

ARGUE AGAINST USING EVIDENCE

By PAUL LEAVITT
Register Staff Writer

Attorneys for Jeffrey Robert Calvert, accused of the Apr. 14 strangulation death of a young Des Moines woman, argued Thursday that three items obtained by police investigating the slaying should not be admitted into evidence when Calvert goes on trial Aug. 16.

Calvert's attorneys are seeking to prevent the prosecution from using a belt that was seized from Calvert and two tape recordings that allegedly contain Calvert's voice.

Polk County District Judge A.B. Crouch heard arguments on the motion during a 2½-hour hearing. He said he will rule on the motion later.

Calvert, 22, of 3213 Forty-eighth Place, is charged with murder in connection with the death of Mary Ann Scovel, 18, whose body was found in her apartment at 661 Seventeenth St. He has pleaded innocent to the charge and is free under terms of the county's pre-trial release program.

Calvert's attorneys contend the belt was seized illegally because the search warrant was for the home of Calvert's parent, not for Calvert himself.

One of the tape recordings is of a man's telephone call to police telling them that a killing had occurred in Scovel's apartment. Police believe the tape contains Calvert's voice, according to court records.

Calvert's attorneys contend the tape is "irrelevant and highly prejudicial" because there is no "accepted scientific method" to determine if the voice on the tape is Calvert's.

His attorneys said Calvert gave police recorded samples of his voice. The two recordings have been reviewed by an outside agency, but the results of the comparison have not been disclosed.

Police said Calvert and his wife lived in an apartment adjacent to Scovel's apartment at the time of the slaying. Detective Clarence Jobe has testified the only access to Scovel's apartment was through the Calvert apartment. A door between the two apartments was locked from Calvert's side, police said.

Long wait seen on gas-hit area

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — An American scientist said Thursday it may be 5 to 10 years before people can once again inhabit the area most contaminated by a gas explosion last month in the Seveso section of northern Italy.

The explosion at a Swiss-owned chemical plant spread deadly fumes over the area, killing hundreds of rabbits, cats, birds and chickens, shriveling crops and forcing the evacuation of more than 1,000 persons. Dozens of others were hospitalized.

Dr. Philip C. Kearney, chief of the pesticide degradation laboratory at the Agriculture Research Center near here, returned Wednesday from a six-day visit to Italy during which he advised Italian officials on ways to decontaminate the area and to prevent further damage.

The explosion which destroyed the Icomesa chemical plant converted normally safe chemicals into a defoliant gas once used by the United States in Vietnam.

Asks \$30,000 for injuries at dance

Velta M. Ryan of Des Moines filed suit in Polk County District Court Thursday asking \$30,000 in damages from a Des Moines fraternal group after she allegedly was injured while dancing at the organization's lodge.

Ryan contends the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie 109, was negligent on Jan. 17 when it permitted another couple on the floor to dance "in a vigorous fashion" after the music had stopped.

She said she was knocked to the floor and injured when an unidentified dancer "deliberately and without provocation" struck her and her sister. She said the fall caused injuries to her arm, shoulder and hand, and also caused severe physical shock.

Waterloo man arrested; tried to fill in ditch

By JACK HOVELSON
Register Staff Writer

EVANSDALE, IA. — A 34-year-old Waterloo man was arrested, handcuffed and taken before a magistrate Thursday after he attempted to defy Evansdale city officials by filling in a shallow ditch.

Dwayne Eilers announced in advance that he would show up at 1 o'clock Thursday afternoon to fill in the ditch that blocks access to a tract of land he owns here.

He was met at the ditch by Evansdale Mayor Ron Nichols, Police Chief Floyd Warneke, reporters, photographers and a host of curious onlookers.

Eilers refused to heed Warneke's warning to leave, so he was issued a summons charging him with driving on a closed street.

"Would you sign the summons, please?" the police chief asked Eilers.

"No, I won't sign anything. You'll have to arrest me. You'll have to handcuff me," Eilers replied.

It was the latest round in a hassle between Eilers and Nichols over an approximate 10-acre tract of bare land that Eilers acquired this spring in a Black Hawk County land auction.

The City of Evansdale, a Waterloo suburb, also wanted the property, to provide fill dirt for dike construction, but Eilers outbid the mayor at the auction.

Council Vote

The Evansdale City Council voted 5-0 this week to temporarily close the street that leads to the Eilers land. Mayor Nichols authorized city crews to dig a ditch that severs the unimproved street.

The mayor said the ditch is necessary for drainage in the neighborhood.

Eilers says that's not so, and that the mayor ordered the ditch dug only to block his access to the land.

"He [the mayor] has a personal vendetta against me because I outbid him for the property at the county auction," Eilers claimed.

Mayor Nichols denied the accusation, saying, "I have nothing against the man, but he says he's going to develop the area, and he hasn't submitted any plans on it to us like he's supposed to."

Eilers showed up at the ditch Thursday in a pickup truck with three concrete drain tiles.

"You said the ditch has to be here because there's a drainage problem. Okay, I'm going to put these tiles in the ditch — I bought them myself — and that should take care of the problem," Eilers told the mayor.

Argument Ensued

An argument ensued, during which the term "liar" was tossed about. Chief Warneke finally intervened, advising that the matter was violation of a law, and not a public hearing.

Eilers was taken by Warneke to Waterloo where he appeared before Magistrate Forrest Shaulis, pleaded innocent, was told he will have a hearing Sept. 18, and was released on his own promise to appear in court.

The mayor says the city is in the process of closing several streets here to save taxpayers money, and that the disputed street into Eilers' land is one of them.

Vowed Eilers, after his arrest: "I'll sit on that land until Nichols goes out of office. I told them that I wouldn't bow to them."

Super Valu reaches contract settlement

HOPKINS, MINN. — Super Valu Stores, Inc., said Thursday it has reached contract settlements with unions in Des Moines, Ia., and in Bismarck and Fargo, N.D.

Company officials said the International Association of Machinists, Local

254, in Des Moines ratified a three-year contract that will expire July 3, 1979. They said the settlement came after a nine-state machinists' settlement to bring wage rates in line with the rate in Des Moines.

They said the settlement involved wage increases of approximately \$2 an hour over the three-year period. Other items in the contract include holidays, vacations, health and welfare, pensions and bereavement leave, officials said.

East German border guards slay Italian

BERLIN, WEST GERMANY (AP) — An Italian was shot and killed by East German border guards as he approached the East German frontier from West Germany, the official East German news agency ADN disclosed Thursday night. The news agency identified the man only as "the Italian citizen named Benito Corghi".

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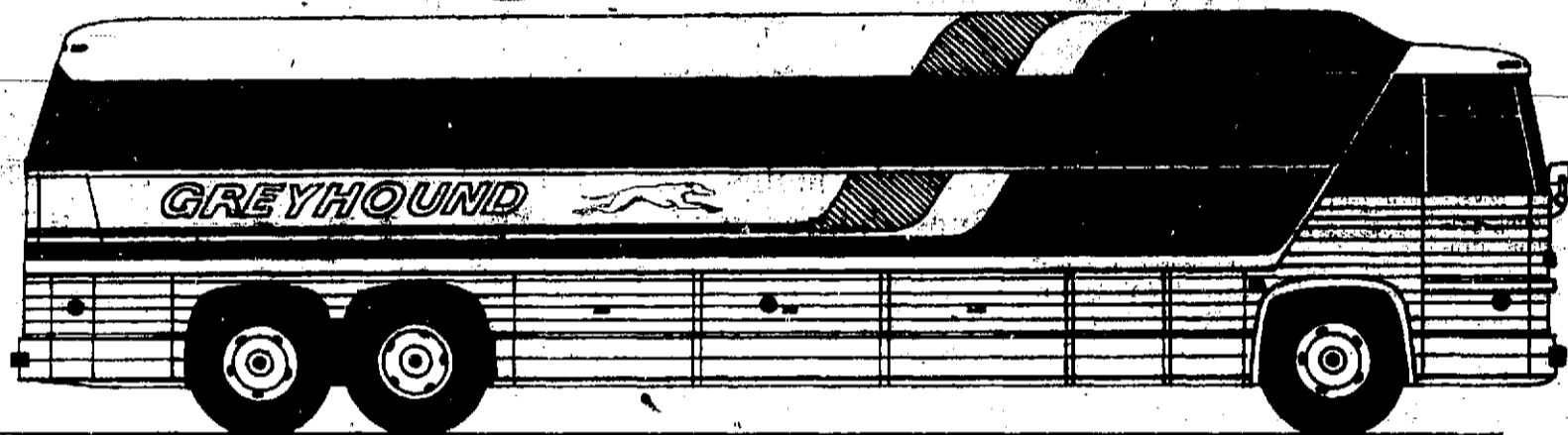
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In your next Sunday Register MINIATURE GOLF: \$12 MILLION BUSINESS

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