



Mike Mathers, News-Miner

tor of the Fairbanks Native Association, em-  
violence at a meeting in the borough as-  
son, left, and City Mayor Jim Hayes watch

## Suspects indicted for teen's murder

### Staff report

Four young men were each indicted on two separate murder charges Thursday in connection with the beating death of 15-year-old John Hartman early Saturday morning.

A grand jury in Fairbanks Superior Court handed down indictments on charges of first- and second-degree murder for Eugene Vent, 17, Marvin Roberts, 19, George Freese, 20, and Kevin Pease, 18.

All four were also indicted on a charge of first-degree sexual assault. Vent faces an additional count of third-degree assault for threatening a clerk at the Alaskan Motor Inn.

Police say the four young men kicked Hartman in the head repeatedly at the corner of Ninth Avenue and Barnette Street and that they sexually assaulted him after the attack.

Hartman was found by a  
See INDICT, Page A-8

SEXUAL ASSAULT Reference

## INDICT: Murder

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passerby at 2:40 a.m. Saturday. He was pronounced dead at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital on Sunday night. All four defendants were each being held in Fairbanks Correctional Center on \$1 million bail.

First-degree murder is an unclassified felony that carries a

minimum sentence of 20 years and a maximum sentence of 99 years. First-degree murder implies that all four specifically intended to kill Hartman. The second-degree murder charge indicates that the four men caused Hartman's death during another crime.

Poorly sourced  
Side bar reference

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Mike Mathers/News Miner

**VIOLENCE FORUM**—John Regitano, center, executive director of the Fairbanks Native Association, emphasizes the need for a community wide effort to reduce violence at a meeting in the borough assembly chamber Thursday while borough Mayor Jim Sampson, left, and City Mayor Jim Hayes watch.

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