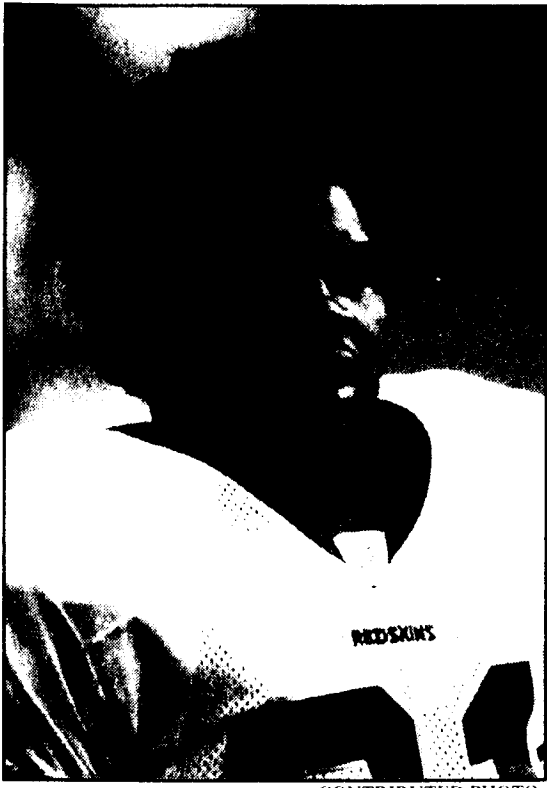


NEWS

Redskins' Sean Taylor dead at 24



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Redskins safety Sean Taylor died early on Tuesday

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Sean Taylor, former safety for the Washington Redskins passed away in a Miami hospital on Tuesday. His death is attributed to a gunshot wound he received in his home the previous day.

According to Miami police, the shooter was, "An intruder who forcibly entered his residence" and they have no suspects. In their statement, the police say that Taylor died at 3:30 a.m. and the case is being treated as a homicide.

According to Taylor's former lawyer, Richard Sharpstein, a 911 call was made by Taylor's girlfriend Jackie Garcia at 1:45 a.m. on Monday, claiming Taylor had been shot. According to Garcia, she was hiding under her bedcovers during the attack.

Taylor, Garcia, and their 18-month-old child were awakened by noises in their living room. Taylor went to lock their bedroom door, but was interrupted when it was kicked in. The intruder entered their bedroom and fired two shots. One hit Taylor in the leg, the other hit the wall. Taylor fell to the floor, and laid there until paramedics arrived. Garcia tried

calling 911 from their home's landline telephone, but the line was nonoperational. Authorities are unclear as to whether the phones were just broken, or if they had been tampered with. Garcia eventually reached 911 with her cellular phone.

According to Sharpstein, "Whether this was a purposeful action in taking Sean's life in shooting him, or whether it was a burglary gone awry, the police are still investigating those circumstances."

There have been murmurings of foul play being involved in Taylor's slaying. Arizona Cardinals cornerback and lifelong friend of Taylor's Antrel Rolle claimed Taylor anticipated an attempt at his life. Rolle said Taylor was, "pretty much scared every day of his life... They've been targeting him for three years now," he told the AP. Rolle played sandlot football with Taylor then they were children, and played with him at the University of Miami. Rolle claims that certain people were unhappy with Taylor's choice to be a family man and leave his past behind. "There were many people targeting Sean, a lot of jealousy, a lot of angry people," Rolle told the AP. "Sean, he had a large group of friends, and he no longer hung out with those friends, so you never know where this came from."

Garcia disagrees with these claims, though. "He was a simple man, a private man, and when people say that he was troubled, it's just not true," said Garcia. "People who are criticizing him, just don't know what they are talking about."

Another speculation is that the invasion was a burglary. Taylor was home unexpectedly, due to an injury. According to Sharpstein, "no one expected him there." Taylor's home was burglarized previously on Nov. 18, according to Miami police. During the first break-in, a window was forced open and a kitchen knife was left on Taylor's bed. The police report stated that bedroom drawers and a safe were searched, but nothing was taken.

Taylor's father, Florida City police chief Pedro Taylor announced that funeral arrangements would be made soon. Currently, there is a makeshift memorial outside Redskins Park, which has been the site of fan support for Taylor. Taylor's jersey number was painted on a grassy area along the road leading into the stadium. Daniel Snyder, owner of the Redskins, said that the team will be wearing a special patch on their uniforms and a number 21. Taylor's number, on their helmets during their game this weekend.

The Medical Minute: Pulling an all-nighter

By William Randazzo, Author: Stephanie Kekulawela & Matt Kulzer, Co-Editors: Kelly Karpa, Ph.D., R.Ph, Pharmacology Department; Lux et Veritas, Penn State College of Medicine; Dear_Doctor_1@hmc.psu.edu

Q: As always, I'm behind on studying for finals. My friends are taking Adderall to help them concentrate. I'm considering taking it. Are there any risks? Is it worth trying? After all, it's for a good cause (i.e. studying for a test!)

A: Everyone has been in the position of having an endless amount of work and barely enough time to study for exams. It makes it even more difficult when there is a two-hour episode of "24" on television the night before a test! Instead of getting a few hours of work done, students (as many as one out of four) will opt to pull an all-nighter with the help of a stimulant called Adderall.

It is true that this drug allows patients with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder to concentrate and perform better. However, it is not approved for use without a prescription for a good reason: Each time you take one of these pills without medical supervision, you're risking your life. Here are some of the risks:

You can worsen an underlying condition (that may not have been diagnosed yet) such as a heart defect. Adderall can exacerbate this condition and have serious consequences on your health. (Let's just say that you'll be visiting the ER instead of taking your 8 a.m. exam!)

You can have drug interactions with other prescription medications such as antidepressants. This combo can cause an increase in temperature, seizures, and even comas. (You don't want to end up with brain damage just because of a test!)

The FDA warns that if taken without the advice of a physician, Adderall can lead to high blood pressure, heart attacks, sudden death, abuse, and worsening mental health. Overall, it is a powerful drug and should not be treated like a double mocha latte espresso from Starbucks as a pick me up. Not to mention, if you get busted for buying or selling it, an "X" on an exam won't look good against a criminal record. Take my advice: You're better off sticking to stimulants such as caffeine than prescribed medication.

Note: This article is not meant to serve as a substitute for professional medical advice of a physician or other medical personnel.

Murderer escapes continued from page 1

He said that if the inmate had any connection to Behrend or any students on campus, then precautions would be taken, and the area would be under closer surveillance.

Students on campus had mixed reactions, however, that was to be expected. One student had no idea of the escape, and upon hearing about it, she felt concerned. "I didn't even know it happened, but it's creepy that a guy from prison escaped, that I do know." Another student reported that he's not worried at all. "I live near a prison. That prison is far

enough away, and that's a long walk."

Further investigations will be held, as the state police and FBI officials continue to search for Kyser. Helicopters, vehicles, and foot-patrolmen have been consistently on the lookout, and will keep continuing their searches. Visitors are still not permitted in the vicinity.

Kyser was sentenced to life for beating Barney Fenton to death in 1981, and he is the first prisoner to escape the Albion facility since it has opened in 1993.

Are you interested in getting more involved?

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