

Man jailed for alleged soliciting

Corrections worker is fourth suspect in Internet sex sting

By MIKE WIGGINS
The Daily Sentinel

A Colorado Department of Corrections employee has been arrested for allegedly soliciting sex over the Internet from a police officer posing as a 14-year-old girl.

Daniel Robert Erd, 48, of Cañon City, is scheduled to appear in a Mesa County courtroom Tuesday, where he could be charged with felony counts of Internet luring of a child, Internet sexual exploitation of a child and promotion of obscenity to a minor.



DANIEL ERD
Allegedly used screen name "hardcandy4u"

Cañon City police and Department of Corrections investigators arrested Erd on May 18. He is free on \$25,000 bond from the Fremont County Jail, according to the Fremont County Sheriff's Department.

Erd could not be reached for comment Friday. A recording indicated his home phone number has been disconnected.

Corrections department spokeswoman Katherine Sangunetti said Erd was fired Friday after working for two years as a law librarian. Sangunetti said Erd helped inmates gain access to law books and other legal materials.

According to an arrest affidavit, Erd began chatting

Erd is the fourth person to be arrested in an Internet sex sting Mesa County investigators conducted over a four-day period in March. Authorities have said they expect to arrest and prosecute nearly 30 people in connection with the investigation.

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FLYING FIDO



A fearless canine jumps Friday in the center ring of the Shrine Circus at Stocker Stadium in Grand Junction. Trainer Hans Close waits to catch one of his performing dogs. At right, Kevin Brown, 11, of Grand Junction looks at Tibor through a sheet of Plexiglas as he waits to have his picture taken with the bear during intermission. The circus continues today at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Photos by DEAN HUMPHREY
The Daily Sentinel



Woman pleads guilty in Web sex assaults

By MIKE WIGGINS
The Daily Sentinel

A Clifton woman pleaded guilty Friday to having two children perform sexual acts on her while she recorded the acts on a Web cam and sent them to a man in Canada.

Debra Slaughenhaupt, 50, pleaded guilty to felony counts of sexual assault on a child by a person in a position of trust and sexual exploitation of a child and a misdemeanor count of child abuse in a plea agreement with prosecutors.

The agreement includes no sentencing provisions, mean-



DEBRA SLAUGHENHAUPT
Admits she molested 3- and 9-year-olds

ing it will be entirely up to District Judge Richard Gurley as to what punishment Slaughenhaupt will receive. The minimum sentence she faces is 20 years to life on probation, while the maximum is four years to life in prison, Mesa County Chief Deputy District Attorney Tammy Eret said.

With a row of family members and friends sitting behind her, Slaughenhaupt appeared subdued in court and had to be prompted

See **GUILTY**, page 10B >

Oil shale water needs still unknown

By MIKE MCKIBBIN
The Daily Sentinel

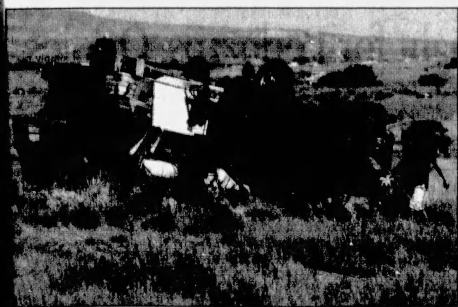
Oil companies that hope to develop Colorado's oil shale deposits must first tell Western Slope residents and governments how

they will affect valuable water resources, conservation groups said Friday.

Western Colorado Congress and six other groups said while water requirements for

traditional mining and surface replot oil shale development are known, estimates for in-situ, or

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DEAN HUMPHREY/The Daily Sentinel

HITCH GLITCH

A woman was taken to St. Mary's Hospital as a precaution Friday afternoon after her red Nissan Xterra veered off U.S. Highway 50, according to the Colorado State Patrol. Trooper Darel said the vehicle, which had three occupants, went off the road because of "mechanical failures" in the trailer hitch.

Go-kart driver died of heart attack during birthday party at fun park

By AMY HAMILTON
The Daily Sentinel

A 37-year-old man from Grand Junction who died at Bananas Fun Park on Thursday night suffered from a severe underlying heart disease, according to the results of an autopsy from the Mesa County Coroner's Office.

Kenneth Elliott died of natural causes from a cardiac arrest, and there were no drugs or alcohol in his system, according to the report.

Chris Burns, who owns the park at 2649 River Road with his wife, Heather, said he saw Elliott crash the go-kart he was driving.

Burns said he watched the man drive the go-kart down the left-hand side of the rail before making a sharp turn with the vehicle into the opposite side of the track, colliding with the track's guardrail about three-fourths head-on.

Burns said he couldn't determine

how fast the man was driving, but speeds on the go-karts top out at 18 mph.

Burns said he and members of his staff administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation to Elliott before emergency personnel arrived on the scene at 7:30 p.m.

The park and go-kart track were open Friday, Burns said.

Burns said the go-kart the man died in has been checked out by police and did not malfunction. It has been returned to the track, Burns said.

The findings of the coroner's office have led police to close their investigation, Grand Junction Police Department spokeswoman Linda Bowman said.

Burns said Elliott was at the park with a group of 25 people for a birthday party.

Any Hamilton can be reached via e-mail at ahamilton@gjds.com.

YOU SAID IT

HERE'S WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND

Thank you, Tammy Eret
I sat through the last day of Edward Morfin's child molestation trial, and there are not enough words to say how much family and friends of all of the victims can say to Tammy and her staff to show heartfelt appreciation.

In response to intra-party discussions as to whether Rep. Al White is "Republican enough," you might consider the old proverb: The clash of ideas is the sound of freedom.

An urge also think it's time for the intersection of 24 and G roads to have arrows installed on the stoplight?

I stopped attending the downtown farmers' market on Main Street because of the numerous dogs. Everyone is not thrilled to be around your dogs. Having a large dog at eye level with my child in a stroller is stressful, no matter how friendly you say your dog is.

I totally agree that DA Pete Hautringer should prosecute — not the person that shot the cat, but the cat's owner. People let their cats out of their house to do their business around the neighborhood... not on the owner's property. If you can't control your animals, get rid of them or your neighbors will.

Where were the police to direct traffic Thursday morning when all of the traffic lights were out on Horizon Drive? We wouldn't have needed them other than the fact that so many people in this town don't know how to drive. Reminder: If a traffic light is out, treat it like a four-way stop: don't just speed through all of them like you have the right of way.

I appreciate our community's commitment to the "war on meth," but the Northridge bust was a joke. Some needs to reveal how much it actually cost the city to conduct the bust, compared to the street value of one-half gram of meth.

Why not declare a general amnesty for American criminals? Why not start everyone with new points on their driver's license? We should stick to deporting illegal immigrants. It would take a long time to waste through 12 million or so, but if we enforced the border, stopped chain immigration, and even developed a national identity card (I admit that's an ugly thought), we could make it happen.

City Council, please help us. The intersection at 28 1/2 Road and U.S. Highway 50 South has had another two fatalities. This intersection has been brought to your attention before in meetings regarding growth on Orchard Mesa. Several council members at the time agreed something would need to be done. Well, now is the time. How many more deaths will it take? Please put in a traffic light to help drivers negotiate this intersection.

It must be nice, living in your rose-colored, liberal world, where all is well with the world, no woes, no terrorists out to blow us off the map. That big, bad, mean Bush is just trying to scare us. Well, thanks to Bush, the terrorists haven't been successful since 9/11.

Have your say. Call 256-4225 or e-mail youasaidit@gjds.com. For more, visit www.GSentinel.com.

Aries (March 21-April 19). You're being considered to step into a new position. The most charming candidate wins. Of course you have a sharp competitive instinct, but a genial approach bolsters your popularity.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). Loved ones may try to get you to stick to a financial plan. When are they going to learn that money is an emotional matter, and you simply can't put neat price tags on your emotions?

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Your inner life is as important as your outer life when it comes to having fun. Leisure is good for your heart and your productivity, especially if you can lose that tickertape in your head that keeps going on about work.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Just because something makes you happy doesn't mean it's selfish.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're letting go again, and you'll soon feel worry-free. Your body still holds the memories of things you've forgotten.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The ascribic and witty Fran Lebowitz said that your chances of winning the lottery are identical whether you play or not. She doesn't understand that a Sagittarius on a good day such as this one can beat all odds.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Someone is serving up some kind of messy energetic delicacy. It doesn't mean you have to dig in.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Relationships need nurturing, silence and contemplative understanding.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). You may be a little down, but you're in no way out.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There it goes — the frazzle and crackle of your plans breaking into little pieces. Maybe the wrong people were on the schedule. Or the location was a bust.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Welcome to a perfect day balanced with myriad activities. Whether you like the visiting, cleaning, listening to music or the sitting and thinking best, it's all there.

Horoscopes

HOLIDAY MATHS

Following your own bliss helps others, too.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). The poetry in your life is turned up a few notches as your muse drops in for a long overdue visit. An inspired evening is ahead. Go on a date. Just you, the night and your tunes.

Today's birthday (June 9). You're accepted for being yourself this year. The career moves you make in August may not seem monumental, but you're gaining an excellent reputation among respected peers. That

translates into a lucrative fall season. By December you have the money to do something you've always wanted to do.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There it goes — the frazzle and crackle of your plans breaking into little pieces. Maybe the wrong people were on the schedule. Or the location was a bust.

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DEATH NOTICES

Raymond W. Brunner, 83, Fruita, died June 7, 2007. Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday at Martin Mortuary Services will take place at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Memorial Gardens.

Survivors include one son, Spencer of Albuquerque, N.M.; one daughter, Kelle Roberts of Fruita; one sister, June Falbert of Grand Junction; nine grand-children; and seven great-grandchildren.

Wesley "Wes" Edwards, 88, Delta, died June 7, 2007, at his home. Services will take place at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Paonia.

Mr. Edwards was a heavy equipment business owner. Survivors include one step-son, William "Bill" Bussey of Saratoga, Wyo.; two step-daughters, Bonnie Rollins of Cedroford and Kathi Cramer of Delta; one sister, Dolores Livsby of Paonia; 11 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice and Palliative Care of Western Colorado, P.O. Box 24, Delta 81416 or to the North Fork Alliance Association, P.O. Box 127, Hotchkiss 81419.

WATER: State is expected to submit comments next week

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in-ground, production such as that proposed at five Rio Blanco County sites haven't been made public.

Western Colorado Congress oil shale organizer Cathy Kay said the water would likely have to come from a combination of Colorado's unused share of the Colorado River, "if any remains," and from agricultural and ranching operations.

"Two things really get to me," she said. "If it takes two barrels of water to produce one barrel of oil, then the hydro-treating is going to take a hell of a lot of water."

The group said in-situ methods require water to cleanse the production zone after the oil is extracted.

For example, Kay said Shell recently disclosed in a permit application for its research, development and demonstration site that it will have to rinse its underground production area more than 20 times with up to 4 acre-feet each day for more than two years.

Shell spokeswoman Jill Davis said the company would recycle and reuse that 4 acre-feet, "so it's not a new 4 acre-feet of water each day."

Davis said Shell is "motivated" to see if the water needs as part of its commitment to responsible oil shale development.

"We think it's a valid concern to want to understand the ultimate impacts of water with oil shale," she said. "But we don't know for sure if we're going to go to a commercial plant, so it would be speculation to say how much water we'll need when we don't know what the plant will look like."

A one- to three-million barrel-per-day production level, as envisioned by the Bureau of Land Management, would require approximately 150,000 acre-feet a year, according to a Las Alamos, N.M., analysis, Kay said.

Nature's share of Colorado is expected to submit its comments on the preliminary draft oil shale and tar sands leasing programmatic environmental impact statement.

"This is critical information that we need to plan for our future and underscores why we need to be careful," Kay said. "We shouldn't rush into commercial development of oil shale until research and development projects prove it can be done with the water we have available."

SOLICITING: He allegedly sent photo of self

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online on March 8 with an investigator who indicated she was a 14-year-old girl named "Talia" from Grand Junction. Erd, using the screen name "hardandyftn", identified himself as a 25-year-old man from the Colorado Springs area.

After sending a picture of himself and asking for a picture of "Talia" — police sent a picture of a teenage girl provided by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation — Erd told her she was cute, that she would be a "real tasty treat" and began describing performing sexual acts on her.

Erd also sent her a picture of male genitalia and began describing having sex with the girl, the affidavit said.

When the investigator posing as the girl asked about being friends, Erd responded "we could have our own little secret getaway" and discussed meeting in Grand Junction so he could teach her about sex, the affidavit said.

Investigators later applied for a court order and learned the screen name "hardandyftn" belonged to Erd. A driver's license photograph of Erd provided to investigators by the Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles matched the picture Erd sent to "Talia," the affidavit said.

Three other men have been arrested and charged in connection with the sting. They are David Landin, 37, of Clifton; John Merritt, 24, of Grand Junction; and Nathaniel Metzler, 24, of Westminster.

GUILTY: 5 kids, mother move from home

Continued from page 1B

on multiple occasions by Gurley to answer questions out loud. The girls had been periodically during the hearing.

Sentencing is scheduled Aug. 13. Slauchenhaupt was arrested in March after a federal Internet child pornography investigation uncovered hundreds of child pornography images on a man's computer in Toronto, Canada. Some of the images were linked to Slauchenhaupt, according to court records.

Investigators reviewed 62 pages of Internet chat text over an eight-month period last year in which the Toronto man, 26-year-old Matthew Hughes, asked Slauchenhaupt to have the children, ages 9 and 3, perform sexual acts on her. He sent the images via a Web camera, according to court records.

Slauchenhaupt had the two girls, one of whom is disabled, touch her breasts and other private areas. The chat text revealed Hughes and Slauchenhaupt engaged in several sexually explicit conversations about the sex acts, according to court records. Slauchenhaupt admitted in an interview with investigators that she had molestated the girls, police said.

Investigators who searched Slauchenhaupt's house found five children between the ages of 3 and 12, including the two girls who were molested, as well as feces and moldy food. Four of the five children interviewed told investigators they had viewed pornography on the computer while Slauchenhaupt and her husband were in the room, according to court records.

The five children and their mother lived with Slauchenhaupt, although they later moved out. "This is just another example of the fact that we need to be as proactive as possible and as vigilant as possible" in investigating and prosecuting Internet sex crimes, District Attorney Pete Hautzinger said after Friday's hearing. Slauchenhaupt remains in the Mesa County Jail on \$100,000 bond.

Tell Me About It

CAROLYN HAX

another man (especially single) to be a good commentator on our lives.

—Va. Mention your discomfort to your wife, and it'll begin what could be a great conversation.

Your wife is entitled to interact with her friends without an ankle bracelet. You are entitled

to your privacy. The point of your great conversation with your wife will be to find where you draw that line in your marriage.

However, it can't hurt to find out where you draw it yourself. What if her friend were gay? Could you trust him "entirely" then?

That might tell you whether

it's your ego you're worried about, or your marriage. If, for example, you just don't want hetero guys dishing with her wife, especially not single heterosexual guys, then please explore why your marriage seems vulnerable now — or worse, vulnerable always, if these jealousy bouts aren't uncommon.

A concern that your wife might stray suggests she's either open to attention or unwittingly inviting it, or you think she is. All these are a much bigger deal than some too-freely shared personal dirt. It warrants a different conversation.

Lives Lived

Obituaries

William Richard Pewters

June 1, 1932 - June 7, 2007

Bill was born in St. Paul, Minnesota to William P. Pewters and Muriel E. (Perron) Pewters.

"My life was defined by my baptism, family, children, church, A.A., U.S. Army, a good education, deacon or elder in the Catholic Church, and great friends, especially Jim Grissler with whom I shared a weekly lunch for over twenty years."

Bill attended school in St. Paul, Minnesota, graduating in 1950 from Creton High School and from the College of St. Thomas in 1957. He served his country in the Army in Korea in the early 1950s and was a life member of VFW Post 1247.

Bill and his family moved to Grand Junction in 1969. He is survived by his former wife, Delores, children: Mike and Kathi Pewters, Cathy and Bill Roberts, Mary Jensen, Carrie and George Euler, and 11 grandchildren; Michelle Pewters, Nathan and Kyle Gough, Wesley (Jaques), Shannon and Taylor Roberts, Rachel and Forrest Jensen, Karlie, Katelyn, and Jamie Euler. Brother Jim, and wife Judy, nieces Maria and Nancy in California. Grandson John Pewters preceded him in death.

Bill retired from the Daily Sentinel in 1997, where he was promotional and marketing director.

Bill was ordained a deacon in the Catholic Church at the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Denver in 1985. He later transferred to the Diocese of Pueblo and served as a deacon at St. Joseph's Catholic Church until his death.

Bill served on numerous community boards, including the Brownson Fund, Salvation Army, Downtown Association, The Ridges Metro District, when annexation to the City of Grand Junction was approved, and several advisory boards: Museum of Western Colorado, and Mesa Developmental Services. He also served on committees for the Rim Rock Run and Red Ribbon Run. He was a long time member of the Latin-Anglo Alliance, Museum of Western Colorado, Colorado National Monument Association, and Redlands Middle School Accountability Committee. He was also Honorary Chaplain for the "Dirty Dozen."

Bill credited the Veteran's Hospital Emergency Room with saving his life in 1979. He later served as a Chaplain there for three years. To all he wishes God's Blessings.

Services: Rosary: Monday June 11, 2007, 7:00 p.m. at St. Josephs Catholic Church 330 White Avenue. Mass: Tuesday, June 12, 2007, 11:00 a.m. at St. Josephs Catholic Church 330 White Avenue. Burial: Tuesday, June 12 at 1:00 p.m. with Military Honors at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado.

At Bill's request Memorial Contributions can be made to Catholic Outreach, 245 S. 1st Street, Grand Junction, CO 80501, or Brownson Fund, P.O. Box 2804, Grand Junction, CO 81502.

Glenn L. Tabb

July 25, 1913 - May 2, 2007

Glenn L. Tabb, an over 60 year resident of Hayden, passed away on May 2, 2007 at the Family Health West in Fruita, CO. Glenn was born to Anna and Porter Tabb in Montezuma, Kansas on July 25, 1913. He was 93. Glenn arrived in Hayden 1934 and married Pauline Purcell in 1935.

Glenn's parents, Pauline, one grand child and eight siblings preceded him in death.

Glenn started out as a certified automobile mechanic in Hayden, soon worked his way into part and finally full ownership of the Hayden Valley Dairy where he served the Craig, Hayden, Mt. Harris, and Bear River communities. In the 1940's Glenn bought a half interest, with Howard Bailey, in a wheat farm South of Hayden. Later the acreage was split and each partner operated his own farm. Glenn and Pauline remained on the farm until his retirement. Glenn was active in community affairs, served as Mayor, President of the School Board, President of the Co-op Board, President of the Lions Club, and was active in the Masonic Lodge. Glenn was a founding and very active member of the Hayden Roping Club for over 50 years and was a mentor to many young ropers.

Glenn is survived by son Duane and his wife Patty of Springfield, Ohio, daughter, Glenda and her husband Pome Camilletti of Loma, Colorado, and son, Dr. Roger and his wife Sandra Tabb of Portland, Oregon, ten grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at the Hayden Congregational Church at 2:00 pm on June 14, 2007. A reception will follow the service in the Church Parish House.

Memorials may be contributed in Glenn's name to the Hayden Congregational Church, 202 E. Jefferson Ave., Hayden, CO 81639

Elizabeth Mary "Sissy" Hatch

September 13, 2001 - June 6, 2007

Elizabeth Mary "Sissy" Hatch passed away June 6, 2007 in Orchard Mesa. She was five years old.

Sissy, as everyone knew her was born on September 13, 2001 in Grand Junction from the union of Denny Hatch and Edith Greenfield. She attended Lincoln Orchard Mesa Elementary where she was in preschool. She loved to collect dolls of all kinds and would spend hours playing with them, dressing them as well as playing dress-up herself. Sissy definitely had an active imagination and would often be heard saying "You, my angel!" Sissy had an innocent love of life.

Survivors include her parents: Denny Hatch of Grand Junction, CO and Edith Greenfield of Clifton, CO and her brother Elijah Hatch of Grand Junction, CO. Other survivors include paternal grandparents: Karen and Mike Shawler, Danny and Carla Hatch. Maternal grandparents: Adelia and Tom Kibel, Edwin and Marie Scheuerman, paternal great-grandparents: Chuck and Mary Ann Roswell and Benny and Opal Hatch and maternal great grandmother Bertha Russell.

Sissy was preceded in death by her maternal great grandfather Lallate Russell.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, June 11, 2007 at Martin Mortuary with Pastor Scott Porter officiating and interment to follow services at Grand Junction Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

A visitation time will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Sunday, June 10, 2007 at the mortuary.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Elizabeth Hatch Memorial Fund c/o Rio Grande Federal Credit Union, 760 Road Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Martin Mortuary.



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*Life has moments that give you joy
Life has moments that give you love
Life has moments that give you hope
Life has moments that give you faith
Life has moments that give you peace*

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