

Wandered from group of handicapped

Island man, 27, missing in Manhattan

Police, aided by volunteers from the Fire Department and the Guardian Angels, are pressing their search for a 27-year-old Mariners Harbor man who wandered away from a group of developmentally disabled adults attending a basketball game Sunday afternoon in Madison Square Garden.

The missing man, Edmund Missall, attended a Harlem Globetrotters game with 15 clients and four staff members from the Volunteers of America Care Facility, a group home at 35 Holland Ave., where he had been living, according to Beatrice Victor, the administrator. Missall, who had been carrying \$10 and special identification, strayed away from the group as they were leaving the Manhattan arena.

Mrs. Victor described Missall as developmentally disabled, and while he is able to comprehend language, his speech is difficult to follow. She said he is familiar with public transportation on Staten Island, but could become disoriented by Manhattan transit.

eyes and black hair and is known to have a fondness for mechanical objects, especially cars.

Since Sunday afternoon, Missall has been spotted twice, at a Burger King restaurant near the Garden, and yesterday afternoon when he was turned away from the Garden box office after he attempted to gain admittance with another group of young people, Mrs. Victor said. Burger King staff permitted him to eat free of charge after they learned he had no money, she said.

"He likes to do his own thing. He's wandered away before," Mrs. Victor noted, "but he always comes back. If he can find his way to the ferry terminal, he'll be OK."

Missall's parents live in Stapleton, she said, and his brother, a fireman, organized volunteers from the department to help in the search. She said the Guardian Angels were called in when it became apparent yesterday afternoon that Manhattan police had not obtained a report from Staten Island police that would



Edmund Missall

Missall, who is 6 feet, 2 inches tall and wears a moustache and gold-rimmed glasses, was last seen in brown pants, a white sweater and navy blue jacket and cap. He is white, with blue

circumvent the usual policy of waiting 24 hours before a missing persons search for an adult is begun.

Anyone with information on Missall's whereabouts is asked to call Mrs. Victor at 448-4730 or Detective Richard Petersen of the 120th Precinct at 727-6420.

— ANNE FANCIULLO