director.

Media have no right to copies of Basu tape

HOWARD COUNTY

ANNAPOLIS

ANNAPOLIS -- News organizations do not have a right to obtain copies of a videotape offered as evidence in the Pam Basu carjacking-murder trial, the Court of Special Appeals ruled yesterday.

Several television stations and newspapers filed an appeal after Howard County Circuit Judge Dennis Sweeney refused to allow them to copy the tape made by Biswanath Basu minutes before his wife was dragged to her death last Sept. 8.

Judge Sweeney said distribution of the tape could make it harder for two men accused of murder, Bernard Miller and Rodney Soloman, to get a fair trial.

"The court was certainly obligated to safeguard Miller's right to a fair trial, and it could not ignore the effects its decision may have on Soloman's right to a fair trial," said a ruling by a three-judge panel of the state's second highest court.

"The judge did not forever preclude the press from obtaining copies of the tape, but narrowly tailored its ruling by deciding that copies could not be released {until} the fair trial considerations are no longer present," the court said.

Man's body is pulled from Wicomico River

WICOMICO COUNTY

SALISBURY

SALISBURY -- City police pulled a man's body from the Wicomico River just south of the U.S. 50 drawbridge yesterday.

Police were called by someone passing the bridge who spotted the black male, approximately 30 to 40 years old, floating in the river, said Capt. Elton Harrington.

A wallet found in the man's pants turned out to be stolen in Ocean City on Monday. Police still are trying to identify the dead man.

Suspect in abduction is like Maryland man

MARYLAND

SCHAUMBURG, ILLINOIS

SCHAUMBURG, Ill.-- A 5-year-old girl was abducted from this Chicago suburb Tuesday, and the suspect's description closely matches that of Kyle Winston Sherrill, a Maryland man with a history of pedophilia who is wanted in a recent Ohio kidnapping, Illinois police said.

The Illinois girl was taken from a shopping mall where she had wandered away from her father, police said. She was released eight hours later; police refused to say if she had been sexually assaulted.

A witness described the abductor as a white man in his 50s with gray hair. He wore a floral-pattern shirt and had glasses and a wig in apparent attempt to disguise himself, police said. The abductor drove a white or tan Toyota with a beaded-mat seat, which matches the description of Sherrill's vehicle, police said.

Recently paroled from a 21-year prison term in Maryland for kidnapping three children in 1969, Sherrill is charged with kidnapping a 6-year-old Columbus, Ohio, girl last Friday. She was released Sunday.

City seep-up

@ART: PHOTOP

@ART SOURCE: JED KIRSCHBAUM/STAFF PHOTO

@CAPTION: Dwayne Leighton and other students take up brooms on Reisterstown Road to begin a seven-week Baltimore Commonwealth summer jobs program. Colgate-Palmolive donated \$20,000 to employ 200 people on the "Ajax Clean Sweep Team."

@TYPE: CATCH LINE

SO: From Staff and Wire Reports