

CAPITAL 15 OCT 2007

Scissors, knives found at court

ANNAPOLIS — In the past three months, county sheriff's deputies have confiscated dozens of weapons and other items during security screenings at the entrance of the county circuit courthouse in Annapolis, Sheriff's Department officials said.

Items collected from July 1 through September include: 31 pairs of scissors; one handcuff key; 11 cans of pepper spray; 91 cameras; 260 knives; and one handgun.

Deputies have also confiscated other items, such as recorders, letter openers, leatherman tools, wire cutters and shears. Sheriff Ron Bateman said the deputies' actions may have prevented possible injury to people in the courthouse.

Couple beaten, robbed at gunpoint

ODENTON — Two men ordered an Odenton man and woman to the ground and robbed them at gunpoint Friday night while walking in the Piney Orchard community, county police said.

At about 8:40 p.m. the 56-year-old man and 59-year-old woman were in the 900 block of Taxus Drive when two men — one with a handgun — walked up to them and told them to get to the ground. The men then kicked and hit the man and took his wallet, police said. Then they ran away.

Officers, including a K-9 unit and police helicopter, searched the area but could not find the men.

Police said one of the men was black, about 6 feet tall, and 185 pounds. He was about 20 years old and wearing a gray hooded sweat jacket and dark pants. They said the second man was black, about 5-feet 10-inches tall, and 170 pounds. He was about 20 years old and wore a dark nylon jacket with yellow piping on the sleeves.

— From staff reports