

Police arrest honeymooner

Groom charged with murder

By **KAREN NELSON**
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PASCAGOULA — David John Cannon got married Friday. On his way home from the service, he stopped at a video store to rent a movie with his new bride, and police arrested him on a murder charge.

Sheriff Mike Byrd announced Saturday that his deputies and FBI officials arrested Cannon around 7 p.m. in the parking lot of the TNT Video Store on Mississippi 57 in Vancleave and charged him with the April murder of Thomas Earl Beasley III.

Beasley, 37, was from Helena. Cannon, 42, lives on Thrasher Lane in Vancleave. The men met at the Miss-A-Bama lounge on U.S. 90 east of Pascagoula and left together on a night in late April. Cannon was a truck driver and Beasley was a veteran of Desert Storm.

Later that night, according to the charges against him, the two fought, Cannon bludgeoned Beasley to death and dumped his body in a pond in Monroe County, Ala., two hours away.

Beasley's body was discovered in the pond on May 2 but



Cannon

was not identified. His truck was noticed in the parking lot of the lounge on May 5, and Beasley's mother, Janice Moore of Pascagoula,

reported him missing.

Sheriff Byrd credited a phone tip two months ago and help from the FBI's Safe Streets Task Force for helping break the 8-month-old murder case. Deputies Greg Settle and Joe Nicholson handled the investigation.

"It's a very good feeling, simply because it puts closure to this for the family," Byrd said Saturday. "It's satisfying for police officers and everyone involved."

Cannon was being held in the Jackson County jail Saturday without bond on a charge of murder. He is scheduled to appear before a county judge Monday.

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