CAMPUS NEWS

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Yale student is still missing

By John Millett
Mercedes Newspapers

NEW YORK _ The New Haven, Conn., police chief said Friday that authorities may never know the victim in a murder case in which a Yale University graduate student whose body was found hidden behind a wall in her apartment is still missing.

"The only person that really, truly knows the motive in this crime is the person who committed it," Police Chief Ty Antoine Friday said. "What made him do what he did, we may not know until trial. We may never know."

An investigator conducting interviews in the apartment of Annamaria Antar Le's fiancé became suspicious of her accused killer, Raymond Clark III, when he saw a piece of exercise equipment that was later discovered to contain blood spatters, the Hartford Courant reported Friday.

A police source told Newsday that Clark confessed to the cab early in the search for Le to try to cover his tracks and clean up the crime scene. "He's a sick individual," the source said.

The Courant reported that Clark was observed cleaning areas that looked as before the police raid on his apartment. He even reported missing Sept. 8, citing a low inflorescent oil level.

That and other apparent telltale signs contributed to Clark's arrest Sept. 21, of Middletown, Conn., in their pitiful search according to the Courant. Le's body was found the DNA of Clark's ex-girlfriend and victim in the ceiling and in the wall cavities of Le's body was hidden, according to police sources.

Clark was arrested Thursday at a Super 8 Motel in Cromwell, Conn. "There are no other arrests forthcoming," Yale University spokesman told Newsday on Friday.

Clark, 5-foot-9 and 190 pounds, was charged with murder and is scheduled to death. He. A June 21, 90-pound Le.

Le was a researcher at the lab. Clark was a technician who some described as "obsessive" about his work.

The New York Times, citing a researcher who asked not to be identified, reported that the laboratory gave supply if lab workers did not wear slip-on covers on their shoes.

Le's body was found last Friday stuffed into a wall about in the basement of the Yale Psychiatric Institute Center, the same day she was to be married in Syosset, N.Y., to Columbia graduate student Jonathan Wakowsky of Huntington, N.Y.

Now being held on a $1 million bond, Clark is scheduled to be arraigned by two public defenders. One, Joseph

See MISSING G2

Many still without healthcare

By Eric Miller
MCCARTY Newspapers

KANSAS CITY, Mo._ They often don't realize they're sick until they're dying. They talk of being embarrassed or ashamed to go to a doctor with a common cold or twisted ankle, of an accident or illness that in an instant could fell them or a family member, of the hobble their financial lives face soon.

In the parlance of current health care debate, they're the uninsured or underinsured.

As a statistical group, they are massive and diverse but speak of a singular concern. Medical coverage often stops beyond their reach even with a regular job. Insurance is a luxury, a benefit of a monthly place or those with no work or those scratching out the most meager of livings.

It is hardly because of a lousy work ethic. Of the approximately 46.5 million Americans without health insurance, 82 percent have a full- or part-time job, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation study. Even 17 percent of people with incomes of $75,000 or more are uninsured, the study found.

Some are like Tonna Hess, 29, a healthy "free-spirited" farmhand who

Keith Myers/Kansas City Star/MCT
At Penderson's Country Market outside Lawrence, Tonna Hess on October 20, 2008. Hess works without health insurance.

sits each an Shay Estes and cubdrivers Kansas City Star/MCT $35 doctor bill stay as well for $800.

How do they manage? As they tell it, they don't.

Morgan and Scott Ostrander, office worker/car dealer

For a long time, Megan and Scott Ostrander of Kansas City, North, don't have health insurance.

Scott, 24, worked at a car dealership. He made good money and was covered. Megan, 23, worked at a bank. She didn't get benefits. It didn't take long before everything crashed.

"We got to the point where we had nothing in the bank," said Megan, 23, a former bank teacher. "We couldn't pay our rent and later got a job at a roofing firm that offered no insurance. But the loss of income hit us hard. We had to move in with my parents."

The bank foreclosed on their house, a car was repossessed. Scott got another job. Megan got pregnant. Scott got sick. Both with a heart problem. They contracted swine flu to the point of delirium. She suffered a burst cerebral cyst.

"I put in a contract that had a fungus on it," she said.

"I didn't know what to do. I'm a healthy person. I've never had to go to the doctor. I've never had insurance. I've always been self-employed. I've always been a 'pay with my own money' person."

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Scott's problem: $1,270.

Scott's parents stepped in with a loan, but they couldn't keep their credit card.

Seeing the bills and saying to other way out was heartbreaking, Scott recalled. "I don't think figuring out health insurance has figured into my plans yet."

Megan's pregnancy was high risk. Scott got sick. Both with a heart problem. They

See HEALTHCARE G2

A new medicine

By Kyle Lawson
Tribune Reporter

Stephany Bowers suffers from fibromyalgia, diabetic neuropathy and chronic pain from four back surgeries, a metal plate in the back of her neck and hypertension in her right leg.

Her daily ritual includes insulin, Vicodin and up to two bowls of marijuana, which she claims eases nausea caused by her medication and takes her mind off her pain.

She said she is unable to work and rarely leaves home. Her marijuana use is a crime under state law, but she is hopeful that one day that will change.

"I believe it does have medicinal qualities to it," said Bowen, 46, of Penn Hills. "Since marijuana is grown naturally, it should be legal."

Momentum supporting that position is growing. Since 1996, 13 states have legalized medical marijuana.

State Rep. Mark Cohen, D-Philadelphia, introduced House Bill 1393 in April that would legalize marijuana for medical purposes. A public hearing is scheduled tomorrow in Harrisburg before the House Health and Human Services committee.

The bill aims to ease the lives of suffering patients, take money away from the drug trade, and create about $25 million a year in tax revenue from the sale of marijuana, Cohen said.

"The bill has a 1-in-4 chance of becoming law, but I think that health care groups will lean toward it," he said.

Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski, D-Luzerne, chairman of the committee on drugs and alcohol, said the decision to legalize marijuana should rest with the medical community.

"Doctors should determine whether there's a place for the drug in the treatment of their patients," he said.

The American Medical Association last month changed its position on medical marijuana, urging the federal government to reclassify it as a Schedule 1 drug.

The goal is to clear the way to conduct clinical research and develop marijuana-based medicines, according to the association.

The AMA's statement was a topic of conversation recently at the first meeting of Pittsburgh NORML, the local chapter of the National Organization for the Reformation of Marijuana Laws.

See MARIJUANA G4

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SARA GRACA

Fort Hood memorial service for victims

By Todd C. Gillman
The Dallas Morning News

FORT HOOD, Texas _ President Barack Obama brought words of comfort Tuesday to an Army post still reeling from a doctor's deadly rampage, offering comfort amid fears of extremism in the ranks and promising justice after this tragedy could have been averted.

"It may be hard to comprehend the depths of evil that lurk in the world," he said. "But this much we do know _ we thank particles these steadiness and craven acts." Obama told more than 13,000 soldiers and civilians gathered for a memorial service at the base's sprawling stadium. "For what he has done, we know that the killer will be met with justice _ in this life or the next."

Obama, after visiting privately with mourners and many of the injured, called the attack, which left 13 dead and dozens wounded, painful and incomprehensible. "Here, on this small military post and on an Army post, the nation's largest."

"This is a time of war. And yet these soldiers thought that they were safe here," Obama said. "Here, at Fort Hood, we pay tribute to 13 men and women who were not able to escape

Courtney Perry/Dallas Morning News/MCT
A soldier salutes during a memorial service for victims of the Fort Hood shooting in Killeen, Texas, Tuesday, November 10, 2009

the horror of war, even in the comfort of home."

He read carefully about the motives of Army psychiatrist Nidal Hasan, 39, of Dallas, alluding to his Muslim faith without directly mentioning or blaming it. Aides said the president wants to let the investigation run its course.

The president and first lady Michelle Obama spent about 90 minutes before the service meeting privately with the families by Hasan, and dozens of survivors, their spent another half-hour at Darnall

See FORT HOOD G2

Students protesting against rising tuition

By Matt Krupnick and Doug Oakley
Contra Costa Times

BERKELEY, Calif. _ An estimated 5,000 people packed into UC's Sproul Plaza on Thursday afternoon to protest against tuition increases, employee layoffs and faculty furloughs.

The rally was the latest of dozens of statewide demonstrations over the plans from all sides, chanting and holding signs. UC administrators and the Sproul Plaza crowd at 5,000 or so peaks.

Protestors brought a many issues to the gathering One sign advocated marijuana legalization, while others criticized the administrative salaries and student fee increases.

Some emphasized the need to keep the UC's energy going long enough to make changes.

"What's really important is this is just the beginning," said senior Nhu-Nhu Nguyen, a student government senator. "We have to keep the momentum going to fix the roots of the problem, which is legislative."

Nguyen said he wonderful to be supporting our cause. We support you too," a custodian told the crowd. He said he had been laid off last week.

The Berkeley protest began early Thursday with union picket lines at two entrances to the campus. Similar protests occurred on other campuses throughout the state.

At least 60 picketers circled in front of a school entrances at the corner of Telegraph Avenue and Bancroft Way, about 7:30 a.m. Thursday. "Hey, hey, ho, ho, myself, we say Yudof," a reference to University of California President Mark Yudof.

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Doug Oakley/Contra Costa Times/MCT
Thousands crowd Sproul Plaza at UC Berkeley to protest tuition hikes, to protest furloughs, budget cuts and tuition increases in the UC system, Thursday, September 24, 2009.

MISSING: college student

Continued from G1

Lopez, told The Associated Press on Thursday he is still reviewing the case and declined further comment.

ABC News reported that Clark sent a text message to Le on the day she disappeared, requesting she meet with him to discuss the cleanliness of mouse cages in the lab.

Walensky's temple, Temple Beth El in Huntington, is planning "to create a permanent memorial" for Le, ABC said "not yet" converted to Judaism. Cantor Sandra Sherry told the AP.

The service is planned for between the upcoming High Holy Days, starting with Rosh Hashanah on Monday and ending Sept. 28 with Yom Kippur.

Afghan strategy debated heavily

By Paul Richter and Julian E. Barnes
Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON _ The loosable lingering debate over President Barack Obama's Afghan strategy has taken on a central feature of President Barack Obama's presidency: a public order.

Obama's national security team met on top administration officials vounted out to build support for the plan.

The timeline, which fixes the beginning of troop withdrawals for July 2011, but does not set an end, was the subject of widespread confusion and frustration among congressional Democrats, who contributed to their backers. Conservatives were headed for a hasty exit or a protracted military engagement.

The low reviews of the plan showed the administration's challenge in selling and for differing points of view somehow found drubbers in virtually all quarters.

In Washington, Republicans said it was contradictory to add 30,000 U.S. troops but to set a date to begin withdrawing them a year later.

"That gives the wrong impression to our enemies, to our allies and to the American [servicemen]," Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., told Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton at a hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Democrats also complained that Obama's emphasis on a "conditions-based" withdrawal left open the possibility of an enduring involvement.

"I used to be convinced that ... we are not making an open-ended commitment and that there is a sensible way to do it," said Sen. Jim Webb, D-Virginia.

PROTEST: students link arms to block other students from entering buildings

Continued from G1

"All the cameras are aimed at me thing, they're trying to destroy the university," Robert Abrams. The "they," he said, was the administration. "I'm not going to be a better way to say it."

Brimhall had a different way of expressing the difficulty of focusing on anyone and a cause.

"The problem is so big that is difficult to know what any of us can do. I see these legislators wrapped up in small stuff," he said. "I'm not sure what's going on with Proposition 13, the state's groundbreaking cap on property taxes that voters approved in 1978.

Some protesters could be seen on the Berkeley campus in the morning. A handful of student club leaders steadfastly continued to try to attract attention to their demonstration, but most of the interest was low and passers-by few.

Sophomore Nick Iverson glumly waited for students to sign up for the UC

"I feel like I still have a contract with any student who wants to be here," he said. "I'd lecture to one student if that's who shows up."

GEORGE PROFESSOR GEORGE BRIMHALL

Reilly Committee, but the list in front of him was empty.

"At this time of the day, my list would normally be full and I'd have three others already," he said. Statewide, the Berkeley campus is the epicenter, as a Thursday morning. All but one of the five classes Thursday were canceled.

Iverson said he would be there again I'm a student and it hurts me not to be in class right now. It's something I'm paying for," he said.

The protest comes after a tough year for the university, which has seen its state support cut by $813 million and has been ordered leave to make up for state budget cuts. Tuition has risen 32 percent over the next year.

Tom Mesdeschian, the administrative assistant at UC Berkeley law school, said he supported the protests, but added that "Two-thirds of our union members have salaries in the low $40,000's," and that they have been furloughed for weeks. Every time Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoes a budget, he loses a day's pay.

Mesdeschian said he would be willing to go on strike, but only if the faculty also participated.

Heru Lopez, a graduate student pushing flyers to students in the library, said he stands the grievances of Professor's County Mather.

No cohicle for her. No medical insurance. No dental insurance.

Not that owners Karen and Allen Pendleton wouldn't love to offer it. But they're small farmers who have struggled as they barely pull in enough cash each year they sell, to pay their own medical insurance. $14,400 a year in premiums and a $2,000 deductible.

According to a recent of farmers have some health insurance, found a recent survey by the Center for Rural Affairs in Nebraska.

But what cost have to ask to at what point do $12,000 premiums, with $5,000 deductibles and ever-rising increases every year, make that business unworkable," said the center's John Crabbe.

He called it very common for a spouse to work off the farm simply to obtain health insurance for the family. The Pendletons _ with both partners working in the fields _ are becoming increasingly unusual.

"Basically, it's taking out entire paychuck," Karen said of her insurance.

They are still trying to get out from under a $70,000 out-of-pocket bill they faced after Allen had a heart attack and pneumothe same of their farm buildings. They had insurance for that, too, but it didn't cover much.

"Thank goodness we're in a business that we are growing stuff that we can eat," Karen said.

Hess understands. And it's OK with her.

HEALTHCARE: many need coverage

Continued from G1

emp throat: $200 in doctors' fees, plus prescriptions.

"You know, it's terrifying, it really is," Megan said of having no insurance. "I'm a very anxious person, and I'm always thinking that either something's wrong with me, or my husband's going to die, or something's going to happen to the car. It's always on top of your mind."

Megan and Scott Ostrander, office worker/car dealer

Megan said: "I'd have to go to the doctor to get my single day."

Scott's problem: $1,270.

Scott's parents stepped in with a loan, but they couldn't keep their credit card.

Seeing the bills and saying to other way out was heartbreaking, Scott recalled. "I don't think figuring out health insurance has figured into my plans yet."

Megan's pregnancy was high risk. Scott got sick. Both with a heart problem. They contracted swine flu to the point of delirium. She suffered a burst cerebral cyst.

"I put in a contract that had a fungus on it," she said.

"I didn't know what to do. I'm a healthy person. I've never had to go to the doctor. I've never had insurance. I've always been self-employed. I've always been a 'pay with my own money' person."

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Rich Sugg/Kansas City Star
The Ostrander family including Scott, right, Megan and their son Jace, 5, center, pose for a portrait at their home in Kansas City, Mo., Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2009. Scott and Megan have insurance, but was without it for a year and faced mounting medical bills.

Like a lot of younger people, "I don't think I'm able to go to the doctor," she said.

Because to Hess, worry is an illness. "I'm a very anxious person. It's what I was born in the U.S. long enough to be covered by Medicaid.

Some uninsured parents must be have to pay for a child's surgery.

Two weeks ago, Tigo's son needed major dental work.

"They send me a bill. More than $3,000 dollars," she said.

Tigo's son, Jaime, is 5.

On nights she is the hospital, just Tigo and Jaime in their apartment, the phone, now closed, with the music of Cole Porter or Johnny Mercer or Tom Waits filling the air.

"When I'm singing," she said, "I'm a very anxious person. It's what I was born with."

There are those, she knows, who think that Tigo and Jaime are receiving a subsidized _ if the got a "real" job.

"I actually got into a very serious accident a couple years ago and was off work for a year and I wanted to have a job and I wanted to have health care, I could, object it was my fault," recalled Estes, of Kansas City. "I said, 'Do you not enjoy your job?' I love my job. I love my job.

She has a job. It's music, which she enjoys her for 20 hours a week between rehearsals and gigs with the Kansas City Symphony, for an additional 25 to 30 hours each week, she works serving meals and drinks at a downtown bar.

"I would like to have health coverage. Of course.

"I have a mother who is terrified on a daily basis that I'm not going to be OK.

"I was coming on gradually," she said. "Turn one day it hit me like a ton of bricks."

Sorry, Can't help you."

Don't get her wrong. "I feel I should be able to go to the doctor," she said.

Tigo is not alone in her public status, but they make appointments to set call for a payroll tax "holiday" for small businesses.

Jobs I said, working hard to create an environment where entrepreneurs and new companies can thrive and create the jobs that our country desperately needs," Schumer said in a statement.

Jonathan Perelow, chief executive officer of U.S. Toy/Constructive Playthings in Lakeland, Fla., said his company was excited to meet with Obama on the job issue, as was his employer in Republican. Coast Robert Reich, former labor secretary under President Clinton, among those who said the president and his economic team can do much to create jobs.

Job summit unlikely to bring a consensus

By Diane Stafford
McClatchy Newspapers

KANSAS CITY, Mo., From "Build that dam!" to "Stop the stimulus!" participants are expected to be heard Thursday at the White House jobs summit.

Some of the ideas likely to be aired by the 130 invited guests are mostly unemployment report, President Barack Obama has heard previously. Others, financial, academic and nonprofit leaders to Washington, are more surprising.

Some summit participants, such as former Federal Reserve Vice Chairman Alan Blinder, have been outspoken critics of the stimulus package, which Congress passed in February. Others, such as Nobel laureate economist Joseph Stiglitz, have been supporters.

Obama declared a weeklong Jobs trip last month, but for a happier occasion _ to celebrate the groundbreaking for a new Air Force One at Boeing's Everett, Wash., plant.

The summit is for enthusiasts, and several Democrats will join creating public works and infrastructure jobs, a necessity also in President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1930s. Republicans, conservatives and Tea Party Conservatives Congress.

Other participants, such as Schumer, have been outspoken critics of the stimulus package, which was signed into law in February.

That position is akin to the Reagan-versus _ or trickle-down _ approach to economics that characterized economic efforts in the 1980s.

Between the polarized approaches lies a host of ideas that could create jobs, perhaps extending a tax cut to businesses that add workers in what has been a jobless recovery, according to proposals for job creation.

That attendees will bring wide-ranging thoughts is a given. Democrats will be as diverse as the leaders of the AFL-CIO and the Service Employees.

Meanwhile, there is even more anxious about whether the summit should be held. Some Democrats, such as Sen. Barbara Boxer, for example, took a "why bother" approach _ but then set up a competing "jobs summit table" for the same time period.

Boehner and other Republicans think the right job-creation plan is to give small businesses breaks, including a tax deduction for 20 percent of business income, perhaps giving struggling employers more flexibility to stay in business.

Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., in those meeting might not do much to advance policy is not limited to Republicans. Conservative Democrats, such as Sen. Ben Nelson of Nebraska, have also called for a "timeout" on health care reform.

"It doesn't look like that's going to help the economy," Nelson said.

If he did attend, he said, he would bring a strong message:

FORT HOOD: memorial service held

Continued from G1

tentive but quiet throughout the ceremony, under a sun hot enough to cause a few to faint.

Civilians in the back whooped at their arrival, but soldiers remained at attention.

Hasan, who was shot by police, is paralyzed from the waist down. He is expected to be charged with 13 counts of murder.

Bringing the stage was a memorial to each of the slain: a photo, a pair of boots, a helmet and dog tags set atop a rifle, a reminder of the ultimate sacrifice made by those engaged in the Civil War-era effort to mark the location of a dead soldier.

Obama talked of the small, close-knit, placed a presidential crest on each, as he and first lady Michelle Obama walked to it from each duty station.

Many of those at the ceremony wiped away tears.

For Herman Tate, it was his second time under hostile fire. A retired infantry soldier, now chief of the Medical Assessments Processing Center, where the attack occurred, he was wounded in the 72 years, once a year in South Korea.

He was outside, trying with others to help the wounded, when he spotted Hasan. Hasan spotted him.

Amanda McCoy/Biloxi Sun Herald
Jackson County Sheriff Mike Byrd holds a press conference on Aug. 19, 2008, that was called after two alleged gang members and suspected illegal immigrants were arrested and more than a half million dollars of marijuana was seized. Officials from multiple agencies and agencies with the Narcotics Task Force at the airport joined Sheriff Byrd to announce the arrests. They said the evidence the growing operation was being run by members of the Mexican Mafia.

MARIJUANA: states debate to legalize for medical use

Continued from a

A group of about 20 members, who ranged widely in age and profession, met to discuss methods of spreading information about medical marijuana.

We will be organized and professional," said Patrick Nightingale, a Downtown defense attorney and member of Pittsburgh NORML. "We're not a bunch of freaks and potheads who want to get high."

Nightingale, a former Allegheny County assistant district attorney, said he has represented medical users.

"It concerns me as an attorney that I've had to prosecute and defend folks for conduct that's different than buying a six pack or bottle of wine," he said.

TUMA

An eighth-grade student who was suspended from school for bringing marijuana to school, Tuma said, "It's helped me a lot."

He said he smoked marijuana to relieve pain from a bone disease that has caused multiple fractures in his legs.

Tuma said he would like to see the law changed so that he could use marijuana without fear of arrest.

Jerry Medical Center pharmacy director Jeffrey Miller said he opposes the use of marijuana as a drug, and a lot of people who

See MARIJUANA G4