

Essex man killed after slaying child and wounding 3 others

By ANGELA STEWART and BILL BRIGHT
With Kinga Borondy, Dan Garcia
and Reginald Roberts

A West Orange man, who became enraged after teenagers pounded his car with rocks, yesterday shot and killed one child and critically wounded two other neighborhood children and injured a police officer, before being killed outside his home by the officer, authorities said.

Police identified the suspect as George Proctor, 60, who lived at 286 Watchung Ave., in a three-story apartment building near the Orange border.

Authorities said the shooting happened shortly after Proctor argued and fought with some teens who had tossed rocks at his car while he was driving in nearby Orange.

The three young victims were not involved in the rock-throwing incident and were apparent random victims when the man "went berserk," police said.

"It looks like some sort of disaster in there," West Orange Police Chief Edward M. Palardy said

shortly after the shooting.

Proctor, known in the neighborhood as "Mr. George" and described as a hunter and fisherman, was pronounced dead at 4:10 p.m. in East Orange General Hospital, assistant nursing supervisor Margaret Francois said.

Neighbors said Proctor worked as a maintenance man at Union County College.

The injured officer, identified as Patrolman Thomas Smith, 26, of the Orange Police Department, was listed in stable condition last night in The Hospital Center at Orange. A bullet grazed his forehead, police said.

Ivory Smith, 10, address unknown, was pronounced dead at 9:50 p.m. at University Hospital in Newark. Kareem Davis, 8, of 268 Watchung Ave. and Joshua Balese, 12, of 280 Watchung Ave., were listed in critical condition in the same hospital. Balese has lost his eyesight, according to hospital officials.

The families and relatives of the victims waited for word of the children's condition in a closed waiting room at the hospital. The grandmother, aunt

and uncle of young shooting victim Ivory Smith kept a vigil at the hospital, while they awaited the arrival of the girl's parents, who were in Atlantic City when their daughter was shot.

Bob Arnold, associate administrator of University Hospital, said "clinical specialists" were counseling the families to help them through the trauma.

"Our support team is working with members of the families who are obviously very affected by this," Arnold said. "The concern of the institution is not just to treat the victims, but to treat their families."

"The families are trying to cope with it, but I'd say they're numb."

Orange Police Director Charles Cobbert said Proctor became angry following an altercation he had with some teenagers at Alden and High streets in Orange shortly before the shooting.

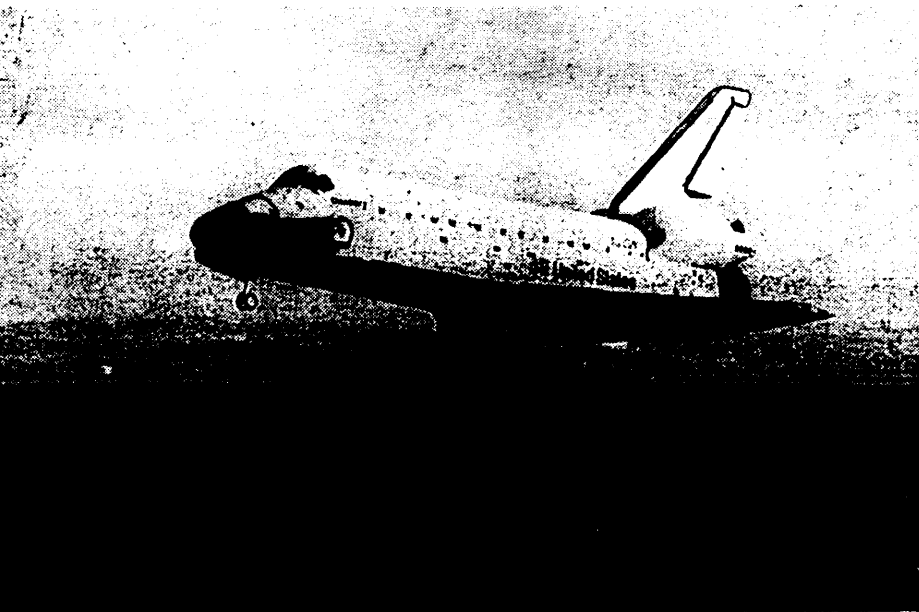
The director said the argument began after the youths threw rocks at the man's car about two blocks from his apartment. He said Proctor's 1983 Cadillac received minor damage and Proctor got out of his

Please turn to Page 17



West Orange police mark off area in front of a Watchung Avenue house where a gunman was killed after he shot three children and a cop

DOWN TO EARTH Huge crowd enjoys space shuttle return



Associated Press

Discovery touches down on the desert runway at Edwards Air Force Base in California after a successful six-day mission

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AP)—The space shuttle Discovery plunged out of space to a desert landing at dawn yesterday, ending an almost flawless mission that included completion of NASA's satellite communication system.

"Well done, Discovery. That's one to be proud of," capsule communicator Frank Culbertson said.

The shuttle, bearing a five-man crew, four crippled rats, 32 fertilized chicken eggs and other experiments, landed on schedule at 6:36 a.m. on a paved runway on Rogers Dry Lake, watched by a near-record 460,000 spectators.

Forty-five minutes after touchdown, the five astronauts, all looking fit and smiling, left the spacecraft and were met by several NASA officials.

They took the traditional walkaround inspection of Discovery.

"NASA and the country are happy this morning. It's a beautiful day in California," Rear Adm. Richard Truly, the space agency's associate administrator, said after Discovery touched down.

"It's marvelous people can come out on such a pretty morning and watch it," Truly added. "I think the country realizes we're back."

The landing looked perfect, as promised from orbit when shuttle commander Michael Coats, a veteran Navy aircraft carrier pilot, radioed "3 wire" to mission control, referring to the best arresting cable for a plane to snag when landing on the deck of a carrier.

NASA television close-ups of the shuttle after its 1.9-million-mile trip showed numerous white marks on the black thermal tiles that protect the shuttle's underside from the heat of re-entry.

But Truly described the damage as "a few minor chips."

"The vehicle is just as clean as it can be," Truly said at a post-landing news conference.

In December, the shuttle Atlantis suffered severe tile damage when it was hit by insulation falling off a booster rocket and fuel tank during the launch.

The crew members were driven to a medical facility for a brief examination and later to meet with their families before flying back to their training base in Houston.

Two loud sonic booms cracked over the Califor-

Please turn to Page 18

Kean disputes opponents of tax proposal

By VINCENT R. ZARATE

The Kean administration has refuted reports of two Republican legislative leaders that only 29 towns would benefit from the \$430 million tax and aid package aimed at lowering property taxes.

"Every municipality in this state will benefit," said Edward McGlynn, chief of staff to Gov. Thomas Kean. "The only taxpayers that would pay more than they receive back are those with incomes of over \$200,000."

McGlynn, speaking for both the Governor, who is on vacation, and the coalition for property tax reform, said the figures given by two Republicans were "misleading" because they used a per capita system and divided that into the total revenue package.

Senate Minority Leader John Dorsey (R-Morris) and Assembly Majority Leader Garabed Haytaian (R-Warren) used figures compiled by the nonpartisan Office of Legislative Services (OLS) to draft a report showing how much taxpayers of each town would pay under the proposal and how much in benefits they will receive.

That proposal, which has passed the Senate, calls for repealing the Ford income tax relief law, which allows homeowners to deduct a portion of their property taxes from their state income tax and permits tenants to deduct a portion of their rent.

In addition, the package calls for imposing a three-cent tax on plastic containers and nearly doubling the wholesale tax on alcohol.

The money would be used for the state to assume the costs of the courts and administration of welfare, add \$95 million more in school aid, provide \$65 million to the fiscally distressed cities program, and create a \$100 million revenue sharing plan to benefit all municipalities.

The problem with the figures given by the two Republicans, McGlynn said, is that they "used a per capita base to determine how much of the plastics and alcoholic beverage tax people in each town would pay, added the Ford repealer to that, and com-

Please turn to Page 9

State master plan to get more time

By GORDON BISHOP

New Jersey's first comprehensive master plan, already more than a year behind schedule, will not be ready for adoption for at least another year-and-a-half at the earliest, according to the State Planning Commission.

The commission is giving the state's 567 municipalities and 21 counties until mid-1990 to complete the "cross-acceptance" process involving the revision of local and regional master plans to conform to the new state plan, Commission Chairman James G. Gilbert announced.

By the time the final master plan is adopted late next year, if then, there will be a new administration in Trenton affecting several department heads involved in the planning process, such as the commissioners of commerce, transportation, environmental protection, community affairs, as well as the secretaries of agriculture and treasury.

Meanwhile, some South Jersey interests are seeking an even greater delay—a three-year "review" process. They say it is necessary to give local and county officials "reasonable time" to respond to the hundreds of policies and guidelines in the preliminary state plan released Jan. 9.

The official document, known as the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, was supposed to be ready for implementation this year, or three years after the Governor signed the State Planning Act into law on Jan. 2, 1986.

But the 17-member planning commission got off to a late start, holding its first official organizational meeting in September 1986 at the Rutgers Student Center in New Brunswick.

The commission then took a year-and-a-half to draft the preliminary plan now being reviewed by municipal and county planners.

Many local officials have complained they cannot complete the first phase of their reviews within six months. That led to requests for exten-

Please turn to Page 15

Jerseyans favor funds for environment, poor

New Jerseyans want more of their tax dollars spent on the environment and assistance programs for the poor, elderly and public schools, according to the latest Star-Ledger/Eagleton Poll.

Janice Ballou, director of the poll, said New Jersey residents "are sending a clear message to their elected officials that environmental issues are a key concern."

Gov. Thomas Kean and the Legislature, who face the challenge of finding an acceptable solution to the state's

The Star-Ledger EAGLETON POLL

budget squeeze, are also viewed very differently by the public, the poll found.

The random telephone survey of 800 New Jersey adults between March 6 and 15 found that Kean, who proposes the state budget to the Legislature, still enjoys a positive rating on his job performance from two-thirds of the residents polled.

Fewer state residents, however, are willing to say he is doing an "excellent" job. In contrast, a majority of the public gives the Legislature negative job performance ratings for the first time in nearly five years.

"Since New Jersey's economic growth has begun to slow down, the Governor and the Legislature are faced with tough budgetary decisions," Ballou noted.

"Whenever people hear about changes that hit them in their pocketbook, they look more critically at the leaders who bring them the message," she added.

While the Governor has found enough support in the New Jersey Sen-

Please turn to Page 18

Stallone takes a challenge 'Rambo' reacts to realism as prison filming wraps up

By RUDY LARINI

Be it Rocky, Rambo or the scrappy kid who grew up on the mean streets of Hell's Kitchen, Sylvester Stallone has never wavered in the face of an adversary.

Which may help explain why the swarthy "Italian Stallion" with the bulging biceps chose to film his latest prison movie at a real penitentiary rather than the safe confines of Hollywood.

"Cause people said I shouldn't—I swear to God," he said in his now-classic basso profundo voice that is as droopy as his eyes and upper lip, almost as if his vocal chords were being tugged down with a heavy rope. "Everyone said I was absolutely insane to try it."

"But if you want to do a movie about prisons and you want to be realistic, you've got to go to a place where first of all it's a challenge," said Stallone, who has spent the last month filming at East Jersey State Prison in Woodbridge. "If I'm not afraid to go somewhere, there's no victory; there's no challenge."

"Everyone said, 'You're crazy to come here. It's never going to work. You'll never last.' We climbed the mountain. We proved them wrong."

After rejecting prisons in New York, Illinois and North Carolina, the filmmakers chose the domed prison off Route

1, primarily because of its architectural appeal, according to Stallone.

"I wanted a place that had a lot of history to it, a certain look—what we call a great background," he said. "Besides the classical architecture, I liked the look of the inmates, the whole thing."

East Jersey, an 88-year-old, maximum-security compound formerly known as Rahway Prison, houses some of New Jersey's most hardened criminals. Stallone said he tried to be as accommodating as he could with the inmates. About 400 were paid the mandatory salary of \$3.35 an hour to appear as extras, and the filmmakers made a contribution to the prisoners' welfare account.

"I felt that within the limits of the restrictions, I would speak with them, I would take pictures, I would give autographs whenever possible in an orderly fashion. I would joke with them and try to keep it as pleasant as possible."

"And I believe the prisoners took a personal interest in this," he added. "The ones that were involved were really enjoying it and they're going to be sorry to see us go."

"But at least they did it. They can be proud of it and they can see themselves on film."

"And I can say that the myth of this prison being this

Please turn to Page 20



Actor Sylvester Stallone and a corrections officer during filming of Stallone's new motion picture at East Jersey State Prison in Woodbridge

Spring Previews

Fashion designers are reflecting the "kinder, gentler" theme this spring, highlighting what can be described as updated classics. But the choices are varied and fresh. See Section 10—SP: Spring Previews for the latest in fashion, style and beauty.