

CLUES FADE IN GIRL'S DEATH

Hopes of a quick solution to the kidnapping and murder of an 11-year-old Torrance girl were fading yesterday as police investigators rechecked all clues in the case and released two men who had been held for questioning.

Torrance Police Chief Percy G. Bennett said yesterday his officers were still seeking someone who might have seen the girl, Dorothy Gale Brown, with her abductor sometime after she was last seen near her family's neat trailer home at 1820 Torrance Blvd. Tuesday evening.

Only leads turned up in the case have been the victim's clothing, found Wednesday by a family in the surf near Seal Beach, and the later discovery of a can containing the girl's pink plastic hair band.

Two suspects, one sought since the first hours of the case, were questioned by Torrance police and released. Chief Bennett said they were cleared of any implication in the case.

Funeral services for the girl, called Gale by her parents and friends, will be held at the Stone and

Myers Mortuary Chapel at 11 a.m. Monday with the Rev. Ted Hicks officiating. Burial will be in Roosevelt Memorial Park.

Gale is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Brown; her paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. David Brown of Farmersville, Calif.; and her maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George S. Fults, Paris, Tex.

The nude body of the girl was discovered by skin divers near Corona del Mar about noon Wednesday. It was floating in a kelp bed about 150 yards off shore.

The skin divers, John Klamorick of Whittier and Theodore Chubin of West Covina, called police after finding the body in 25 feet of water. The coroner's report said Gale had been in the water from six to eight hours, and that she had drowned.

About an hour and a half before the body was discovered, the 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shanklin, Long Beach, found the girl's white dress stuffed in a beer can in the water at Tin Can Beach. The dress was taken home and laundered by

Mrs. Shanklin, who said she knew nothing about Gale's disappearance at the time.

After reading about the disappearance in the newspapers, Mrs. Shanklin turned the dress over to police. Mr. and Mrs. Brown identified it here Friday morning.

A pink plastic hair band was discovered later. It was also in a beer can near Tin Can Beach.

Police have questioned several known sex offenders in the area. They also questioned a 45-year-old aircraft mechanic who left his Torrance hotel hastily Tuesday evening, but released him after two hours of questioning.

A Santa Monica truck driver also was picked up for questioning and released.

Little Gale disappeared from the same area where Karen Lynn Tompkins disappeared about a year ago. Gale's bicycle was found parked on the kickstand on 213th Street, near Border Avenue, a block away from her trailer park home.

Her father found the bicycle about 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday after Gale failed to return home. He called police at once.

Police have theorized that Gale might have known her kidnapper. A playmate of the girl, Valerie Edwards, quoted Gale as saying several times, "They'll never kidnap me. They'll never carry me away in a car. I'd run and scream."

Because of the currents in the area where the body was found, police believe that the girl may have been taken to the area by boat.

Lt. R. C. Campbell, Orange County Sheriff's office, was quoted as saying, "The currents at this point would move it toward shore, not away from it."

Divers searching the area where the body was found, as well as the area where the dress was discovered, have failed to turn up any other articles of clothing.

Gale was last seen pedaling toward a carwash where she often bought soft drinks from a vending machine.

Torrance and Los Angeles police and the Orange County Sheriff's Office are cooperating in the investigation.

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A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you think the United States is spending too much money on space exploration?" the Pennies photographer asked.

Anthony Nieto, Harbor City: "No, I think the United States is not spending enough money. In a material way we should spend more. We are accomplishing a lot in space exploration both for defense and offense and also for peaceful purposes."

Ronnie Michael, 25021 Oak, Lomita: "I think it's according to the way you look at it. I try to keep ahead of Russia then we've got to spend the money. I think we are spending too much money on space exploration as a means of war rather than peaceful purposes."

Jim Lorentz, 1927 W. 241st St., Lomita: "I'd say no, because it is important to keep up with other countries. We probably should spend more money on space exploration for peaceful purposes such as communication."

Raymond Lindberg, Wilmington: "No, I think there is a future in space. It seems the Russians are spending more money than we are on space exploration so why shouldn't the United States spend more and get ahead of them?"

James Zemek, 1052 Greenhedge St.: "No I don't. I think there is too much duplication. The Army and Air Force are doing much the same thing in some aspects. I think we are keeping a little ahead of Russia."

AIRPORT DIRT, WEEDS FLAYED

Eight Injured In Holiday Traffic Here

Three persons were injured in a two-car collision Wednesday night at Torrance Boulevard and Donora Avenue.

Involved were cars driven by Robert Henry Pinnell, 47, Redondo Beach, and Robert Thompson Gardner Jr., 32, also of Redondo Beach. All of the injured were taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital.

Injured was Pinnell, who suffered major injuries and passengers in Gardner's car, Robert J. Maria, 7, who also suffered major injuries, and Michele Maria, 10, who had minor injuries. All of the injured were taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital.

IN ANOTHER accident on Wednesday, Edward Leroy

High Speed Chase Ends With Spin

Edward Miller Frazee, 35, of 315 N. Pacific Coast Hwy., was arrested on four charges early Friday morning after he led police on a chase at speeds up to a 100 miles per hour.

Police said the pursuit started on Emerald Street at Hawthorne Avenue and ended at 190th Street and Hawthorne Avenue when Frazee lost control of his vehicle.

FRAZEE'S vehicle entered the intersection at speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour, bounced off a center street divider, made a complete spin-out, bounced off a curb, spun again, jumped the center divider, and came to a stop.

He was arrested on charges of license possession, attempting to evade arrest, reckless driving and misdemeanor drunk driving. When asked why he didn't stop for the red light and siren of the police car, police said Frazee told them he had fallen asleep at the wheel and did not wake until he entered the Hawthorne and 190th Street intersection where his car stopped.

Police said Frazee immediately tried to start his car again after it came to rest and had to be held at gunpoint to prevent him resuming travel.

Brandon Jr., 24, El Segundo, was treated for minor injuries after a one-car collision about 3:57 a.m. at Western Avenue and 209th Street. Police said Brandon was driver of the vehicle. A passenger, Mary Lou Lomanto, 18, of 21300 Halldale Ave., suffered minor injuries but refused aid, police added.

Minor injuries were suffered by two persons Tuesday night in a two-car collision at Crenshaw Boulevard and 251st Street. They were Charles Leroy Doolin, 25, of 628 Harbor Hills, Harbor City, driver of one of the vehicles, and Thelma Marshall, 44, of 1731 Date Ave., passenger in a car driven by Pauline Evelyn Coll, 41, of 2366 W. 237th St. Police said Doolin refused medical aid, and Mrs. Marshall was treated by a private physician.

FIVE-YEAR-OLD Dorothy Ester Stokoe of 22013 Linda Drive was treated for minor injuries at Little Company of Mary Hospital Tuesday after her bicycle was involved in a collision with a car driven by Dolores Marie Klatz, 31, of 21809 Linda Dr.

The accident occurred near 22105 Linda Dr. The vehicle was southbound on Linda Drive and the girl on her bicycle traveling across Linda Drive, police said.

Bandits Armed With Razor in \$250 Robbery

Two bandits robbed a Torrance liquor store of \$250 early Friday morning after threatening the clerk with a straight razor.

The thieves took the money from the Trading Post Liquor Store at 20317 Hawthorne Blvd. about 12:36 a.m. Occupants of the store, Paul Reuter and Gordon Blackwell, told police the bandits ordered them to lay on the floor after taking the money.

One of the suspects held a straight razor against Reuter's neck at one point, he said.



RANCHERO DAYS... Coordinator for the Rancho Days Rodeo Lt. D. C. Cook, left, of the Torrance Mounted Police and Bob Vroman, of the Junior Chamber of Commerce carnival coordinator, met Friday to discuss plans for Rancho Days scheduled for Aug. 1 through 5 on the east side of the Del Amo Shopping Center. Queen of the celebration will be announced Sunday Aug. 5. Part of the proceeds will be used to finance the Torrance float in the Tournament of Roses parade next New Year's Day. (Herald Photo)

Chairmen Map Programs For Rancho Days Fete

Three organizations are actively making plans for the Rancho Days celebration, which will include a mounted parade, rodeo, carnival and beard growing contest.

Sponsoring organizations are the Torrance Elks Lodge, Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the Mounted Police Assn. The event is scheduled for Aug. 1 through 5.

The carnival and rodeo will be held in an area on the east side of the Del Amo Shopping Center between Carson Street and Sepulveda Boulevard.

MOUNTED GROUPS from throughout California and the western states will participate in the parade at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 4, according to chamber officials.

The parade will start at Carson Street and Cabrillo Avenue, precede northwest on Cravens Avenue to Torrance Boulevard where it will go west to Madrona Avenue, turn south and head south on Madrona to Carson where it will turn again and go west on Carson to the show grounds at the shopping center.

An official Rodeo Cowboy Assn. rodeo is scheduled to

start at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 4, and Sunday, Aug. 5.

A DOUBLE Ferris wheel will be the highlight of 20 different rides and attractions at the carnival. Fifteen booths will be sponsored by Torrance service clubs.

Western style clothes will be worn by local merchants to set the mood of the celebration. A cash prize will be offered for the longest beard grown for

Work Nearing Completion

Construction of the Main Street bridge and approaches over Torrance lateral is scheduled for completion this week, according to Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

The project was designed by the bridge division of Los Angeles County Road Dept. and constructed by Arch Construction Co. at a cost of \$73,000.

The event. Contestants in the beard growing contest may start July 9 by showing up clean shaven at the chamber of commerce office, 2244 Torrance Blvd.

Judging for the beard growing contest will be at 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 5, at the carnival grounds.

Each service club is being given the opportunity to nominate a candidate for "Miss Rancho Days" who will be selected by the sale of tickets.

PART OF the proceeds from Rancho Days will be used to finance the Torrance float in the Tournament of Roses parade next New Year's Day in Pasadena.

Council Gets Complaint on Fire Hazards

Complaints about weeds growing around parked aircraft and dirt and stones on the taxiway which were received by the Airport Commission at its last meeting will be passed on to the City Council Tuesday night.

Commissioner Homer Morgan raised the issue of weeds at the June 28 meeting of the commission saying that weeds around parked aircraft presented a fire hazard.

Robert Fitzsimmons of Redondo Beach went further. He complained about lack of service at the airport, said there was no fire protection when aircraft start up, that weeds were growing up around a r-craft, and that weeds had grown around runway lights making night flying hazardous.

ADDING TO the complaints was A. J. Brennan, chairman of the Aircraft Owners Committee, who said dirt and stones on the taxiway at the west end of the field were being kicked up and causing damage to aircraft props and windshields.

All of the complaints have been noted by the commission and passed on for the City Council's attention at its 8 p.m. meeting Tuesday.

A PRE-COUNCIL session has been called for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday to discuss remuneration for members of the city's boards and commissions. Members of the Civil Defense and Disaster Commission last week asked for a token remuneration of \$15 a month to reimburse them for out of pocket expenses in connection with their work.

At the regular meeting, beginning at 8 p.m., the Council will consider an application for a variance to construct an apartment motel at 16640 Crenshaw Blvd.; a variance to the off-street parking ordinance for a project on A. J. Linton Avenue between 229th and 230th streets, and reconsideration of a zone change request for the east side of Crenshaw Boulevard between 231st Street and a proposed 230th Place.

Apartment Permits in June Lead

Building permits for 255 apartment units, valued at more than \$2.6 million, were issued by Torrance during the month of June. A total of 302 permits, valued at \$3,300,152, were reported by the city this week.

The 255 apartment units were covered in 11 permits. Five of the permits were issued to Lionel R. Neufold for the construction of 25 apartment units. The Centaur Corp. was issued permits for two 24-unit apartment buildings valued at more than a million dollars each.

Figures for Torrance topped all other area cities. Total construction in the area was reported 18 per cent higher than a year ago.

Other area cities and their permit valuations include Lomita, \$1,968,400; Redondo Beach, \$1,081,472; Palos Verdes Estates, \$772,670; Gardena, \$562,773; and Lawndale, \$380,850.

West High Begins Counseling Service

Counseling began Thursday, July 5, and will continue through Friday, Aug. 10, at West High School. Parents will be notified two days prior to their scheduled appointment.

Anyone who has not yet made an appointment may do so by calling FAirfax 8-8080, ext. 321.

In The Herald Today

BOOKS	10	REG MANNING	10
ROYCE BRIER	10	CHARLES MCCABE	5
DEATHS	2	MORNING REPORT	10
DELA PLANE	10	OBITUARIES	2
JAMES DORAS	10	OUT OF THE PAST	10
EDITORIALS	10	PUBLIC NOTICES	11
WILLIAM HOGAN	10	SOCIETY	7.9
ANN LANDERS	7	SPORTS	4.5
LEGAL NOTICES	11	TRAVEL	10
MAILBOX	10	WANT ADS	12-16