

Warrant Issued For Hayes Ally

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An aspiring model who once worked for murder suspect Royal Kenneth Hayes has been charged with being an accessory in the slayings of a Bay Area couple whose mutilated bodies were found on the UCSC campus in February.

An arrest warrant has been filed for Diane Susan Weller, 31, an attractive redhead who was last seen Feb. 20 in Edina, Minn., in the company of known associates of Hayes. Her present whereabouts is unknown.

She is charged with helping Hayes dispose of evidence and conceal his involvement in the deaths of Lauren deLaet, 36, and Donald MacVicar, 32.

The victims are believed to have been shot in the head, decapitated and buried in a remote area of the UCSC campus Dec. 29.

Hayes, a Hawaiian real estate broker, has been charged with first-degree murder in connection with their deaths.

Weller is also facing a federal arrest



Diane Susan Weller

warrant charging her with unlawful interstate flight, according to District Attorney Art Danner today.

Weller has been sought by authorities since Hayes' arrest in March. A key witness in the case said Weller was present when Hayes' buried the bodies on the campus.

Investigators searched Minnesota and California for Weller but exhausted most of their leads. A tip that Weller was traveling to Hawaii aboard a cruise ship proved unfounded.

At this point, authorities do not know if Weller is dead or alive.

"We have to assume she is alive and not in the area," said Chief Inspector Dick Verbrugge this morning. He conceded there is a "possibility" Weller is dead, however.

Weller, a 1969 high school graduate, spent most of the first 26 years of her life in New Ulm, a south-central Minnesota community of 13,000, according to the Associated Press.

She married Gene Wilfarht in 1971 and

they were divorced four years later.

She then moved to Minneapolis where she worked for Central States Properties Inc., a business owned by Hayes, said the AP.

In November 1976, Weller enrolled at the John Robert Powers School of Modeling in Minneapolis, but dropped out in January 1977, citing "abrupt changes" in her life that would take her to California, said the AP.

Eventually, Hayes and Weller were both living in Hawaii. By fall 1981, Weller was listing two addresses — one for her apartment and the other for Hayes' home on the Kona Coast of Hawaii.

Hayes allegedly engaged in large-scale cocaine trafficking from the residence, according to court documents, the AP reported.

Weller, is described as a white female, 5 feet 9, 120 pounds with blondish-red hair. She is described as attractive and at time wore glasses with a chain around her neck.

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Anyone with information about Weller's whereabouts is asked to call the district attorney's office.

Meanwhile, a man who authorities believe supplied weapons to Hayes has been arrested on suspicion of murder in connection with the death of a Minneapolis man.

James Johnson, 44, has been charged in

connection with the death of Thomas G. Carroll, 32.

Carroll's bullet-riddled body was found in a shallow grave on an island in the Mississippi River the week of April 12.

Johnson's wife, Sondra, 45, has also been arrested in connection with the Carroll murder.

A third man has also been arrested in the case, but his identity was not available at press time.

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