

Racial Undertones After Murder

Student feelings ran high this week and some undertones of racial bias appeared in the wake of the murder of Jody Rae Stambaugh at the University of Alaska, according to a report from KTVF reporter Terri Foster.

Miss Foster talked with people who knew both Miss Stambaugh and her accused killer, Allen Riley Walunga. From these interviews came a picture of a girl who was friendly and helpful, although not particularly outgoing. Most of her time was spent with her roommate Deborah Dimond or with her brother Gary and his friends, one person said.

Walunga was another matter. Known by few boys on his floor, he apparently kept largely to himself. He would stay up alone all night and one student said that he sometimes disappeared for entire days.

Walunga allegedly said that everyone picked on him because he was a native and that the white man was out to get him.

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Undertones . . .

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A student advisor said Walunga had caused problems for quite awhile, Miss Foster noted, but that no one had done anything about it.

One girl interviewed by Miss Foster said that since the murder, several male students she knows were looking for excuses to "bust a Native in the mouth." The statement demonstrated some of the feelings that have surfaced following the murder, particularly in Moore Hall, where it happened. Moore has about 50 per cent native students.

Tenseness continues on the campus, according to Miss Foster. And she concludes that some people are saying it never should have happened and that it might have been prevented on numerous occasions.