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Brief

LAW AND ORDER

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Article Text:

DeKalb officer shoots deranged slaying suspect

A DeKalb County police officer shot and killed a deranged murder suspect who had kidnapped a 17-year-old woman at gunpoint and driven to a nearby package store, police said. Darryll Lance Osley II, 19, of Decatur was shot dead Saturday in front of Jolly Mac's Package Store in the 3800 block of Flat Shoals Parkway.

The chain of events that led to the shooting started at 12:15 p.m. when police received a call that a person had been shot in the 3800 block of Cedar Trace Court in south DeKalb.

The victim, Atemious K. Bennett, 23, was dead when officers arrived.

Witnesses told police that Osley began shooting at Bennett for no apparent reason, then forced 17-year-old Tondra S. James to get into his black Dodge Neon and drove away.

Minutes later, police received word of an armed man holding a woman against her will at the package store.

The first officer at the scene, whom police did not identify, went inside the store, drew his weapon and told Osley to drop his gun. Osley instead pointed his handgun at the officer and the two exchanged fire inside the store, according to the police report.

The officer then retreated to the parking lot and waited for Osley to come outside. Osley fired again outside the store and got into his car to leave. That's when the officer shot him, the report said. No one else was injured.

Friends and family told police that Osley suffered from mental problems, which they had tried to address. The officer has been placed on administrative leave pending the results of an investigation into the shooting.

Morning light reveals body near tennis court

A resident of the Main Street subdivision in east DeKalb County looked out of his window at 7:15 a.m. Saturday and saw a dead man. The man, thought to be between 50 and 55 years old, died from wounds to the head, said DeKalb police spokeswoman Mikki Jones. The wounds could have been caused by a gunshot, but police had not determined that for certain Saturday. The body was located near a tennis court off Lake Drive Terrace. Police are treating the case as a homicide.

> FORSYTH COUNTY

Walking trail sex sting nabs 20 suspects

Sheriff's investigators have arrested 20 men in an undercover sting operation to root out illicit

sex activities at Lake Lanier parks. For the past two weeks, plainclothes deputies have walked the trails in Lanier Beach and West Bank parks, waiting to be picked up by other men. Charges against the 20 suspects include public indecency, simple battery and solicitation for sodomy. The sheriff's department began its investigation after receiving complaints from rangers with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which manages the lake and its beaches, Sheriff Ted Paxton said. One man was charged with cruelty to children after leaving a 9-month-old in a car for more than 45 minutes while he walked in the woods to solicit sex. "We're going to continue this," Paxton said. "We want to make sure people can walk with their families, and they don't walk up on something like this."

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