

Schools seeking closings, busing

By JUDITH CROWN
Staff Writer

School Supt. Dr. Robert P. Robitaille has recommended the closing of five schools and the busing of about 3,000 minority students to predominantly white schools in east Yonkers in an effort to achieve integration and better utilize classroom space.

The five schools recommended for closing are John Burroughs Middle School on Palmer Road, Longfellow Middle School on Seymour Street, Enrico Fermi Middle School at Linden and Poplar Streets, School 6 on Ashburton Avenue and School 34 on Bolmer Avenue.

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'Son of Sam'



DAVID BERKOWITZ
... 44-killer suspect

- Suspect's life story
- Taunted as a child
- He suddenly snapped

The following profile of David Berkowitz was compiled by staff writers Charles Lachman, Barbara Ross and Michael Geylin, with the assistance of John Castellucci, Joan Cirillo and Jennie Tritten.

David Berkowitz experimented with the hallucinatory drug LSD while serving with the U.S. Army in

Korea, apparently tipping his troubled personality into a psychotic state.

While on LSD, Berkowitz wrote letters to friends in the Bronx telling them he had completely changed his personality.

One friend, a 23-year-old Mamaroneck man who asked to be identified only as Jeff, said the letters Berkowitz wrote to him contained occult-like

figures similar to the ones he later used as the Son of Sam.

Berkowitz acknowledged to Jeff that he was using LSD, the friend said.

Berkowitz used to be a sexually active, muscular, nonpracticing Jew with politically conservative views. He lived at home with a mother he adored and a father he disliked.

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— AP Photo
Suspect on the way to hospital

'He can strike anywhere'

By MARY ANN POUST

David Berkowitz, the alleged "Son of Sam" 44 caliber killer, ominously told his fellow postal workers three weeks ago to beware of another attack.

"He can strike anywhere" were Berkowitz' words, according to a co-worker, Howie, who agreed to an exclusive interview with this newspaper but asked that his last name not be used.

THAT GRIM statement from Berkowitz came, according to Howie, during a general conversation during a lunch break at the Bronx General Post Office at 149th Street and Grand Concourse where the hottest topic of conversation was, like everywhere else, Son of Sam.

The discussion that day, according to Howie, centered around a burly postal worker who had dated one of the slain girls. He was saying, in Berkowitz's presence, that he'd like to kill Son of Sam, Howie said.

"That guy is like Jack the Ripper," Howie reportedly said at the time. "You never know where he's going to strike."

It was then, said Howie, that Berkowitz told the postal workers, "He can strike anywhere."

Howie, who like Berkowitz is 24 years old and a Yonkers resident, worked side by side with him as a mail sorter on the 4-12 p.m. shift since April.

"I was kind of friendly with him at work," said Howie. "Most of the other people there never got past hello. He was quite an introverted person."

Howie said he was shocked when he first heard on the radio that Berkowitz had been arrested as the 44 killer. "There were nights when I may have been working next to him and then an hour later he went out and killed somebody," he said.

Berkowitz may have taken a liking to Howie because of their similar backgrounds. Besides being the same age and having the same job, both men are originally from the Bronx and only recently moved to Yonkers, about a mile away from each other.

THEY EVEN took the same route home, although they never drove together in the same car. Once, in conversation, Berkowitz asked about Howie's wife and Howie showed him a picture, he said.

"He just looked at the picture and didn't say anything," Howie said.

Berkowitz never got too deep into personal conversations, according to Howie, but he remembers one incident when Berkowitz talked about a job he'd lost.

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Disco mass murder plot thwarted by his arrest

BY MICHAEL RODDY
JOSEPH KELLY and
DAVID COPITHORNE

Police closed in on the alleged "Son of Sam" just before he apparently planned to end his dark career in a blaze of gunfire at a crowded Long Island discotheque.

The grim plan attributed to the 24-year-old David Berkowitz of 35 Pine Street Yonkers, began to unravel as he was placed under heavy guard at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn. He was taken there for psychiatric observation. Doctors at the hospital will determine whether he is mentally fit to stand trial on

Some 200 persons gathered outside the courthouse shouting: 'Kill! Kill! Kill!'

charges of second-degree murder. If convicted, he could spend the rest of his life in prison.

Some 200 persons gathered outside the Brooklyn Criminal Courthouse, where Berkowitz was brought for arraignment on Thursday. Many of them shouted "Kill! Kill! Kill the bastard."

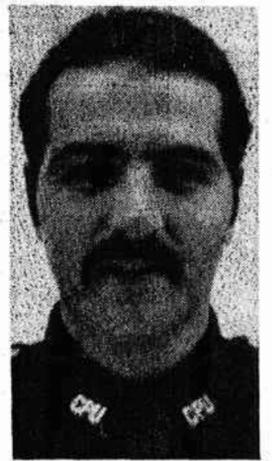
Besides charges of second-degree murder, Berkowitz also is charged with attempted murder, assault and possession of a deadly weapon in connection with the murder of Miss Moskowitz and the shooting of her companion, Robert Violante, as they sat in a car while on a date.

Berkowitz' shirt hung open and the smirk he'd worn when arrested was missing as he grimly nodded a reply to questions during the hearing. Judge Richard Brown directed that he be taken to the hospital and kept segregated from other patients there for a 30-day psychiatric examination.

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OFFICER CHAMBERLAIN
... key to arrest



OFFICER INTERVALLO
... key to arrest



— AP Photo
Scene of plane crash

Greenburgh man dies in private plane crash

WESTPORT, Conn. (AP) — Investigators today were probing the wreckage of a twin-engine plane that crashed in a swampy pond near several homes killing two men and injuring three others, officials said.

The two dead men were identified as Thomas Rae, 30, of Hicksville, the pilot, and Gerald Greene, 36, of Greenburgh, one of four passengers on the Executive Airlines flight, authorities said.

Officials identified the injured as Dr. Joseph Newall, 52, of Pound Ridge, E.K. Allston, 52, of Nyack, and Ronald Greenberg, 41, of Scarsdale. Allston was listed in serious condition and Newall and Greenberg

were in satisfactory condition, a hospital spokesman said.

The plane, on a scheduled flight from Hasbrouck Airport in Bedford, Mass., to Westchester County Airport crashed about 8 p.m. Thursday in a residential area near Partrick Road, police said.

The seven-passenger aircraft struck tall trees and plunged into Cypress Pond, near the Norwalk town line, close to exit 41 on the Merritt Parkway, police said.

"I heard a plane. I heard the power fail, and then I heard it come back on. And then it struck a tree," said Brian Cullen, a pilot who lived nearby and was one of the first at the scene.

Support shown for home for retarded in Hastings

By THOMAS SILVESTRI
Staff Writer

More than 150 residents of Hastings-on-Hudson turned out Thursday night to hear why the state Department of Health wants to operate a group home for mentally retarded adults at St. Matthew's Convent in the village.

"We're trying to spread group homes throughout the county. No one village is singled out," said Charles Awalt, program development spe-

cialist at the Westchester Development Center. "The mentally retarded have a right to live in the village. We have to find them proper homes."

For the first time at a public meeting, the proposed plan received a shot of support from some Hastings residents who welcomed the group home as an opportunity for the village, as one woman put it, "to show its humanistic and generous side."

"I'm hoping that I can tell my

children that they grew up in an intelligent, and rational village that expanded its boundaries to include this group of mentally retarded people," said G. Berger of Chestnut Dr. "I hope we can open up to them."

But the four-hour meeting, Thursday in the village Municipal Building, apparently backfired for a group of convent neighbors who had organized the meeting with the hope that they could persuade the state to find another site. The group had presented a petition signed by 29 peo-

ple "vehemently" objecting to the state's plan to lease the convent to the Hastings Board of Trustees Aug. 1.

At Thursday's meeting, the protesters cited the convent's location at the corner of Vallard Avenue and Broadway as a dangerous safety hazard. "We're not against mentally retarded people," said Dorothy Fields of 22 Elm Place. "But it's inhuman to place mentally retarded adults on that corner. It's a monstrosity of danger."

However, according to Awalt, the state is determined to operate a group home at the convent. He predicted a lease will be signed with St. Matthew's by the end of September and that the first mentally retarded adults will probably start living at the convent Dec. 1.

Outlining the state's proposal along with Awalt Thursday were Elizabeth Bartholomew, consultant, Community Residences Information Service

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