



Dale Bradley Charged in Killing of Bryan Patrick Ruff

From Fred Bornhofen, Case Manager, Detective Todd Park, Sergeant Jerry Townsend, Richard D. Walter, VSM

Sergeant Jerry Townsend of the Salt Lake City Police department had sought the advice of the Vidocq Society on September 21, 2001 for a case that sat cold since 1991.

Then with help from the Vidocq Society, Detective Todd Park of the Salt Lake City Police department was able to compile enough evidence to have the Salt Lake City District Attorney's office charge Dale Bradley with First Degree Murder for the killing of Bryan Patrick Ruff.

It was determined that Mr. Ruff was killed by Mr. Bradley for having an affair with Kristi Bradley, the suspect's first wife. Paint from the crime scene was matched to the suspect's car.

The affair came to light during the initial investigation but there was not enough evidence to charge a suspect and the case went cold. The Ruff case was reopened when Detective Park learned that Mr. Bradley was a suspect in the death of his second wife, Crystal Bradley in Carbon County, Utah. According to Detective Park, Dale Bradley is still a suspect in the murder of Crystal Bradley. The investigation is ongoing and, "they are continuing to compile a case to charge him in that one as well."

Mr. Bradley and Mr. Ruff were good friends at the time of Bryan's murder. They both worked for a security company that contracted services to Kennicott Copper mine in Salt Lake City. One day Mr. Ruff disappeared. He was later found buried in the desert, shot five times.

**"veritas EST veritas"
truth IS truth**

Forensic ArcheoToxicology of the H.L. Hunley Submarine

By Michael F. Rieders, Ph.D., VSM, Chief Science Officer, Forensic ArcheoToxicology Institute, Forensic Toxicologist/Lab Director, National Medical Services, Inc., Willow Grove, Pa.

The H.L. Hunley Submarine was a stealth, technological terror created during the Civil War by a group of ingenious Confederate scientists and soldiers in order to attempt to break the Naval blockade and stranglehold that the Union frigates and warships had deployed to cut off the South's supply of materials and goods.



This 40-foot long, 4-foot by 4-foot, hand-cranked cast and plate iron creation contained many of the engineering designs and devices that are used on modern submarines today. This submarine was a prototype for all that followed. Today's powerful nuclear submarines are the decedents of this extraordinary achievement in 19th century marine warfare and the H.L. Hunley is truly the crown jewel of marine archeology.

— continued on page 4

Contents

Dale Bradley Charged	1
H. L. Hunley Submarine	1, 4 and 5
Bookspan's Bullets	2 and 3
Friend Confesses	5
Wife Pleads Guilty	5 and 6
Solve the Mystery	6

Bookspan's Bullets

By Dr. Jolie Bookspan, Science Officer of the Vidocq Society

Happy New Year. In each issue of "Bookspan's Bullets" we bring you a column of summarized forensic education. Enjoy.

🔍 Tennessee 'Body Farm' Studies Corpse Decomposition

The Anthropological Research Facility in Tennessee studies decomposition of human corpses. Bodies are left lying in various environments, such as a wooded area, a pool of water, or the trunk of a car. The bodies are real and donated to forensic science. The purpose is to study key forensic identifiers as time of death, insect colonization changes with environment and temperature, and whether a body has been moved from one location to another. The Body Farm is described in a novel of the same name, written by Patricia Cornwell.

-The Forensic Science Service press release Sept 2005.

🔍 Body Hanging from Tree is Mistaken for Halloween Decoration

At the end of October, 2005, a dead body hanging from a tree, easily seen from passing vehicles on a busy Delaware road went unreported for hours. The body of a woman was hanging from the neck by a rope tied to a tree branch about 15 feet above the ground. Neighbors said they noticed the body at breakfast time but dismissed it as a Halloween decoration. Authorities were called to the scene more than three hours later.

- CNN News Friday, October 28, 2005

🔍 The Stomach May Be a Better Lie Detector

Preliminary research from the University of Texas shows that people who lie could be caught by the reaction of their stomachs. Researchers developed a new test that uses a device called an electrogastrogram (EGG). The EEG determines the speed of a person's stomach contractures, or "beats," which are normally at three per minute. Preliminary findings show that the stomach's rate does not increase if the person is telling the truth, no matter how nervous they may be. In contrast, a person's heartbeat can increase whether the person is telling a lie or the truth. Researchers hope the new technique could improve accuracy of polygraphy, which relies on heart rate response. Research team leader Pankaj Pasricha states, "The heart is unreliable because it's affected by not only by your brain, but by many

other factors, such as hormones. The gut has a mind of its own – literally. It has its own well-developed nervous system that acts independently of almost everything except your unconscious brain."

Kevin Murphy, a psychologist at Penn State University recently headed a panel for the US National Academy of Sciences to analyze the science behind polygraph devices. He stated, "Polygraph detectors, whatever their ilk, measure stress and not lying. There is no accepted scientific model that links the body's stress reactions to lying. So, while there may be experimental data for a correlation between the two, the lack of a known causal link leaves room for uncertainty in polygraph tests. This new test might give more, potentially very useful, data."

-NewScientist.com news October 2005

🔍 Brain Changes in Pathological Liars

The brains of pathological liars have structural changes that could make lying come naturally to them. Adrian Raine, psychologist at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, found that pathological liars have, on average, more white matter in the prefrontal cortex of their brain and less gray matter than people who are not habitual liars. White matter enables quick, complex thinking. Gray matter controls inhibitions. Previous studies brain imaging studies show that the prefrontal cortex is active during lying, and that people

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Bookspan's Bullets — *continued from page 2*

with less gray matter tend to break more rules and care less about moral transgressions. These are the first biological differences to be discovered between pathological liars and the general population. Raine says the combination of extra white matter and less gray matter could give people the right mix of traits to make them good liars. Raine believes that having more white matter makes people better at the process of lying.

Other researchers point out a different interpretation. Psychologist Bella DePaulo who studies deception at the University of California, Santa Barbara, points out that not all lies are more complex than truths, nor do they necessarily require more inhibition. "People sometimes practice telling their false tales. After a while, the made-up story may come to mind more readily than the true one," she says.

- *British Journal of Psychiatry, October 2005*

☞ Prisoner Escapes After Posing as Identical Twin

British police launched a hunt for 17-year-old Gary O'Donnell who escaped from jail after posing as his identical twin brother. Gary O'Donnell was serving a four-and-a-half year sentence for assault at Polmont Young Offenders' Institution in Stirlingshire, central Scotland. Gary's identical twin John was due for release from the same cell block after serving a 60-day sentence for motoring offences. Gary presented himself when his brother John's name was called. The officers did not realize the switch and let Gary go. The Polmont Institution was obliged to free John, as he had served his full term. Prison officials said an investigation was under way.

- *AFP Saturday, November 5, 2005.*

☞ Forensic Terminology

Entomology - The scientific study of insects. Previously thought to provide forensic investigators with accurate indicators of time of death. However, it is now known that the type of insects that colonize a body after death, and their state of development changes with weather and the condition of the body making determination difficult without other information.

☞ Thank You to the Vidocq Society

Dr. Jolie Bookspan-Plevakas sincerely thanks the Vidocq society for their friendship and thoughtfulness during her hospitalization and major surgery in October.

For your kindness, she quotes Albert Schweitzer, "At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

For the hospital's many mistakes, she quotes Groucho Marx. "I've had a wonderful time. This wasn't it."

Happy New Year 2006 Vidocq Society

May many crimes be solved
and may the Society stay
strong. Good health to our
members and their loved
ones.

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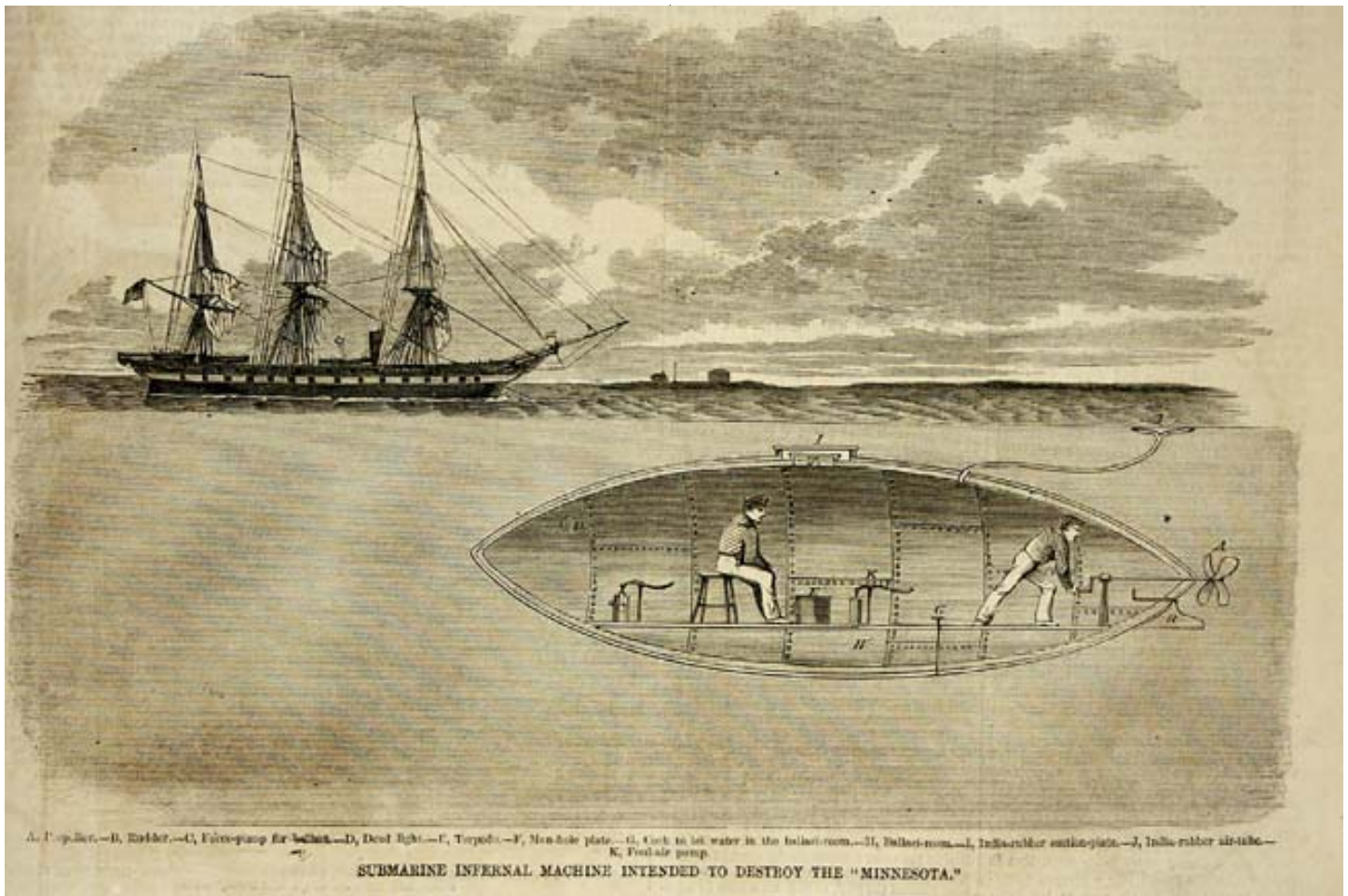
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Forensic ArcheoToxicology of the H.L. Hunley Submarine — *continued from page 1*

The submarine was recovered intact; the remains of the crew have been disinterred, and the bones, skulls, teeth, hair, and other material have been brought out of the sub and conserved by an anthropology and archeology team at the Warren Lasch Conservation Center in Charleston, SC.

On January 27, 2003, Drs. Michael and Fredric Rieders traveled to the conservation center. Under the watchful eyes of the Friends of the Hunley, we examined the remains of the crew for purposes of collecting archeotoxicologic samples for atomic and molecular forensics analysis. The specimens we collected exceeded everyone's wildest expectations. Numerous



high-quality samples were collected for a whole range of analyses. The archeology team consisted of international leaders in pathology, anthropology, artifact conservation, photo documentation, and human identification molecular biology, along with the two forensic archeo-toxicologists from National Medical Services.

The analytical phase of this project will now proceed at the Fredric Rieders Family Renaissance Foundation's Forensic ArcheoToxicology Institute (known as FATI) in coordination with National Medical Services.

The team will schedule regular briefings to NMS staff on progress made. As always, with work performed in our organizations, the results will be kept confidential until release is authorized by the Director of the H.L. Hunley Conservation team. We are all very excited about being part of this world-class, history-making event: *The Adventure of Discovery Continues!*

More Information on the H.L. Hunley

Submarine Forensics

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2004/04/photogalleries/submarineforensics/>

Desert News Story

www.deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,595103791,00.html

The Hunley Website

www.thehunley.com

The Hunley Family website

<http://www.ourfamilynewsletter.net/official.asp?name=Hunley>

Hunley Photo Archive

<http://www.navsource.org/archives/08/08443.htm>

The Hunley Museum

1250 Supply St, building 255
North Charleston, South Carolina 29405

Costs: \$10.00 plus service charge

Hours: Mon-Sat: 10-5; Sun: 12-5

Local Phone: (877) 448-6539

This tour gives you the history of the Hunley mission, the men aboard, and the recovery of the sub. Displays include: the Hunley submarine, Dixon's coin, and other recovered artifacts. Before you start the actual tour you will find many interesting collectibles in the gift shop, and you will also be able to get in a replica of the sub. This gives you an idea of how it worked, and the tight quarters in which the confederate soldiers had to make their attack on the Housatanic.

Friend Confesses in the Murder of Devon James Laughman,

Fred Bornhofen, Case Manager

Corporal George Cronin and Trooper Blochichak of the Pennsylvania State Police have informed the Vidocq Society that with their help a warrant has been issued in the killing of Devon James Laughman. Andrew Ensminger the friend of Mr. Laughman will plead guilty to 3rd degree homicide.

Vidocq Society members analyzed the evidence of the October 1999 killing and the 911 call and came to the conclusion that everything pointed to a deliberate shooting and the staging of a crime.

Cpl. Cronin and Trooper Blochichak went back, did more homework and confronted Mr. Ensminger who admitted loading the gun, holding his friend at gunpoint then shooting him. Immediately after his confession he changed his mind but the District Attorney had enough evidence and authorized a warrant. He never fully confessed and never explained the semen on the victim. Cpl. Cronin was of the opinion that he killed Laughman just to see him die, but the shooter never gave a reason for the killing.

During the initial investigation Andrew Ensminger admitted he shot and killed Devon Laughman in his home. Mr. Ensminger claimed that he did not load the gun and that he accidentally shot his friend. He bragged about the shooting to friends and took pride in his reputation of being a killer.

Cpl. Cronin thanked the Society for their help and asked if he could come back with another case.

The case was presented to the Society on April 2005.

Wife Pleads Guilty in Poisoning of Husband

By Odell Guyton, VSM, The News & Observer, By Cindy George And Jennifer Brevork, staff reporters, Fred Bornhofen, Case manager

Ann Miller Kontz pleaded guilty in the arsenic poisoning of her late husband Eric Dwayne Miller, 30, a pediatric AIDS researcher. Mrs. Kontz will be charged with 2nd degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder in the 1st degree. She faces 25 years to 31 years for the charges.

— continued on page 6

Wife Pleads Guilty in Poisoning of Husband — *continued from page 5*

The Vidocq Society assisted in many ways including a forensic computer exam of the parties involved. The case hinged on the testimony of attorney, Richard T. Gammon. Mr. Gammon represented Derril Willard who was having an affair with Mrs. Kontz at the time of her husband's death. Mr. Willard later committed suicide.

During a bail hearing Mr. Gammon refused to divulge his conversations with Mr. Willard regarding Mr. Miller's death. Mr. Gammon appealed the judge's order all the way to the state Supreme Court. On Aug. 22, 2003, the Supreme Court ruled Gammon must tell a judge privately what Mr. Willard told him about Mr. Miller's death. Wake Superior Court Judge Donald W. Stephens Jr. ordered Mr. Gammon to tell investigators what Mr. Willard told him about Mr. Miller's death.

Mr. Gammon told Wake Assistant District Attorney Becky Holt how Willard and Kontz allegedly met in a parking lot and had a conversation in a sport-utility vehicle. Willard stated that a tearful Kontz said she had been by herself in Miller's hospital room. She then told

Mr. Willard that she took a syringe and needle from her purse and injected the contents of the syringe into Mr. Miller's IV.

[Willard] then stated that he asked Mrs. Miller why she had done this, and she replied, 'I don't know.' Mr. Willard surmised that Mrs. Miller was attempting to end Mr. Miller's suffering from his illness with these actions." Willard also told his lawyer that he knew nothing else about Miller's death.

Mrs. Kontz was a researcher at GlaxoSmith Kline where she had access to arsenic. She had an extramarital affair with her co-worker Derril Willard. Mr. Willard killed himself in 2001.

Willard's suicide note reads, "The world looks black to me. All I can see is the smearing of my name, pain caused to my family, personal humiliation and probable economic ruin" Willard also wrote that he had "taken no one's life."

The case was presented to the Society by Odell Guyton, VSM in December 2003.

Solve the Mystery

What role did shellfish play in the Cold War?

If you know the answer email us at: paudav1@earthlink.net

Last Journals answer: What is Jack the Rippers name?

Many theories exist but there is no definitive answer as to who was Jack the Ripper.

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To:

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