# SHOES A LINK IN SLAYINGS OF 2 WOMEN?

By JACK HOVELSON

WAVERLY, IA. - Are the recent brutal slayings of two attractive young women here linked to shoes or a store where shoes may be

purchased? That possibility -DES MOINES remote and coinciden-

tal as it may be - is being investigated by "state and local authorities, it was con-"firmed Thursday.

The body of Wartburg College sophomore Marie Lisa Peak, 20, was found Tuesday morning under a tree in a "ditch just north of the Waverly city minits. The body was nude, and none of

the woman's clothing was at the scene. Last March, about six miles west of that spot, the nude, decomposed body of 19-year-old Julia Ann Benning of Clarksville was found in a ditch near Shell Rock. She had been missing since

Nov. 28. Some persons told authorities that "Benning was last seen at a shoe store in

Waverly. It has been learned that Peak told friends shortly before walking off the Wartburg campus Monday that she was going to pick up a pair of shoes."
Although conceding that it might be

"purely coincidental, Bremer County, Atty. Paul Riffel acknowledged Thursday that the shoe angle is under study to determine if there is a link between the Benning and Peak murders, which also bear other similarities.

Both women died of strangulation. An autopsy indicated that Peak had been sexually assaulted. Authorities declined to reveal if Benning had been molested, but the decomposed condition of her body when found four months after her disappearance may have made it impossible to determine that.

"We're following up every possible lead, of course," Riffel said.

Iowa Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) agents were still here Thurs- said. day aiding the Bremer County sheriff's and Waverly police departments in the murder probe.

Also under investigation is the possibility that Peak's murder is connected with a bizarre sex and extortion operation at Mason City that, was exposed when she provided authorities information about the scheme.

John Joseph Carmody, jr., a Mason City used car salesman, is serving a 40-year prison sentence after pleading guilty to rape and extortion charges filed in connection with the sex

seberne. An attempt Thursday to contact Carmody at the Iowa State Penitentiary at Fort Madison was unsuccessful when he didn't return a telephone call from The Register.

Meanwhile, on the Wartburg College campus, added security measures were announced Thursday.

Patrolling of the campus by college security officers will be extended from midnight to 3 a.m., new paging devices will be purchased for the security officers, and a new telephone system is being installed to give dormitory receptionists a direct link to the campus

security office. A seven-member committee of Wartburg student government officers has been named to select a memorial possibly a scholarship in the field of journalism - honoring the slain coed and to arrange the financing of a memoria)

Private funeral services for Peak were conducted Thursday at Knoxville, her home town.

## 4-6 month delay for hybrid tank

; WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) - The general in charge of developing the advanced new American XM1 tank said Thursday the decision to make it a hybrid U.S.-German venture should delay production only four to six months.

Maj. Gen. Robert J. Baer conceded he has "a twinge of regret" at any delay, but he told the House Armed Services Committee the Army has not found great redesign problems.

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Loses custody of 4 children

Charles Alsager, right, is shown outside Polk County Juvenile Court where Judge Don Tidrick Thursday ruled that the four youngest of seven children of Alsager and his wife be taken to foster homes pending a permanent ruling in the

custody case. With Alsager is an older son, George, and George's wife, Kim. The Polk County Social Services Department had charged the Des Moines parents with neglect in the latest round of a six-year legal battle.

By JOHN PIAZZA

A Des Moines policewoman was slightly injured Thursday afternoon when an uncooperative motorist struck her twice with his auto, police said.

Richard Thomas, 18, who refused to give officers his address, was arrested in connection with the incident, police

Police said Patrolman Phyllis Henry spotted an illegally parked car near the intersection of Thirteenth Street and Harrison Avenue, approached the driver and asked him to move the car.

The driver refused to move his auto, police said, and then refused to produce his driver's license. Henry then told him that if he didn't move the vehicle it would be towed, and the driver allegedly retorted that he would not allow that, police said,

As Henry moved toward the front of the car to check its license plate number, the driver put the auto into gear and the vehicle ran into Henry, police said. Before the officer could get out of the way, the driver backed the auto up and ran into her again before speeding away, police said.

Patrolman Brian Melton gave chase and apprehended the driver about a block away, where another scuffle ensued before the man was restrained and taken to jail, police said.

Police said Henry sufferred minor leg injuries and did not require hospi-

Thomas was charged with assault with intent to do great bodily injury and several traffic charges. He was being held in city jail without bond late Thursday pending arraignment this

Black

Continued from Page One

Alsager children from the home while Allen asked that none be taken. Asked Removal Attorney William Price, who was

acting as a court-appointed guardian of the children's legal rights, asked that the four youngest be removed while the three older children be allowed to remain at home, according to one reliable source. The three children who were not

removed from the Alsager home are Wanda, 15; John, 14, and Charles, jr., 13. Those place in foster homes are Mike, 11; Albert, 8; Sally, 4, and Kathy, 9 months.

The Alsagers' oldest child, George, is married and living away from home and is not involved in the court action.

The suit seeking removal of the children from the Alsager home was filed by the county's Department of Social Services. The suit began another chapter in court action involving the Alsagers and county officials concerning the custody of the children and the rights of the parents.

Polk County officials had monitored the family closely in recent weeks and two homemakers and a financial assistant assigned to the family had kept diaries of activities in the home.

Based on those diaries and the alleged activities observed by social workers, the county filed its petition in the latest case.

Tidrick terminated the Alsagers' parental rights in 1970 saying the couple was "mentally deficient" and his action v the lows Court. It was then appealed to the U.S. District Court where Judge William Hanson ruled against the Alsagers.

But on appeal to the Eighth Circuit

back to Hanson for review. Last December the federal judge ruled the state's termination law, as applied in the Alsager case, was unconstitutional. That decision has not been appealed.

The Alsagers live in a two-bedroom house near the Iowa State Fairgrounds at 614 E. Thirtieth St.

The three girls had been allowed to stay with their parents throughout the court fights. The four boys involved in the case have lived in 23 foster homes and institutions since legal action began in late 1969.

The family was together temporarily for Christmas last year and, by June, all seven children had been returned to their parents' home.

## **UNI** credits for Collins workers

By a STAFF WRITER

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA. - Beginning next January, Collins Radio employes here will be able to complete the final half of a bachelor of

technology degree at } Cedar Falls the Collins plant here, Codar Rapids● it was announced DES MOINES

Thursday. The University of Northern Iowa, which already offers the course at its campus in Cedar Falls, will provide instructors, as will Collins Radio Group of Rockwell Internation-

Officials said employes could complete the first two years of general education at an area college and then spread the final two years of courses over four years, while continuing to work at Collins. The courses will be taken during off hours

Almost 40 persons are expected to take the course.

Frank A. Downes, assistant UNI dean of the Division of Extension and Continuing Education, said, "We will

work with Collins to teach these purple technology."

He added, "We couldn't build a labo-

ratory to include what Collins has Here as part of their normal operations." Officials for both Collins and UNI said they believe this is the first time in

the nation that a college and a mu-facturer have cooperated lights manner to offer employes a baccalaureate degree. Collins will pay 80 per cent of an employe's tuition costs, an official said

## Sue for receipts from steamboat

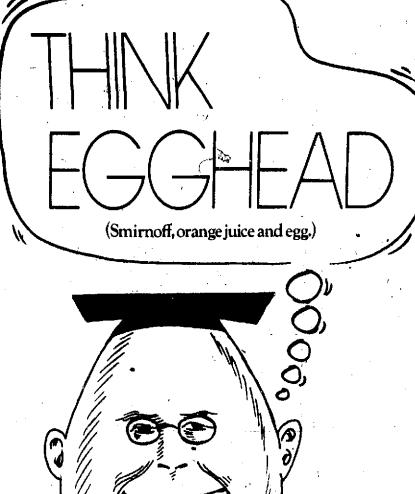
OMAHA, NEB. — Sorensen Construction Co., Inc., of Omaha, sued Thursday for money it said is ower for excavating the sunken steamboat Ber-trand at the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge near Missouri Valley, Ia.

The suit charges that Jesse Pursell

and Sam Corbino, both of Omaha, were paid more than \$39,000 for artifacts and other materials recovered, for which Sorensen received \$648,

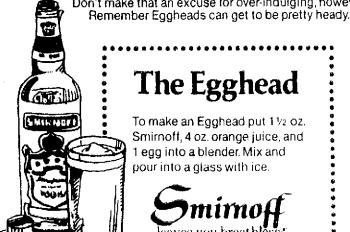
The suit said the defendants owe Sorenson 25 per cent of all compensation received under the excavation agreement.







Was it only a couple of decades ago we dubbed our intellectuals eggheads? A great word. We're tickled that we can bring it back in another way with our egg, orange juice and Smirnoff concoction. Friends seem to be delighted with it. Not only do they find Egghead brunches fun, they like the idea of having a pleasurable drink of some substance. Don't make that an excuse for over-indulging, however.



# The Egghead

To make an Egghead put 1 1/2 oz. Smirnoff, 4 oz. orange juice, and 1 egg into a blender. Mix and pour into a glass with ice.

TODICERNAD DIRECTION OF HELBORN O



Take a good look. It's Kay Windsor.