

Crime Spree Soars—Another Murder

Weather

MONTEREY BAY AREA — Rain likely continuing at times through Wednesday. High Wednesday in the 50s. Lows in the 40s. Variable winds becoming southerly.

Temperatures for the 24 - hour period ending at 8 a.m. today: High 53, Low 47. Rainfall: 1.16 inches.

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Today's
Closing
N.Y. Stocks

'Senseless' Slaying Of SC Man

By TOM HONIG

Sentinel Staff Writer

Another Santa Cruz killing.

Fred Perez, 72, 511 Lighthouse Ave., who comes from one of the oldest pioneer families in Santa Cruz, was shot and killed this morning while doing yardwork near his home.

A Police Lt. Chuck Scherer described the slaying as "a senseless, ambush slaying with no motive." He said that the killer fired the shot at Perez from a distance of about 75 yards.

Police have a man in custody in connection with the slaying, which took place at 8 a.m.

Herbert William Mullen, 25, 1541 McClellan Road, Felton, was apprehended by police minutes after the killing as he reportedly was on his way out of town in a blue Chevrolet station wagon. Patrolman Sean Upton nabbed the suspect as he was driving on River Street near Coral Street, and he gave up without a fight, police said.

Police Capt. Dick Overton said that Mullen has not made any statements except to ask police to observe his civil rights.

A neighbor reported the slaying to police. She said that she saw a station wagon leaving the scene of the killing at the

intersection of Lighthouse Avenue and Gharkey Street moments after hearing a sound resembling a gunshot.

She said that she looked over and saw Perez lying on the ground.

Perez had reportedly been moving dirt with a shovel before he was shot. The lot on which he was working is located at the corner of Lighthouse Avenue and Gharkey Street. The house on the lot is occupied by renters.

A sheriff's deputy who was returning home following the graveyard shift at work spotted the man down in the yard, and thinking that he was perhaps

the victim of a heart attack, he said to the man, "you'll be all right." The deputy said that the man at that point was still alive.

Police responding to the call arrived moments after the shooting, while still more police gave pursuit to the getaway car.

A witness at the scene of the arrest said that police discovered a rifle in the car which Mullen was driving.

The Perez family is one of the oldest in the local fishing business. Malio Stagnaro, a good friend of Perez, said that the man's grandfather and

three uncles preceded Perez in the retail end of the business.

Stagnaro said Perez served in China during World War I. After the war, he fought professionally under the name of Freddie Bell for three years.

After he retired a couple years ago, Stagnaro said, he "took things easy" with his wife Margaret. "He worked around the yard, or went fishing. He had no enemies in the world. Everybody like Fred, he was really a fine person. Everybody on the wharf today is in a state of shock — all the boys are really shook up."

James Kennedy, Youth Held In Capitola Death Treasurer, Dies

By DON RIGHETTI
Sentinel Staff Writer

A 16 - year - old door - to - door peddler has been charged with the rape slaying of an elderly Capitola woman.

Wilfried Willie Brown, a California Youth Authority parolee, is being held at the Santa Cruz County Probation Center charged with first degree murder and rape of Mrs. Ida Anderson Stine.

Officers said evidence shows Brown was not involved in

Capitola Police Chief Martin Bergthold issued a statement which indicated the intense investigation which incriminated Brown showed that he acted alone and had "flipped out" - turned psychotic - at the time of the crime. Bergthold said Brown's mental state was not drug - induced.

Brown was a resident of the Drug Abuse Preventive Center, but as part of a special rehabilitation program of the

figure, apparently was raped, smothered and then dumped into a water-filled bathtub of her 208 Sacramento Ave. home. Her body was discovered last Tuesday.

Police knew that Brown and two other DAPC residents had been in the area selling soap to raise funds for the drug abuse center. They questioned the three, apparently narrowed the suspects to two, then arrested a Brown.



A policeman checks over the spot which Fred Perez fell after being shot and killed this morning. Perez had been moving dirt with a shovel and a wheelbarrow when he was shot. In the background, authorities talk with neighbors and passersby in an attempt to find out what happened.

(Sentinel Photo By Pete Amos)

County Treasurer - Tax Collector James A. Kennedy died Monday at his home in Mt. Lerman.

Kennedy, 60, a native of Denver, Colo., was elected to the county post in 1966 and took office the following January. He ran unopposed for a second term in 1970.

Kennedy's main campaign issue in 1966 was his promise to

