



News Release

October 3, 2007

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The Hanover County Sheriff's Office is seeking the community's assistance in identifying a suspect(s) involved in an unusual vandalism incident that occurred last night at Hanover High School and Oak Knoll Middle School.

During the early morning hours today, a Hanover Sheriff's Deputy was conducting a regular check of Hanover High School and Oak Knoll Middle School located on Route 301 when he discovered that both buildings had been vandalized with spray paint. The vandalism was primarily confined to the rear of each building and contained offensive words and symbols. As other officers arrived on the scene and assisted with a search of the area, it was further discovered that other outbuildings had been vandalized with spray paint. Additionally, the Hanover High School football field was also found to have been vandalized by the suspect(s) through the use of an ATV that was already on-site, which belongs to the school. The damage is estimated to be well into the thousands of dollars, making it a felony offense.

Because the Sheriff's Office was able to locate the damage well before school opened, we were able to make contact with school officials, who promptly responded to the scene. Fortunately, school employees were able to clean up a majority of the vandalized areas prior to the open of school, which allowed the schools to open on time with minimal disruption.

The Sheriff's Office continues to investigate all possible leads in this unusual case and will work closely with Hanover County school officials to bring this investigation to a successful conclusion. Anyone with information on this incident can contact Crime Stoppers at 804-780-1000 or the Hanover Sheriff's Office at 804-365-6140.

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