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The WEEKENDER
Interview – One who has persisted
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The following is an interview, the **WEEKENDER** newspaper conducted with Charles F. King, 28 of Naples, New York. The two investigative reporters are; Dwight Schmuck and Brad English.

Charles King is a painter and construction worker and has been closely related to the Hill-Hubbard case since its beginning in 1973.

We ask very pointed questions and he responded. The interview will be printed in separate installments over the next few weeks in the **WEEKENDER** Publication.

WEEKENDER-what got you interested in the Hubbard case?

KING -Kim Hubbard was a friend of mine. I've known his family quite a while. And, on Halloween night October, 31, 1973, I came over to the Hubbard's home, Mrs. Hubbard was going to the hospital and she asked me to stay with Kim because he was getting threatening phone calls and she didn't want him to stay alone while she was out at the hospital seeing Mr. Hubbard.

I was alone in the house with Kim three or four hours answering the door for Halloweeners. Kim prancing around saying to me over and over again, why are they messing with me?

At this time his car was at the borough hall that was in South Williamsport.

Kim didn't appear to me to be afraid of the police for something that he had done. He appeared to be upset because it appeared to him he was being suspected of a crime. (Killing Jennifer Hill.)

WEEKENDER-How long have you been involved in this case?

KING -Ever since they arrested Kim.

WEEKENDER-What did you think when Kim was arrested?

KING-My first thought was Kim will be driving a new Corvette pretty soon.

WEEKENDER-Why?

KING - Well, I didn't believe he was guilty due to the hours that I spent with him alone from the way he acted. Thinking back, to October 31, 1973, Kim wanted to borrow some money.

WEEKENDER-How much?

KING - Well, he wanted to borrow three dollars. He wanted cab fare to go visit Colleen Whiteknight. I only had a dollar and a half and I gave it to him. He never paid me back in and I hate a guy that leaves town owing me money.

Kim wasn't in a frame of mind of a person who was guilty of something but I could see where he was afraid for what could happen to him.

WEEKENDER-When you say he wasn't in a frame of mind of a person guilty of something, that is your opinion, correct?

KING - Yes.

WEEKENDER – And this opinion is based, was based on knowing Kim Hubbard several years, correct?

Yes. Kim was only 19 years old...I don't see how he wouldn't be feeling anxiety after having his car taken from him by the State Police. But Kim wasn't worried about the crime as much as he was being a suspect. I didn't feel at any time that Kim had any knowledge about the death of Jennifer Hill.

And this is based on his actions, his fears of the police having his car in the borough hall examining it for evidence. I think it was drawing on Kim as his father was now in the hospital, his mother was upset over Jennifer's death, that he was becoming a suspect and he was frightened of the potential.

WEEKENDER-Was there anything else that could have made Kim Hubbard upset?

KING - Yes. A little known fact about a man from South Williamsport by the name of Carl Pfirman, had been to his home on 25 October, (1973) at 2 AM in the morning, drunk, kicking the Hubbard's front door, poking Kim in his chest with his finger, accusing him of murdering Jennifer Hill.

WEEKENDER-This was before anybody knew she was dead?

KING - Right.

WEEKENDER-How long after this incident was Jennifer's body found?

KING - On October 28.

WEEKENDER-Three days, correct?

KING - Correct.

WEEKENDER-Were there any rumors at that time involving Kim Hubbard in the disappearance of Jennifer Hill?

KING - I was working in Renovo, so I couldn't tell you what was going on day to day.

WEEKENDER-Was anything done about the Carl Pfirman incident?

KING - A couple years later.

WEEKENDER-What?

KING - The Hubbard's brought charges against Carl Pfirman for harassment, criminal mischief, and disorderly conduct.

WEEKENDER-Why?

KING - In this story, the condition of Jennifer Hill's body, as she was found in the cornfield, is going to become one of the main issues. I believe, and the Hubbard family believes. That Jennifer Hill was not found on 28 October as the state of Pennsylvania claims, that she was found prior to the 28th.

Prior to the discovery of the body of Jennifer Hill on the 28th, some extremely interesting things happened at the Hubbard's home. Mayor R. David Frey was questioning Ruthie Hubbard (sister to Kim Hubbard) about what her and Jennifer's diet was on October 19, 1973. Police Chief Charles Smith, also prior to the 28th, was questioning the Hubbard's on whether or not Jennifer had a bowel movement before she left for home on October 19.

Now, when Jennifer Hill's body is discovered, there is such a lack of the decomposition, there were hardly any blood clots in her vascular system, she had an open casket viewing 13 days after death, that's when one goes back to the original question, what was Carl Pfirman doing there? You must also ask yourself why a bowel movement and a diet are important if you don't have a body? I'm sure the Civil Air Patrol was not given instructions to look for a bowel movement.

I'm not a doctor or a policeman, but I don't think you have to be one of those two

professions to put together what the purpose of questions relating to diet and bowel movement indicate. At death, the digestive track ceases to function and the stomach contents is used to establish time of death.

Now, getting back to Carl Pfirman, when the Hubbard's brought charges against him, I went down to Justice Blackburn's courtroom where Pfirman was ordered to appear. The purpose in the Hubbard's bringing charges against him at such a late date was to see if he knew anything about the death of Jennifer Hill prior to the 28th.

Now, as I said earlier, we believe the body was found prior to the 28th by someone. Carl Pfirman's name was never mentioned at Kim's trial. We just can't say, maybe he was drunk on the 25th and had a little bit too much and came up to the Hubbard home. But at this hearing in front of Blackburn, were to State Policeman, one being Trooper Whipple and the other Corporal. Houser. This was two years after the incident and the State Police were testifying on Carl Pfirman's behalf. Only Whipple took the stand for the State Police. I heard trooper Whipple say, when asked by Blackburn, asked Trooper Whipple, what he was doing at the Hubbard's home on 25 October. He said he was there into the official investigation of the death of Jennifer Hill.

WEEKENDER-The 25th was three days before the body was found though, wasn't it?

KING - Yes.

WEEKENDER- What else happened at the hearing?

KING - Blackburn asked Trooper Whipple if either the prosecutor or the defense had asked him to be there that day. He said no. The magistrate asked him why he was there he said Cpl. Houser told him to be there. Trooper Whipple had a book with him which evidently was the State Police records. He indicated he interviewed the Hubbard's separately about the Carl Pfirman affair. None of the Hubbard's testimony conflicted or contradicted itself.

Now, I can't understand whether his interview with the Hubbard's was concerning Carl's actions, or the death of Jennifer Hill because he testified he was there on the 25th into the investigation of the death of Jennifer Hill.

WEEKENDER- What happen in the hearing to Carl Pfirman?

KING - He was found guilty of drunk and disorderly and had to pay a fine.

WEEKENDER- Skipping ahead a little bit, have you ever seen the evidence, either at Lycoming County courthouse or at the Pennsylvania State Police barracks?

KING - Yes, I've seen it at both places.

WEEKENDER- In particular, have you seen the tires and plaster of paris tire casts?

KING - Yes.

WEEKENDER- How many tires?

KING - Well, up to this point, I've seen... this is kind of confusing... the first time I saw the tires was at the State Police barracks along with Kim's parents and Jack Felix, the Public Defender of Lycoming County. There were four very bald tires. The best tire that I saw at the State Police barracks had four very poor treads, almost completely worn off the tire. They were all standard tires...summer treads.

One was in a plastic bag and was off the rim. The other three were on rims. I took the tires and spun them around on the floor. With my finger I tried to pick the edges where a recap would be peeling. There was absolutely no recapped tires in those four tires that I saw at the State Police barracks.

WEEKENDER- None of those tires had six good treads on it?

KING - The very best tire that I handled... and there were only four shown to me... had four very poor treads. And they didn't even completely go around the tire. There were bars showing through the tread on that tire.

WEEKENDER- The main convicting cast of the tires is one that shows a side wall very clearly. Have you seen that cast?

KING - Yes. It has an E-L-D in it, which is the last three letters in the name Kelly – Springfield.

WEEKENDER- Tell us about that cast, particularly the side wall.

KING - There is a sneaker prints found in the cast near the ELD, somewhat on an angle pointing away from the cast, not going into the treads on the cast. There is another footprint at the other end of the cast, which I remember as pointing towards the end of the cast.

WEEKENDER- There is a tire at the courthouse with six good treads on it. Can you tell us if that's one of Kim's tires?

KING - Well there's been switching of tires from time I saw them at the State Police barracks to the oral argument held before Judge Greevy and Judge Raup.

At the oral argument there were four tires. One of them had six fairly good treads, one of them I couldn't see too well, I don't know what was on that one. The other two were recaps that appeared to me to be like winter tread design on the treading. They were covered with mud, which if you read the transcripts, the State Police who originally took soil samples from Kim's car said his car was so clean he had to get up in the wheel wells to get any mud.

After the oral argument I tried to get up close to the evidence but Ertel told me to stay away from the evidence. At this point, one would have to assume Kim owned seven tires just from what I've seen from two different observations on two different occasions.

WEEKENDER – To the best of your knowledge, did Kim Hubbard ever own the tire in the courthouse that has six treads?

KING - No.

WEEKENDER- Did you ever see it on the car?

KING – No.

WEEKENDER- Did you ever see it in the trunk of his car?

KING – No.

WEEKENDER – Did you ever see it in his bedroom, basement or garage?

KING - No. I want to clear something up. On the day Jennifer Hill was found in a cornfield, by transcripts, Kim had four very poor tires on his car.

She was found on a Sunday. Monday morning he had a flat on left front tire of his car so he walked to school. When he came home from school he had a brand-new tire on the front. His father had Poole's Service Station change it during the day. That new tire is the only tire from up to the time of the oral argument that would have had six good treads.

WEEKENDER- Where is that tire now?

KING - It's in the Hubbard's possession. Kim did have a trunk spare tire. That was a Scott Major tire, not a Kelly Springfield as were the other four.

WEEKENDER- Where is that tire?

KING - The Hubbards have that also in their possession.

WEEKENDER -That brand-new tire which was placed on the car on the 29th of October,

a Monday, the Monday after the body of Jennifer Hill was found, is there a cast of that in evidence? Or was there one used in the trial of Kim Lee Hubbard?

KING - In the transcripts Fierro, who was Kim's lawyer at the main trial, pursues that question. If the jury had been alert and Fierro had pursued it a little further, Kim might not be where he is today.

WEEKENDER- Why?

KING - Let me read to you from the transcripts, this is Patrick Fierro questioning Leon Krebs, on page 584. Krebs was a State Police cast expert from Harrisburg who came here to testify on the evidence that was sent to him for comparison. I'm going to start with a question from Mr. Fierro and I hope those reading this will pay close attention to what Fierro was pursuing.

Q: Now, of course, whether you know of it or having heard of it here or having been told by officers, wherever or however you got the information, you know that these casts presumably were the casts of tire prints found on October 29, regardless whether they were made the next day are not, you know that don't you?

A: Yes, I assume they, this when the officer brings them in, that this was the day they were made on I am not sure.

Q: The district attorney just told you that is when they were made except some were cast on the 29th. Now, Mr. Krebs, I believe that Mr. Faust, who came here from a garage said that one October 29 he changed one of Kim Hubbard's tired. Now can you explain, and he identified that tire as exhibit number 90, now would you be able to explain how that tire Exhibit 90 which was changed October 29, could make an impression that you got from the State Police that was supposed to have been made let's say somewhere between October 19 and October 28?

A: I can't say that it did, I just said it could have?

By Mr. Ertel-I don't even follow the question, I object to it.

By Mr. Fierro-he answered it, apparently he knew it.

By the court-you understand the question?

A: I believe so, yes.

Q: I will permit it to stand.

By Mr. Fierro- I have no further questions

End of transcripts in interview.

WEEKENDER- In other words, there was a cast of a print made by this brand-new tire?

KING - From this testimony that I just read to you, the tire that Kim Hubbard put on his car, which he didn't even own until the day after the body had been found, was being used against him in the court by Ertel. Just from what the Fiero asked Krebs, and I read it from transcripts, that tire could not have made a impression anywhere as he didn't even own it between the 19th and the 28th!

WEEKENDER- But was it, at this point in the trial, used or an attempt made to use the new tire against him?

KING - I can't only talk from the transcripts. I wasn't at the main trial.

WEEKENDER- But, according to the transcripts, was there an attempt made to use this brand-new tire in the prosecution of Kim Hubbard?

KING - Yes. I would like to say Mr. Felix saw the four bald tires down at the State Police barracks, also. In this brief filed on Kim's behalf for a new trial, he argued that there couldn't have been a cast with six treads because Kim didn't have any tires with six treads on them. Then came the oral argument, Mr. Felix wanted the evidence to be presented that day to the judge, Ertel said he didn't know the evidence was supposed to be presented that day so they would have to send for it, down to the State Police barracks.

Now, at the Oral Argument I had made a poster with four different color squares. Each color square represents a tire on Kim's car. They were also four index cards of the same four colors with accidental characteristics that the state said in the transcripts were on the cast matching the tires.

Now Mr. Felix took the little poster I made him was standing before Judge Raup and Judge Greevy with the intention of showing it was impossible for the state to have what they said they had based on his examination of the tires at the State Police barracks. As he stood before the judges, he started reading from the index cards and he got all tangled up. Mr. Hubbard tugged on his coat and told Mr. Felix to sit down.

The tires Mr. Felix was arguing about, which we had seen at that State Police barracks, were not the ones he was looking at. There were now three tires there that I never seen before, nor to the best of my knowledge had Mr. Felix or the Hubbards.

We went immediately into recess. Mr. Felix never brought this tire switching to the attention of the judge nor is it on the record, except in an affidavit which Mr. Felix has since written out stating his observations from his first examination of the evidence at the State Police barracks to the oral argument.

I, also, have seen numerous changes. For example, Mr. Felix had an exhibit which was marked commonwealths exhibit number 110. He had it in his office for several weeks prior to the oral argument. This was a large poster board with three photos across the top and three across the bottom with florescent pink pin striping tape going from accidental characteristics in the tires to the accidental characteristics in the cast, all numbering on this poster was in red ink.

At the oral argument commonwealths exhibit number 110 shows up. Its now and blue ink, there are two photos on the exhibit that I'd never seen before. I didn't see any pin striping tape at all. We recessed and when I came back Exhibit 110 had yellow pin-stripe tape on it.

WEEKENDER- Yellow, not florescent pink?

KING - Yellow.

WEEKENDER- How many photos were on this exhibit?

KING - Six.

WEEKENDER-But there were two that were different from the first time you had seen the exhibit?

KING - Yes.

WEEKENDER-How many photos are there on this exhibit now?

KING - The last time I saw it, it was down to four. There was still blue ink and yellow pin-striping.

WEEKENDER-Anything else in the physical evidence strike you as odd?

KING - Yes, the jersey of Jennifer Hill, she was wearing the day she was found in the cornfield. I first saw the jersey at the State Police barracks when it was removed from

the plastic bag in front of Mrs. Hubbard. We were in a very small room, the Hubbards, myself, Mr. Felix and Corporal Houser.

When Mrs. Hubbard removed this football Jersey from the plastic bag the whole room started to smell. On the front of the jersey, on the right shoulder was a stain that was hard and smelled like vomit.

This jersey had been in this bag for probably more than a year. Mr. Hubbard, who was a medical technician, later told me that a stain of this kind indicated to him that it was a result of her stomach being pumped and when the catheter is removed, there is drainage sometimes from the catheter through the syringe.

Again, at the Oral Argument, the same jersey showed up, Mr. Hubbard brings it over to me, where I was standing, and held it right up to my face. I grabbed the jersey and felt it and it was very damp. I also put my nose right into the jersey and sniffed and I couldn't smell anything.

Felix did the same thing, and later included that in his affidavit, which we have. Again, he said nothing to the court about this incident.

WEEKENDER- Why didn't Felix say anything? Do you know?

KING - I think Felix was frightened at what he was witnessing. Keep in mind what all his briefs on Kim's behalf concerned. Now he is seeing for himself, tire changes, photos change, clothing altered.

My own personal opinion is, Felix was stunned. Unfortunately for Kim, Mr. Felix never recovered in time to use any of this for Kim's benefit.

I was also shown a pair of sneakers at the State Police barracks that were supposedly Jennifer Hill's which I remember as being black sneakers.

The soles of these sneakers were like brand-new. That stood out in the Hubbard's and my mind as Commonwealth exhibit one and two, showed Jennifer laying in the field, the soles of her shoes and the direction the rows planted are the most outstanding features of those two photos.

The right foot shows a well-worn sneaker with a hole in the soles, yet the sneakers I saw at the State Police barracks had no signs of wear at all. At the oral argument there was a pair of sneakers, supposedly Jennifer Hills. They match the ones I had seen at the barracks. They were absolutely not the same pair of sneakers.

WEEKENDER- Have you ever noticed the difference in the jeans?

KING -Yes, I was shown to pair of jeans belonging to Jennifer Hill at the State Police barracks. A light blue pair with white macramé belt and a dark blue pair with red hearts sewed on the knees and red cuffs, which to me looked like someone, had taken an old red handkerchief and sewed it on the cuffs.

I want the people that read this to pay particular attention to what I am about to say to you now, Jennifer Hill played football on October 19 (1973) and ripped out the crotch of those dark blue pants. When she was found in the cornfield according to the transcripts, she was wearing the light blue pants.

When I saw those dark blue jeans at the State Police barracks, they had been partially sewn by a machine with white thread.

Now, I would like to back up to the beginning of the story where police Chief Charles

Smith of South Williamsport, during that time Jennifer Hill was missing, sat at the Hubbard's table and said, "...*either there is a lie at this end or a lie at that end*"..., meaning the Hubbard home or the Hill home.

When Lieutenant Hynick and Sergeant Peterson came to the Hubbard home on October 31, Lt Hynick asked Mr. Hubbard if his wife sewed.

Mr. Hubbard told the police they did not own a sewing machine. Now keep in mind this was over a year after the trial was over before the Hubbard's found out about the dark blue pants which she had torn playing football that day were partially sewn by a sewing machine.

At the oral argument some of the sewing had been removed since I have first seen them at the states police barracks. This is also in Mr. Felix affidavit.

An incident happened at the State Police barracks. After we finished looking at the tires which were upstairs, we were taken downstairs to a little room to examine everything else. The tires were left upstairs.

The photos were back at the courthouse. At no time were photos, tires, or cast seen by me at the same time. The casts were all wrapped up in newspaper and piled on top of each other in a cardboard box. The newspapers were all wadded up in balls.

Mr. Felix was handling the foot cast when another foot cast fell a couple of inches to the floor and a small piece broke off it. It was quite by accident, it was a small cast, maybe the size of a small saucer.

At that point, Cpl. Houser told us to get out. I witnessed Mr. Felix drop the cast, it was quite by accident. There would be no strategy for the defense even to attempt to destroy one single piece of evidence used against Kim.

During our six years we have gone to the State Justice Department and other various agencies. They said that they have investigated and produced no evidence to support our allegations.

Since Mr. Fierro was fired by the Hubbard's for his lack a defense of Kim and Mr. Fierro never showed up for Kim's verdict, Mr. Hubbard sought help to the Public Defender's Office. You only have seven days to appeal sense Mr. Fierro didn't show up for the verdict comic the Hubbards were upset about getting the appeal in. Mr. Hubbard and I decided to go see Judge Greevy. Prior to our going over, Mr. Fierro called the Hubbard home. I was setting across the table from Mr. Hubbard and I could hear Mr. Fierro speaking from 3 feet away.

I heard Mr. Fierro tell Mr. Hubbard that he'd take the case to retrial and it wouldn't cost the Hubbard's one thin dine. Mr. Hubbard told Mr.Fierro that he didn't want his services and that he sought help from the Public Defender's Office. Mr. Hubbard and I walked into Judge Greevy's office and one of Judge Greevy's assistants called Judge Greevy out to the waiting room where we were waiting. Judge Greevy came out and I heard him say to Mr. Hubbard, "Joe I understand you want to the Public Defender's Office for help. You know Mr. Fierro told you he would take your case in retrial and it wouldn't cost you one dime.". Mr. Hubbard snapped, "I don't want Fierro.". Judge Greevy said, "Oh well, I don't know what your reasons are and I can't talk about your case. I've already appointed Jack's Felix as Kim's lawyer."

Now, as I said, we've gone to the Justice Department (State) and have gotten nowhere. I have here a letter from a friend of mine and the Hubbards who also believe that Kim is innocent.

This is a letter from the former Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania, Peter Foster. I would like to read that letter.

Dear Chaplain Rathmell, At the investigation of the State Justice Department, the State Police conduct an investigation into charges of evidence tampering in the Kim Lee Hubbard case. The State Police found no evidence to support these charges. In addition, the Justice Department Bureau of Investigations made personal contact with the judge who presided over the Hubbard trial. He felt strongly that there was no evidence of evidence tampering. Judge Greevy pointed out that Hubbard's father broke a cast of a tire print when permitted to examine the evidence. Therefore we are not opening an investigation into the case. Very truly yours, Peter Foster, Deputy Attorney General."

Why Judge Greevy would blame Mr. Hubbard for breaking the cast, he has never answered. Mr. Hubbard wrote him asking him why he blamed Mr. Hubbard for breaking the cast. Judge Greevy never answered him.

WEEKENDER-Did Mr. Hubbard break any cast?

KING -No. He **never** handled a cast the day the cast was broken. Mr. Felix handled all the casts.

WEEKENDER-You've been to the cornfield, the lane where the bulldozer tracks are supposed to be?

KING -That is correct.

WEEKENDER-How many sets of dozer tracks did you see?

KING -There was one distinct set of bulldozer tracks in that lane which I took a picture of.

WEEKENDER-Was there another set of tracks in the same area?

KING -Yes, there was another set of tracks about 150 yards away on the other side of the Arco tanks.

WEEKENDER-Were these tracks similar?

KING -The two sets of tracks that I found both measured the same as far as cleat size on the bulldozers that made them.

WEEKENDER-How about the distance between the tracks?

KING -They were 8 feet apart at the outside. The bulldozer crew that testified against him according to the transcripts, went up the lane Jennifer Hill was found on and went back down the same lane, loaded up their dozer and went back to matures Hill. I would like to know how a bulldozer went both ways and left only one set of prints. The last bulldozer cleat mark was 40 feet from Sylvan Dell Rd. Kim Hubbard was convicted partially on tire prints that were made in the mud left by this bulldozer crew in this lane. From where the State Police said Kim's tire prints were found and from where the last bulldozer print ended, is an area of 14 feet in which the man who cleaned the bulldozer had to have thrown the mud which Kim's car was supposed to have driven through. When I say the last cleat mark, I'm talking about where the impressions left by the bulldozer got shallower as if it was being loaded on something and its weight was being decreased. Using logic, this bulldozer was loaded on a lowboy which has dual wheels. It had to have run over the mud Kim's supposed to have run over just backing in to pick up the bulldozer.

WEEKENDER-What company was supposed to have done this work?

KING - Kremser Brothers in Montoursville.

WEEKENDER-What kind of work was being done there?

KING -It's not mentioned in the transcripts, they only say they went over to do a few hours of work.

WEEKENDER-Have you ever seen any records for this work?

KING -No.

WEEKENDER-Have you ever looked for any?

KING -Yes, but not with Kremser Brothers. Since the work was being done for Atlantic Richfield, we asked them if they could find any record of work being done by Kremser Brothers on October 19, 1973. Thus far we have not found any records with Atlantic Richfield in Pennsylvania and we have pursued as far as Long Beach, California to their master computer and they have produced no records for us either.

“and they have produced no records for us...”

WEEKENDER-Have you ever found any remnants of the casts in that area?

KING - I never found any plaster chips on the lane... I found chips in the cornfield at two different locations.

WEEKENDER-Where in the cornfield?

KING -I found some chips in about the seventh cornrow off Sylvan Dell Road in the cornrows that ran parallel with the hardtop and I also found some at 175 feet off Sylvan Dell Road in the cornrows that ran perpendicular to the hardtop.

WEEKENDER-How far off the lane were these chips?

KING -At the spot closest to the hardtop, no more than eight or nine feet at the most. At the second area, one hundred and twenty seven feet up the lane, there were plaster chips anywhere from seven to fifteen feet. There was also a big stone laying at the one hundred and twenty seven foot mark which is the stone in the Sun Gazette photo of October 29, 1973. That photo shows all of the State Police i and Allen Ertel looking for possible evidence at the murder site. There was a piece of tape on that stone that said “Mark for growth and discoloration three times daily.”

WEEKENDER-Where did that note come from?

KING - I would have to assume it's based on the conversation I had with Dr. Catherman in his office in Philadelphia. As I said in the beginning of this story, the body condition of Jennifer Hill has been one of the main pursuits of our six years of trying to get Kim a new trial. Mr. Hubbard asked Dr. Catherman, in my presence, how he got involved in this case. Dr. Catherman told us that Dr. Miller and Alan Ertel called him. Mr. Hubbard then asked Dr. Catherman what he understood to be the circumstances surrounding this girl's discovery. He said she was found on heavy grass and vegetation. He also said he didn't understand why the grass under her didn't blanch after nine days, so he ordered a plank test. We asked him what that incurred and he said lying a plank down on the grass for nine days and seeing what happened. We ask them what was the results of the test and he said the grass didn't blanch.

Mr. John Claybaugh of South Williamsport also heard this conversation with Dr. In Philadelphia. I would assume that sticker, then, had something to do with Dr. Catherman's plank test.

WEEKENDER-Did you observe anything else in that field?

KING -At the 127 foot scene where the State Police testified that Jennifer Hill was found, there was hardly any grass or vegetation at all where her body was found. This whole spot was an odd area of the cornfield as far as the vegetation goes. Looking around in the corn, the ground was so bare in the rest of the cornfield was so full of grass and milk weed it appeared us that this was the only bare spot along the entire lane. We started rooting around in this area where the chips and the stone were found and up along the edge of the lane that ran back to the cornfield stuffed back underneath the edge of the lane, covered with cornstalks and about four to six inches of dirt there was green grass buried underneath this dirt, big clumps, little clumps. It was my observation that this was the only place a footprint could be found in the cornfield or along the lane. The further back you go into the corn, the less the vegetation is.

WEEKENDER-speaking about the chips found between the seventh and eighth cornrow from the Sylvan Dell Road, was there any reason ever given for those chips being there?

KING -Well, this is going to get complex now. Because on top all the tire shifting, photo shifting, clothing being changed that I have witnessed, there is also more than one scene as to where the body was found.

Let's take the man who found the body, Dwayne Gleckner. He testified he found the body of Jennifer Hill in rows of corn running parallel to the Sylvan Dell Road. He explained which way her head was facing, her feet were facing, and he was quite specific on this point. As Mr. Fierro probed Mr. Gleckner as to exactly where he found the body. I would like to read from transcripts.(Mr. Fierro questioning Dwayne Gleckner in cross examination) **Mr. Fierro is showing Mr. Gleckner Commonwealth's Exhibit photo number 36 page 224 of the transcripts**

Q: This is Commonwealth's exhibit number 36 that is the one where the cornfield runs at right angles to the road, is that correct.

A: Yes.

Q: I can't tell, can you tell me on exhibit number 36 how do these rows of corn run, because in this area I can't tell?

A: They would run from top to bottom on these pictures, the rowe.

Q: On number 36 they would run from top to bottom question?

A: Yes.

Q: That is the same in the area where the body was found, running from top to bottom?

A: The rows ran parallel to the Sylvan Dell Road.

Q: All of the fields of corn shown in the picture?

A: Yes, that I was in.

Q: Run parallel, and this is Sylvan Dell Road shown on No. 36?

A: Yes.

Q: She was found just a few feet in, in one of these rows?

A: Yes.

Q: Did you notice how she was laying?

A: Her feet were towards the road.

Q: And was her body parallel and running in the same direction as the rows of corn?

A: Yes.

Q: Parallel to the rows?

A: No, parallel to the Sylvan Dell Road, but not to the farm road.

Q: The rows of corn also run parallel to Sylvan Dell?

A: Yes.

Q: Her body was also lying parallel to the Sylvan Dell road like the rows of corn?

A: Yes.

Q: Do I take it she was found in between two rows of corn?

A: Yes.

Q: Not on top of any cornstalks?

A: No, not the best of my knowledge.

End of transcript in interview

I would now like to read from Major Louis Hunsinger's testimony page 237 and page 238 of the trial transcripts, under cross examination by Mr. Fierro. I might say Mr. Hunsinger confirmed the find of the Dwayne Gleckner.

This is what his testimony is about.

Q: Now, Commonwealth's Exhibit No. 1 is that substantially and accurately what you saw when you walked up to where the body was lying?

A: Yes.

Q: Is that correct.

A: Yes.

Q: Take a good look at the picture.

A: As near as I can tell. All I did was glance, I saw her legs.

Q: You didn't see any of the cornstalks broken or anything else broken where her body was lying?

A: No, I didn't notice any. Like I say I just looked and saw her legs.

Q: As her picture, or as this picture shows her body was lying between the cornstalks running in the same direction as the rows of cornstalks?

A: I would say.

Q: With her feet being closer to the road.

A: Yes.

Q: And being what? Three or four feet off the road?

A: Yes, not far.

Q: Just about three or four feet?

A: Yes.

End of Hunsinger's testimony in interview

I want to point out something to the people who are reading this. Gleckner was given photo 36 and Louis Hunsinger was given photo number 1. Photo number 36 is an aerial photo of the cornfield and photo no. 1 mentioned earlier in the story as showing the soles of Jennifer's sneakers and the rows of corn.

Now, I want to talk about Dr. Earl Miller, who was the county coroner. I'd like to use an excerpt from his direct examination. This would be found on page 264 of the transcripts; Mr. Ertel was doing the questioning. This pertains to Dr. Miller's examination of where

he saw the body in the cornfield...

A:...At this stage of the game with myself watching the footprints, making sure that the troopers who being used to pick up the body and remove it immediately to the east through the same row of corn, my job at that time was to safeguard that no trooper stopped anywhere near in this vicinity and by supervision of having them pick up the body and move it, that was accomplished...

Now I'm going to page 292, this will be cross examination of Dr. Miller by Mr. Fierro.

Q: Let's do this with reference to Jennifer's body, now the jury already knows that her feet are towards the lane, her head is away from the lane?

A: Right.

Q: is that correct?

A: Is that correct

Q: And lying perpendicular to the lane, running the same way the cornrows do?

A: That is correct.

Q: We have been told that yesterday?

A: Yes, sir.

End of Dr. Miller's testimony in this interview

Now I think I have pretty well established here from three people's testimonies that Jennifer Hills body was lying in rows parallel to the Sylvan Dell Road. There was a day's recess between Dr. Miller's testimony and that of Hunsinger and Gleckner so there wouldn't be any confusion between the words perpendicular and parallel.

There were only eight rows running parallel to the Sylvan Dell Road at the front of the cornfield. Kim Hubbard is in prison because his boot prints were supposed to have been found underneath Jennifer Hills buttocks at 127 feet off the Sylvan Dell Road.

Remember the stone I mentioned with tape marked growth and discoloration three times daily which is shown in the Sun Gazette photo October 29, 1973, with Dr. Miller in the picture. At 127 feet off the Sylvan Dell Road, the cornrows ran from the north to south as anyone can see in Commonwealth picture 36 and 37.

How can three men testify that this girl was found in a row of corn running the same as Sylvan Dell Road, yet the aerial photos of the scene show the corn is running perpendicular to the Sylvan Dell Road at the 127 foot mark?

Remember, a man has done over six years in prison because his heel prints were supposed to have been found under Jennifer Hill on October 28, 1973. This indicates there are two scenes as to where Jennifer Hill was found.

Commonwealth's Exhibit number 1 and 2 show her lying parallel to the rows of corn. Photos 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 show Jennifer Hill lying across the corn. This should challenge the integrity of the foot casts ever existing at all in that cornfield.

Now, you are originally asked me why there was plaster-of-Paris found at two different locations in that cornfield. I can only tell you and the people reading this that three men testified she was found in rows running parallel to the Sylvan Dell Road. None of these three men are policemen, it's the police who testified she was 127 feet off the Sylvan Dell Road.

I think that the people reading this should ask the same questions, why are these two scenes in evidence and a man convicted on his footprints being found at a murder scene? The people should ask which crime Kim Hubbard serving time is for, the one where Hunsinger, Gleckner, and Miller say they saw the body, or the one where the State Police and the aerial photographs and photos 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 show the body?

I will summarize my story thus far. I have seen tires changed, photos changed, clothing changed I've seen photos disappear, I've discovered at least two scenes in the transcripts and the State's photos. Let's not forget the perfect condition of the body that we are talking about. Let's not forget that a new tire was in the courtroom, being used against Kim when he never own the tire until the day after the body was found.

What does it take for a person to win a new trial in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania? Lawyers don't file briefs because of emotional parents crying that their son is innocent. Legal briefs are filed on evidence. Kim has had two attorneys appeal for him on the basis of some of the facts you have read thus far.

Judge Greevy has turned him down at least three times, but I remember telling Mr. Hubbard that Mr. Fierro would take his case in retrial in it wouldn't cost him one dime.

WEEKENDER-speaking about the field where the body was found, or rather about the condition of the body itself, after it had supposedly laid there for nine days, did the condition surprise you at all?

KING - I wasn't a medical person, but Mr. Hubbard was. He pointed out acute things to me about the body and decomposition as he had been a medical technician at the Williamsport Hospital and had handled dead bodies.

In the last six years, I've learned quite a bit about decomposition, the embalming process, and a lot of other medical things I never known before.

When I saw Dr. Catherman (the Forensic Pathologist who autopsied the body of Jennifer Hill) in his office, we ask them how Jennifer Hill's body could be in as good a condition as it was in on October 28, considering the warm temperatures. He told us that if she was found in heavy grass and vegetation a thermal air current could have been created and this somewhat slowed the decomposition process.

So we got out the photos we had of the State's and showed him the photos of Jennifer Hill he appeared to be stunned. His exact words are these the photos of the girl as she was found in the field? Mr. Hubbard said, "Yes, Dr. Catherman, what is missing?" He said there is no heavy vegetation. We assumed at that point that he had never been shown all the body photos of Jennifer Hill. We weren't there to educate Dr. Catherman went on what we knew, we were there to find out some information for ourselves. Later on in our conversation he was asked to Jennifer Hill's body been refrigerated. As best as I can remember, these are the exact words he said, "Oh, she was refrigerated long before the 28th."

“there's no heavy vegetation”

He also said, "By whom, where, and how long, I cannot say." We just looked at each other, today I am still confused as to Dr. Catherman's role in this case. I base this on my reading his testimony in the transcripts and talking with him personally. In the transcripts, he says on page 331, describing Commonwealth's Exhibit number 58, I'm

not going to read the entire statement I'm just going to take one interesting statement out of it.

A: The dark colored scene here is a portion of the exposed area of the back which was not clothed which was resting against a fair amount of wet mud and dirt, which was observed at the time the body was examined and later washed cleaned by me...

Now, I'm going to go to page 341 where Mr. Fierro is questioning Dr. Catherman:

Q: "All right. Of course you have fixed the date of death as October 19th which is the date this child disappeared, but you based that date upon what someone told you, that is two things, someone said you, 'Doctor. Catherman this girl disappeared on October 19th around 4:30 in the afternoon, and that this girl ate such and such that day'. And so you fixed the time of death using, among other things, those two items isn't that correct?"

A: Yes.

Q: So that Dr. Catherman, if you had been told that this girl was still alive one October 20th, the next day and ate subsequently the same food, you would now have to say that you are going to change the data for death, aren't you?"

A: Yes, sir.

Q: As a matter of fact, if we make it October 21st, you are going to change her dated death again, aren't you?"

A: You could continue that up until about 3 to 5 days prior to the 28th when I believe she was discovered, and I would say, I would say it would be my opinion it would not be last than that time.

Q: But nevertheless, as you have just said it could have been 3 to 5 days before she was discovered and she was discovered on the 28th and allegedly disappeared on the 19th?"

A: That is correct.

Q: So we can take it up to as high as October 25th according to what you say?"

A: 24th.

Q: all right, I will go with you on the 24th, so that if you, as a Pathologist, were told that the girl was still alive on the 24th and ate subsequently the same food that was described, you would have to say that in your opinion her death could have occurred on that day around 4 to 8 pm, or any prior day from the time she disappeared, is that correct?"

Q: But you can't fix, what I'm trying to get at, you can't fix the date?"

A: No, sir, I cannot specifically. They only do that in "dime novels" or TV shows and in the movies."

End of Transcript testimony

Dr. Catherman showed Mr. Hubbard, Mr. Claybaugh, and myself a color transparency of Jennifer Hill showing her back, buttocks, and the back of her legs caked with mud. Kim's boot prints were supposedly found under the buttocks. How could the State have found a perfect boot print under her buttocks on the 28th when I've seen photos of her buttocks caked with mud and we know how she was moved east through the same row of corn as Dr. Miller described. We have been told by various people a sheet of plastic was slid under her and she was moved. The photos of the footprint shows no signs of

rain.

Here's another good question to ask yourselves. How could a footprint remain intact under her body if a piece of plastic was slid underneath her to remove her. It was pouring down rain at the time she was moved. The photos of the footprint shows no signs of rain.

These items I've also mentioned here should also challenge the integrity of the evidence produced against Kim Hubbard.

Here's an interesting point to ponder. You just read where Dr. Catherman was taken up to October 24 by Mr. Fierro as to when he last based the possibility of her being alive, remember in the beginning of my story where the man was at Hubbard home drunk? The police and Mayor Frey were asking about diet and the bowel movement.

Mayor Frey's name never came up in the transcripts, nor was police Chief Smith ever asked about the bowel movement.

I've got another interesting item to think over here. I read from Cpl. Houser's testimony, page 369. Cpl. Hauser was the custodian of all the evidence.

"It was pouring down rain at the time she was moved..."

Q: Did you take certain items from the doctor at the autopsy?

A: I did.

Q: All right, what items did you take from Dr. Catherman?

A: I took all the victims clothing.

Q: I show you marked as Commonwealth Exhibit number 47, can you identify that?

A: That is the jacket that was over the body of Jennifer Hill.

Q: Is that the same jacket you observed at the scene?

A: Yes, it is."

End of Cpl. Houser's testimony in this interview

Now, I'm going back to Dr. Catherman's testimony on page 356. He is under cross examination by Mr. Fierro:

Q: Doctor, I am showing you what has been marked as Commonwealth's Exhibit number 3, and what this shows, and the only reason I am showing it to you, concerns the closing of the child as she was found, and simply want you to look at the clothing, do you recognize that?

A: No.

Q: You don't.

A: No, because this contains a coat which was actually on the body, what lying over it. I've seen this photograph before, but when I examined the body it was not part of what I examined and described.

Q: So the coat shown in Commonwealth's Exhibit number 3, when you received the body that coat was not one or did not accompany the body?

A: that is right."

End of this portion of Dr. Catherman's testimony

Now this is Dr. Miller talking, page 264, this is not his whole testimony this is one

paragraph.

“A...to me, petechiae in a localized area of the body, such as the head and neck of a deceased person is indicative of a strangulation progress and it was at the time that the decision was made that we do not uncover the body or do anything more with the body until we secure the services of a consultant, a Forensic Pathologist.”

End of Dr. Miller’s transcript testimony

The point I’m trying to make here is Dr. Miller testified the body wasn’t disturbed in any way until a Forensic pathologist was called in. He testified that there was no coat on the body; Cpl. Houser testified there was coat given him by Dr. Catherman.

This suggests that the body was tampered with at some point in time according to their testimonies.

Another part of Kim’s appeal for an investigation into evidence tampering is the jersey that is shown on the body of Jennifer Hill in the Commonwealth photos.

The jersey shows the right sleeve going completely down to an over Jennifer’s wrist.

The jersey in evidence is an elbow length-sleeved jersey. When I was in Philadelphia, we showed Dr. Catherman a photo of the jersey taken at the courthouse with Mr. Peter Campana’s finger at the end of the sleeve, showing the length of the jersey sleeve.

Dr. Catheman told us the sleeve was rolled up. We told him that, no it wasn’t, that was the jersey in the evidence.

He said he’d have to see the jersey. We were using Commonwealth’s Exhibit number 4 and 5, that were taken in the field on 28th of October. They show the sleeve going clear over her wrist. I think he thinks we were lying to him.

As all the photos used against Kim were black and white, which I now understand to be almost unheard of in a murder trial, the photos used against Kim leave a lot to be desired.

WEEKENDER: You said it’s almost unheard of to have only black and white photos in a murder investigation and trial. Who told you that?

KING: Major Grooms. At one time he was head of the Criminal Bureau of Investigation in the Pennsylvania State Police.

KING: We were sent to see a Major Grooms by Deputy Attorney General Andrew Smeyser. Mr. Smeyser told us that we were not to mention Major Grooms name to anyone. He said if we did, the State Police would turn their backs on us, “...They’d drop us like water running off a duck’s back.”

I’m not insinuating there’s anything shady with this meeting with Major Grooms. I took it as a type of security problem and the less that was said about the possibility of a State Police investigation, the better.

We gave Major Grooms copies of Commonwealth’s Exhibit Photos 1 and 2, and asked him to put the body as it was shown in those two photos in the cornfield where Doctor Miller is describing footprints and the body is shown lying across the corn. He said he could not do it.

Then he slammed his fist down on his desk a couple of times. He seemed to be angry with us for having brought black and white photos. He said, “Why are these photos in black and white?”

We told him **the state’s photos were in black and white.** That’s when he got

mad at us. Again he slammed his hand down on his desk and said, "But, our men are trained to take color photos. That's the first thing they are taught at Hershey. They're taught to take color photos and to record all the vital information on the photo as to weather conditions, reference points, time of photo, type of camera, etc."

None of the evidence photos used against Kim Hubbard has any information on the photo as to weather conditions, reference points, who took the photos, time, date, or any of the information Major Grooms said his men were trained to do.

Major Grooms was making me angry, so I asked him, "Tell me something, How deep would the mud have to be in order for a rotating tire to leave the letters, E-L-D from the word SPRINGFIELD in the mud?"

He said, "Why, that's impossible. You'd have to have a tire off a rim and stand on it."

Mr. Hubbard said, "But, it's not impossible. Your men said they had a cast like that."

Major Grooms said, "Prove it to me."

So, we got out Leon Krebs' testimony. We went to the part where he describes the E-L-D, we gave it to Major Grooms to read. When he finished, he didn't say a word, he just pushed the book away from him.

We told Major Grooms there were so many things wrong with the evidence. We said that, for example, to look at the body condition. We told him what the weather conditions were for the nine days she was missing. We told him she had an open casket viewing thirteen days after she disappeared.

That's when he started disputing the weather with us according to his records. He said, "I have it right here in this book the temperatures were much lower than what you're stating and that the body could have stayed in this condition with the temperatures I have in this record."

I told Major Grooms I wanted to see the records that he had on his desk because he had some more falsified evidence. He put his hand over the book and said, "Oh, no, we can't show you the records."

WEEKENDER: Did he say why he couldn't show the records?

KING: He said they (the records) were confidential.

WEEKENDER: Did the State Police ever mount an investigation into this, the Hubbard case?

KING: I'm not really sure. They said they have. They never talked to any of us. To the best of my knowledge, they have never talked to Mr. Felix.

Remember the letter from Peter Foster to Chaplain Rathmell blaming Mr. Hubbard for breaking the cast? This was their reason for not investing any further.

Six or eight months went by from the time we saw Major Grooms until Mr. Hubbard called Harrisburg and asked the people there if anything was going on. Mr. Hubbard wrote down what Mr. Peter Foster told him.

This is what Mr. Foster told Mr. Hubbard on 12/2/75 at 2:30 in the afternoon, "We've wasted enough time on this case already, there will be no investigation. We went to Judge Greevy and the State Police who have a very capable investigating team. They reported that there was no evidence of our allegation into evidence tampering."

The interview with Charles King will continue with the [next issue](#).