

Law and Order;

2 indicted in Beanie Baby scheme

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

February 10, 1999, Wednesday,, CONSTITUTION EDITION

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Section: LOCAL NEWS; Pg. 06B

Length: 727 words

Series: Home

Body

A federal grand jury in Atlanta has **indicted** two people over an alleged **scheme** to sell rare **Beanie Baby** dolls over the Internet. The indictment, returned Tuesday, asserts that Richard William Davis and Kelly L. Williams posted messages on the Internet inviting people to bid on rare **Beanie Babies** that, in fact, they didn't have. People sent certified or cashier's checks or wired money --- a total of more than \$ 40,000 between July and October 1998 --- to an address in Duluth. Prospective buyers were told that Williams and Davis had acquired the rare **Beanie Babies** through a Hallmark gift shop owned by Williams' father. **Law** enforcement authorities said Davis and Williams are believed to be in Florida.

CLAYTON COUNTY Federal agents raid warehouse in Morrow Federal immigration officers raided a food-packing warehouse Tuesday and detained 33 suspected illegal immigrants from Mexico, Honduras and Uruguay. Immigration and Naturalization Services spokeswoman Sue Brown said agents searched the Southern Bonded Warehouse on Mount Zion Boulevard in Morrow. Agents also searched Interim Personnel, a company that places temporary employees and is located at the same address, Brown said. Don Moore, vice president of Southern Bonded Warehouse, said the search focused on Interim Personnel, the vendor that provides temporary labor for the warehouse.

Drugs sold at house, two suspects tell cops Two of the four men accused in a Jan. 21 home invasion in which a teenager was killed told police they went to the house because they had bought drugs there before, a Clayton County police detective testified Tuesday. Magistrate H.B. Watts sent the felony murder case to a grand jury. Nicholas Leslie, 18; Antonio Lamont Smith, 19; Cephus Demarco Smith, 20, all of Atlanta; and Marlo Helms, 21, are accused in the shooting death of Ron Rico Phillips, 17, at a house on Antebellum Circle near Riverdale. Detective Michael T. Murphy testified that Lee and Leslie told police after their arrest "they had purchased marijuana from individuals at the house."

COBB COUNTY Nine suspects **indicted** in alleged fraud **scheme** Nine suspects were **indicted** Tuesday in Cobb County for allegedly defrauding Georgia General Insurance Co. of \$ 215,000 in 1995 and 1996. State Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine said Terrence Stephen McMillan of Mableton; Patricia Sweatman Petty of College Park; and Kimberly R. Ballard of Stone Mountain, who worked in the company's claims department, allegedly issued checks to the other suspects in payment of auto insurance claims to which they were not entitled. In turn, the recipients allegedly cashed the checks and split the proceeds with the three insurance company employees. Other local residents **indicted**: Teresa Cash of Austell; Marvin Turner of Marietta; and Norma Burgin of Mableton.

CHEROKEE COUNTY 17-year-olds **indicted** for weaponry at school A Cherokee County grand jury **indicted** three 17-year-olds Tuesday for carrying weapons to school. Investigators say Michael Shane Martin and Ricky Lee Williams took paint-ball guns and pellet pistols to Cherokee High on Nov. 12. Police in Woodstock say Si On Moon, also known as Steve Moon, took a knife with an 8-inch blade to Woodstock High on Nov. 16. Bringing a weapon to school is a felony punishable from two to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$ 10,000.

1 hurt in I-575 wreck involving PVC pipes A fluke of timing saved two people but sent one to the hospital with critical injuries in a bizarre wreck that closed much of I-575 in Cherokee County on Tuesday morning. It began when a tractor-trailer carrying PVC pipes lost control, tumbled into the median and smashed into a pole that held up a sign over the interstate's southbound lanes just after midnight. Pipes spilled, and the sign fell. A southbound car slid on the pipes and rolled into the median. Firefighters freed the driver and a medical helicopter whisked him to a hospital; authorities did not know his name or condition. The sign fell into the car of a Union County sheriff's deputy. He and a prisoner he was transporting might have been killed if the patrol car had been going faster, or if the sign had fallen a second later. Neither the deputy nor his prisoner was hurt. Authorities closed all lanes of I-575 near Exits 8 and 9 for 1 1/2 hours. Three southbound lanes were opened by 4 a.m.

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Subject: IMMIGRATION (90%); INDICTMENTS (90%); IMMIGRATION LAW (90%); CHILDREN (89%); GRAND JURY (89%); ARRESTS (89%); FRAUD & FINANCIAL CRIME (89%); INVESTIGATIONS (89%); CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS (78%); MURDER (78%); FELONIES (78%); CRIMINAL OFFENSES (78%); SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE FORCES (78%); CITIZENSHIP (76%); POLICE FORCES (74%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (74%); INSURANCE REGULATORY COMPLIANCE (74%); TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT (72%); WIRE TRANSFERS (71%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (68%); CANNABIS (65%); MARIJUANA (65%)

Company: GENERAL INSURANCE CO LTD (63%); GENERAL INSURANCE CO OF CYPRUS (52%); GENERAL INSURANCE CO LTD (63%); GENERAL INSURANCE CO OF CYPRUS (52%)

Industry: INSURANCE (89%); GIFT, NOVELTY & SOUVENIR STORES (78%); INSURANCE REGULATORY BODIES (74%); INSURANCE REGULATORY COMPLIANCE (74%); GENERAL WAREHOUSING (73%); WIRE TRANSFERS (71%); INSURANCE COMMISSIONS (69%); INSURANCE CLAIMS (65%); CANNABIS (65%); MARIJUANA (65%)

Geographic: ATLANTA, GA, USA (92%); GEORGIA, USA (79%); FLORIDA, USA (79%); HONDURAS (79%)

Load-Date: February 10, 1999