

SIDC resident severely injured

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A severely retarded resident of the Staten Island Developmental Center in Willowbrook remained hospitalized in a "deep coma" yesterday, five days after he was attacked by another resident, police said.

Darren Wranovics, 22, was taken to Bayley Seton Hospital after being beaten and kicked inside a bedroom in Building 28 on the center's grounds, according to police. He was listed in stable condition this morning, said a hospital spokeswoman.

A police report said the victim is "on a respirator and in a deep coma."

The attack occurred early Saturday, but officials at the center apparently investigated the mat-

ter themselves before reporting it to police yesterday, said Sgt. Eugene Martinez of the Staten Island Crimes Against Persons Squad.

The 37-year-old man believed responsible for the attack is being held in the psychiatric emergency room at St. Vincent's Medical Center, according to a report filed at the 122nd Precinct stationhouse in New Dorp. But it's unlikely the man will be arrested, Martinez said. The attacker, like the victim, is severely retarded, police said.

"It's just a tragic thing," Martinez said. "If he's that severely retarded, he wouldn't know he's under arrest, and it certainly wouldn't act as a deterrent. You just don't punish a person like that."

"Whatever information we

have will be presented to the district attorney," Martinez added. He said the matter could eventually go before a grand jury.

A detective was unable yesterday to talk to a center employee who is a possible witness, Martinez said. He said police aren't sure what triggered the attack.

A spokesman for the state-run facility could not be reached for comment last night. The developmental center is scheduled to close next year.

It was unclear whether a staff member was present when the attack began.

Martinez said Wranovics apparently was beaten with bare hands and with feet. He sustained "head injuries, basically," Martinez added.