

Woman survives 100-foot fall from Palisades cliff

By MICHAEL ROZANSKY

A 21-year-old woman's plunge more than 100 feet down the side of a Palisades cliff was broken by a tree branch, which may have saved her life, according to a friend who scrambled down the cliff to help her Sunday night.

"I saw she fell about 100 feet," said Richard Lasher, 30, of River Edge. "On the way she hit a tree branch, which I think probably saved her life and broke her fall."

Laura Barber, of Airmount Avenue, Ramsey, was listed yesterday in critical but stable condition at Englewood Hospital, but a hospital spokeswoman said her condition should be upgraded shortly.

Barber suffered broken vertebrae in her neck, multiple fractures of her

Eyewitness credits a tree branch with breaking fall, saving her life

ankle, bruises and a case of poison ivy, said spokeswoman Penny Van Amburg.

At 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Barber fell down the face of a cliff from Rockefeller Lookout in Englewood Cliffs after she went around a low stone barrier to get her sunglasses, which had fallen about five feet, Lasher said.

Lasher said yesterday that he told Barber to wait while he got a fishing rod from his car so he could use a hook to snag the glasses. But he said she wouldn't wait, and fell while he was getting the rod.

Lasher told someone to call police

and he scaled down the cliff after her.

"Sometimes I thought I would fall. I was pretty much pumped up with adrenaline. I was pretty much convinced she was dead, and I was scared and worried," he said.

After climbing 50 feet, he said he heard Barber's calls for help and climbed toward her.

"I just wanted to make sure I got down to her, in case she was bleeding," he said. "I comforted her, told her the police were on their way."

He added, "I'm just glad she's alive."

Both Barber and Lasher received summonses from the Palisades Interstate Parkway Police for creating hazardous conditions by climbing on the edge of the cliffs and leaving the footpaths.

Lasher said he recalled seeing a small rock barrier near the cliff's edge, but police said the pair must have gone over a wire fence.

"There are signs posted at every entrance" that tell people "to stay on the trails and not go by the cliffs' edge," said Palisades Police Sgt. Nelson Pagan.

The three-hour rescue effort was conducted by the Palisades Interstate Parkway Police, Englewood Cliffs Volunteer Fire Department, and paramedics from Englewood Hospital, police said.

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NJ Transit details route and schedule changes

Several route and schedule changes for NJ Transit bus service in North and Central Jersey take effect Saturday.

Riders should check window notices and timetables on buses or at terminals for more detailed information. Among the changes:

- In Passaic and Essex counties, a bus will be added to the No. 15 Newark-Butler line in the morning rush hour. The bus will leave Newark Penn Station for Willowbrook at 8:20 a.m. A trip will be added on the No. 74 Main-Passaic from Passaic to Paterson.

- In Bergen County, a trip will be added on the No. 164 from New York Port Authority to Arcola between 6:30 and 7 p.m. On the No. 167 Dumont-New York line, the 7 p.m. turnpike express trip will leave at 6:50 p.m. and will end

at the Teaneck Armory. There are time changes on the No. 83 Hackensack-Jersey City line and the No. 320 Lincoln Tunnel line.

- In the Newark and Elizabeth area, more services will be added in the morning to the No. 25 Springfield, No. 5 Kinney and No. 107 Irvington lines. Service on the No. 1 line to Washington Park will be one round-trip daily.

- In Union County, the No. 26 Irvington-Elizabeth line will operate in both directions along Morris Avenue and Broad Street in Elizabeth, but not on Cherry Street.

- In Monmouth and Middlesex counties, service to Newark only has been eliminated on the No. 138 East Brunswick to New York, Jersey City, Newark line.

- In Hunterdon County, service to

Bridgewater Commons Mall has been eliminated. Service will operate via Route 28 between Somerville Circle and Route 22 in Bridgewater.

Special summer services end after

Labor Day, Sept. 5. Service to Great Adventure from New York Port Authority, Union City and Newark will continue on weekends through Oct. 9, when the park closes for the season.

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SOURCE: THE SCARBOROUGH REPORT, 1986.

Three juveniles are charged in assault with bat

A 21-year-old man was hospitalized yesterday after three juveniles beat him in the head with a baseball bat on Main Street in downtown Orange, authorities said.

Police Director Charles Cobbert said Vincent Lee Webb, whose address was not immediately available, was assaulted by three 17-year-olds about 2 p.m. as he exited a pizzeria near North

Day Street.

The police director said the suspects were arrested shortly after the incident, adding that the weapon was recovered at the scene. Webb was taken to Orange Memorial Hospital for treatment of head injuries.

The cause of the dispute was not immediately known, Cobbert said. He added that the youths were charged with aggravated assault.

DO YOU WANT TO HELP CUT YOUR GARBAGE COSTS?

Residents and elected officials of Morris County are invited by the Board of Chosen Freeholders to attend a public hearing on setting rates for garbage collection.

DATE: Thursday, Sept. 8, 1988
TIME: 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.
PLACE: Freeholder Meeting Room
Morris County Courthouse
Western Avenue Entrance
Morristown

PARKING:

Parking deck on Ann Street and Morristown Parking Lot on High Street.

BACKGROUND:

The Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders believes the rates charged by Morris County Transfer Station, Inc. are too high and will be documenting its objections to the existing rates and those proposed for the immediate future.

On the basis of the investigations and recommendations of the county's economic consultants and its rate counsel, the county is prepared to challenge the MCTS application to the state Board of Public Utilities for higher rates.

Among the items on which costs are based and to be discussed at the hearing are:

- Tonnage projections
- Price adjustment proposed by MCTS
- Ownership and costs of transfer station services
- Land and truck leases
- Management service contract
- Regulation of MCTS costs
- Loan transactions

The mayors and administrators of Morris County's 39 municipalities have been invited to appear at the hearing and have been given information on the county's position. We are sure they would share the information with interested residents.

Information to help residents prepare testimony for the hearing is available at the offices of the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority, 380 West Hanover Ave., Morris Township, N.J. 07960, phone no. 285-8383. It will also be available at the hearing.

For those unable to attend, written comments may be sent directly to the Division of Solid Waste, Board of Public Utilities, Two Gateway Center, Newark, N.J. 07102.