

state/nation/world

The Daily Collegian
Wednesday, Dec. 15

Jury decides on Wood trial Contract killer Harrelson found guilty of murdering judge

By MACK SISK
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — A jury found contract killer Charles V. Harrelson guilty yesterday of gunning down federal judge John H. Wood Jr. to collect a \$250,000 fee from a drug dealer. The wife of the hit man and the drug dealer were convicted on lesser charges.

The verdicts capped one of the most intense investigations in the annals of the FBI, which started when Wood was slain outside his townhouse on May 29, 1979. He is the only federal judge murdered in this century.

"This is just a necessary step in the progression of things," the 44-year-old Harrelson said to reporters as he was led away.

Harrelson, already serving a 40-year state prison sentence on weapons and other charges, faces a mandatory life sentence for this conviction. There is no provision under federal law for him to receive the death penalty.

Years earlier, Harrelson, who had been previously convicted as a hitman, allegedly bragged, "I've never killed a person who was undeserving of it."

Harrelson's 41-year-old wife, Jo Ann, was convicted of conspiracy to obstruct justice, which carries a maximum five-year term.

Elizabeth Chagra, the 28-year-old wife of Jamiel "Jimmy" Chagra, the man accused of ordering the slaying, was convicted of conspiracy to murder a federal judge and conspiracy to obstruct justice. She faces up to life in prison.

U.S. District Judge William Sessions set sentencing for March 8.

Mrs. Harrelson is under a three-year federal sentence for using a fictitious name to buy a rifle

prosecutors contended was the murder weapon. Two others also were indicted in the Wood murder. Chagra, 38, charged with murder and murder conspiracy, is to stand trial Jan. 10.

Chagra's brother, Joseph, 36, pleaded guilty to murder conspiracy and other charges were dropped. He was assessed a 10-year prison term and was the government's key witness.

Wood's slaying outside his San Antonio townhouse triggered the most exhaustive Justice Department investigation since the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

None of the three defendants showed any emotion when the verdicts were read. Several female jurors sobbed.

Mrs. Chagra held her head up and smiled at the jurors.

Prosecutor Ray Jahn was elated.

"When Judge Wood died on May 29th, justice did not die," he said. "The system works."

Harrelson's attorney, Tom Sharpe Jr., said he would file a motion for a new trial.

Mrs. Chagra's lawyer, Warren Burnett, termed the verdict a "bitter, bitter disappointment" and said he would appeal.

Charles Campion, representing Mrs. Harrelson, said, "I wish we could have had a severance and separate trial for Jo Ann."

The nine-woman, three-man jury, which had been sequestered since last Thursday, deliberated 18 hours before reaching the verdicts.

The trial, which started Sept. 28, featured 40 days of testimony from 104 government and 26 defense witnesses, more than 500 pages of documents, and hours of tape recordings played to the jurors.

Prosecutors, describing Harrelson as "highly intelligent and cunning," said he killed the judge



Charles V. Harrelson

for a \$250,000 fee from Jimmy Chagra. Convicted of a continuing criminal enterprise, he is now serving a 30-year federal prison term without parole.

Chagra was scheduled for trial before Wood in 1979 when the judge was killed. The indictment charged that Chagra learned Wood would sentence him to life in prison on a criminal enterprise charge.

Richard Seaberg, vice president of Poe Associates, an insurance

Robbery might be an inside job

By BETSY KENEDY
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The \$8 million robbery of an armored car warehouse by handits who scrawled "robbers were here" on a mirror had the earmarks of an inside job, investigators said yesterday.

Two armed men cut through the roof of the warehouse late Sunday and made off with the money in this country's biggest cash heist.

The robbers pierced the steel and tarpaper roof, defused an alarm system, handcuffed the lone guard, and pried open a heavy metal door into a vault-like money room at the Sentry-Armored Courier two-story warehouse in the Bronx.

The armored car company, one of the largest in the city, has offered a \$25,000 reward for information leading to arrests and convictions, said a Sentry official who declined to be identified.

Investigators said the men came equipped with a screwdriver or similar tool to perforate the roof and make a circular hole; an electronic burglary tool to defuse the alarm; a rope to lower themselves into the building, and a crowbar to pry open the door to the money room.

Once inside the money room, thieves cut through a floor-to-ceiling, chain-link fence with boltcutters to reach the moneybags stacked on pushcarts.

The robbers took money bags with small, unmarked bills totaling an estimated \$8 million to a truck they had parked outside.

company based in Tampa, Fla., that was one of Sentry's underwriters, said he also believed the job was done with inside help, since his company had twice inspected the facility's security system.

"Our indication is that someone really had to know what was in there in order to get past the cameras, the alarm systems and guard," Seaberg said. "Someone had some knowledge of the premises."

The armored car company, one of the largest in the city, has offered a \$25,000 reward for information leading to arrests and convictions, said a Sentry official who declined to be identified.

Investigators said the men came equipped with a screwdriver or similar tool to perforate the roof and make a circular hole; an electronic burglary tool to defuse the alarm; a rope to lower themselves into the building, and a crowbar to pry open the door to the money room.

Once inside the money room, thieves cut through a floor-to-ceiling, chain-link fence with boltcutters to reach the moneybags stacked on pushcarts.

The robbers took money bags with small, unmarked bills totaling an estimated \$8 million to a truck they had parked outside.

state news briefs

Laid-off workers offered free items

JOHNSTOWN (AP) — Prescription drugs, Christmas toys and even college tuition are available free to laid-off workers in the depressed Johnstown area.

Operation Touch, an association social-service group reacting to Johnstown's 16.6 percent unemployment rate, is organizing the giveaways using donations from local companies and professionals.

"All of these little miracles are happening," said Rita Campbell, the project coordinator. "People just kept calling... and it all fit into place."

Free toys will be provided by a local department store. Prescription drugs and other medical services will be provided at a free clinic established by area physicians.

Mount Aloysius Junior College in nearby Cresson has offered vacant classroom seats in traditional classes to the qualified unemployed.

Tough drunk driving law to be signed

HARRISBURG (AP) — Gov. Dick Thornburgh will sign a tough drunken driving law today, his office has announced.

Spokesman Kirk Wilson said a ceremony has been set for this afternoon at the Capitol.

A person convicted of drunken driving would face 48 hours in jail for a first conviction. However, the person could avoid jail if there was no accident or injuries involved. First convictions would also require license suspensions ranging from a month to a year.

"I'm pleased," said Marie Turso, founder of Pennsylvania Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, who lobbied for the measure.

Thornburgh has had the bill since Nov. 23, following its passage by the House and Senate. He has until Dec. 30 to act on it.

nation news briefs

Woman wants a car for her coupons

DOWNNEY, Calif. (AP) — Sharon Ann Otten says the plates on her new 1982 Firenza four-door will read "PAGE 9." That's the spot where she found coupons in 91 phone books that she claims entitle her to get the car for free.

The coupons, which offer \$100 off the price of a car, carry no written notice limiting them to one per customer or one per car. The dealer says that doesn't matter and refuses to deliver the \$8,400 car. Ms. Otten has hired a lawyer.

The 39-year-old Anaheim woman said she was seeking a bicycle coupon for her teenage son Nov. 17 when she spotted the coupon from Nowling Oldsmobile in Downey. It said, "Present this coupon after making your best deal on a new or used car & receive an additional \$100 off."

Then, she said, she spent nearly 14 hours the same day scurrying door-to-door in search of additional coupons, ending up with about 150 worth \$15,000. She got to the dealership before it closed that night.

Runway not tested in Boston crash

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal investigators who have examined the crash of a World Airways DC-10 in Boston said yesterday that airport officials were "willing to accept the risk" of an accident when they failed to test the runway after a number of pilots reported poor braking.

The jetliner skidded off the ice-covered runway last January and crashed into Boston Harbor. Two

world news briefs

GIs injured by terrorist car bombs

FRANKFURT, West Germany (AP) — One GI was seriously wounded and another escaped unharmed yesterday after terrorists fired the front seats of their cars with pressure-sensitive bombs activated by the target's weight.

A spokesman for the Hesse state criminal office said the strikes marked an escalation of action by terrorists who previously concentrated on doing material damage. He warned GIs to be on the lookout for more car bombs.

The injured soldier received leg wounds and suffered internal injuries when he got into his car at Butzbach, outside Frankfurt, to drive to work at 5:20 a.m. Butzbach police officer Klaus-Juergen Fricke said.

He was treated first at a local clinic and then moved to the Army's 97th General Hospital in Frankfurt, where a V Corps spokesman said he was in "stable" condition by mid-afternoon.

Two hours after the explosion, another GI, also unidentified, climbed into his car in Frankfurt, felt something hard under the seat and quickly sprang out — to find a battery wired to a 4½-pound fire extinguisher packed with explosives primed to blow up his car.

Soviets supply tanks to Nicaraguans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Recent shipments from the Soviet bloc may have doubled the number of tanks in Nicaragua's army, army leaders said yesterday.

The USIA is pushing the record. "We're going to promote it any way we can. What we'd like to do is get it to all the radio stations across the country," said union spokesman Russ Gibbons.

"I call it the national anthem of the unemployed. It delivers a very strong message," said Justin Brown of Air Craft Communications, which donated the studio time, musicians and production costs to make the record.

The USIA is pushing the record. "We're going to promote it any way we can. What we'd like to do is get it to all the radio stations across the country," said union spokesman Russ Gibbons.

"I call it the national anthem of the unemployed. It delivers a very strong message," said Justin Brown of Air Craft Communications, which donated the studio time, musicians and production costs to make the record.

Diary remains to tell story of stranded man

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP) — Tales of death and despair in the frozen north are not new in Alaskan folklore, but no poet wrote of Carl McCunn's fatal adventure. He wrote it himself.

When the state trooper cut open the tent and found Carl McCunn's wasted body, he also found a diary the stranded man had kept until he ended his torment with a rifle bullet.

"They say it doesn't hurt," McCunn wrote, and pulled the trigger.

He died at age 35 in a wilderness camp near a nameless lake in a nameless valley 22 miles northeast of Fairbanks. He had gone there to photograph the natural beauty and mysteries of the tundra.

His diary, 100 pages of looseleaf paper, began in tidy, block letters recording the wonders of an emerging summer. It ended eight and a half months later, in the scrawl of an abandoned soul crippled by frostbite, fighting with ravens and wolves for scraps of food.

The diary wound up in the coroner's office

in Fairbanks, where, at an inquest, the saga of Carl McCunn unfolded.

On the last page, he wrote: "Am burning the last of my emergency Coleman light and just fed the fire the last of my spit wood. When the ashes cool, I'll be cooling along with them."

McCunn had been flown into the valley about 75 miles northeast of Fort Yukon in March, 1981, as winter was ending. He knew the area. In 1976, he had spent five months alone in the desolate Brooks Range.

This time, with about 500 rolls of film, photo equipment, firearms and 1,400 pounds of provisions, he planned to stay through mid-August.

At the coroner's inquest, testimony from friends — and McCunn's own diary — suggested he had failed to make specific arrangements to be picked up.

Early diary entries detail fascination with the watertowl, and wrote of the return of the creatures to their summer grounds.

By early August, with his supplies dwindling, his concern grew with the change of the season.

"I think I should have used more foresight about arranging my departure. I'll soon find out. Am down to beans now... just over a gallon. That may not last two weeks. Finished off the rice yesterday."

By mid-August — his diary entries were not dated — he spent much of his time searching for food.

Still no plan. His anxiety grew.

"Come on, please... don't leave me hanging and fretting" like this. I didn't come out here for that."

Meanwhile, concerned friends asked the Alaska State Troopers to check on McCunn.

Trooper David Hamilton flew over McCunn's camp. Later, he testified he saw McCunn waving a red bag. He said he circled and McCunn "waved in a casual manner and watched us fly by."

"On the third pass he turned and walked back toward the tent, slowly, casually," Hamilton said. "No wave, no nothing."

"We surmised there was no immediate danger or need for emergency aid."

In his diary, McCunn tells of first being elated about sighting the plane. Later he realized he had given the wrong signal to the pilot.

"I recall raising my right hand, shoulder high and shaking my fist on the plane's second pass. It was a little closer — like when your team scored a touchdown or something."

"Turns out that's the signal for very similar far 'ALL OK... DO NOT WAIT'. They probably blew me off as a weirdo... Man, I can't believe it!"

By October, he was competing with wolves and foxes for the rabbits he snared.

In November, Carl McCunn ran out of food. All he had left were a few spices.

"I feel very down, but not quite out. Damned close, however."

Around Thanksgiving, McCunn was beginning to have dizzy spells.

"I feel miserable. Have had the chills upon awakening for the past three days... I can't take much more of this... Can't stop thinking about using the bullet either."

He used the last of his fuel, and fed the fire a final time.

"I (chickened) out once already, but I don't wanna go through the chills again. They say it doesn't hurt."

"Dear God in Heaven, please forgive my weakness and my sins. Please look over my family."

He added a separate note asking that his personal items be returned to his father. And he instructed the one who found the note to keep his rifle and shotgun. That was his will.

He signed his name and attached his Alaska driver's license.

"The I.D. is me, match."

With those words, the diary, and the life of Carl McCunn, ended.

'Steel Mill Blues' declared anthem of unemployed

By BOB DVORCHAK
Associated Press Writer

MIDLAND, Beaver County — Michael Pickering just wanted to cheer up his laid-off uncle when he strummed his guitar and made up "Steel Mill Blues," a folk song about the plight of a furloughed steelworker.

But the recording, called "the national anthem of the unemployed," has sold over 3,000 copies in two weeks and is gaining popularity on radio stations and jukeboxes in areas where the blast furnaces are idle.

Some of the proceeds are being used to feed the jobless, and the United Steelworkers of America is promoting the tune nationally.

"I wanted to help lift my uncle's spirits. I had no idea it would be a record. I never expected this," said

Liz Miles, a reporter in Pittsburgh for KDKA-TV's "Evening Magazine," arranged to have a record made after Pickering agreed to have all proceeds go to the Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, a non-profit group that distributes food to the needy in the tri-state area.

"I call it the national anthem of the unemployed. It delivers a very strong message," said Justin Brown of Air Craft Communications, which

donated the studio time, musicians and production costs to make the record.

The USIA is pushing the record. "We're going to promote it any way we can. What we'd like to do is get it to all the radio stations across the country," said union spokesman Russ Gibbons.

"I call it the national anthem of the unemployed. It delivers a very strong message," said Justin Brown of Air Craft Communications, which

donated the studio time, musicians and production costs to make the record.

The USIA is pushing the record. "We're going to promote it any way we can. What we'd like to do is get it to all the radio stations across the country," said union spokesman Russ Gibbons.

"I call it the national anthem of the unemployed. It delivers a very strong message," said Justin Brown of Air Craft Communications, which

donated the studio time, musicians and production costs to make the record.

The USIA is pushing the record. "We're going to promote it any way we can. What we'd like to do is get it to all the radio stations across the country," said union spokesman Russ Gibbons.

"I call it the national anthem of the unemployed. It delivers a very strong message," said Justin Brown of Air Craft Communications, which

Woman cleans up \$100,000 worth of items found

MARBLEHEAD, Mass. (AP) — Truckloads of jewelry, appliances and clothing worth at least \$100,000 have been carted from the apartment of a trusted cleaning woman, who authorities say may have cleaned her employers' homes too thoroughly.

"I forget how many truckloads it took," said James Gribouski, an Essex County assistant district attorney.

"You name it, and it was there," Gribouski said, including TVs, toaster ovens and bicycles.

"They filled up the jail cells" with the stuff, he said, and a local department store "gave us some space" for the rest.

He said the booty was believed to be worth at least \$100,000.

The items were taken from the Lynn apartment of Dianna Jablonski, 34, a domestic who worked in the homes of the wealthy North Shore.

Police discovered the loot when they got a search warrant to look for \$13,000 in jewelry taken from a

home in Swampscott.

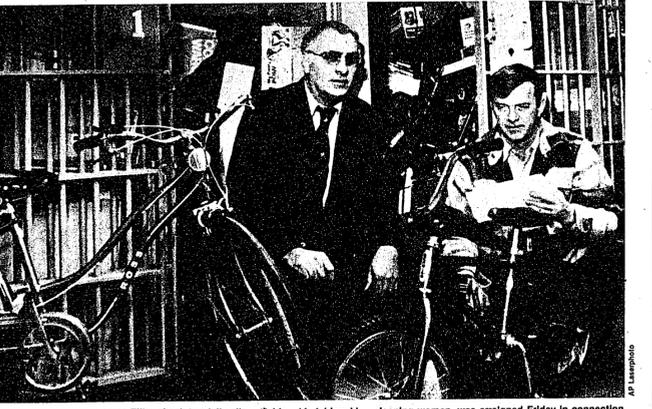
"They had no idea when they went looking for the jewelry that they would find the other stuff," Gribouski said.

He said police were calling in Lynn District Court on Friday on a larceny charge. She is accused of shoplifting at a Swampscott department store over an 11-month period.

Marblehead Police Inspector James Elliott said the police also found cash and coins in boxes and bags and the search led to a safe deposit box in a Lynn bank where investigators found a substantial amount of cash.

"We have 11 guys involved in the inventory," Elliott said. "It was mind-boggling. It's going to take days and days to figure this."

Ms. Jablonski was arraigned in Lynn District Court on Friday on a larceny charge. She is accused of shoplifting at a Swampscott department store over an 11-month period.



Police Captain William Dennis and Inspector James Elliott check two jail cells filled with articles discovered by the police in the apartment of Dianna Jablonski, Jablonski, a cleaning woman, was arraigned Friday in connection with alleged shoplifting from the homes of her employers.

TAKE USG HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

	DEPARTURES:		STOPS:
To Philadelphia:	Dec. 20	5:30 PM	King of Prussia Mall (Wanamaker's)
\$16.75 one way	Dec. 21	12 Noon, 5:30 PM	Trailways Terminal (13th & Arch)
\$31.75 round trip	Dec. 22	12 Noon	
To Pittsburgh:	Dec. 20	6:00 PM	David Weis in Monroeville
\$14.50 One Way	Dec. 21	12:30 & 6:00 PM	Trailways Terminal (Downtown)
\$27.50 Round Trip	Dec. 22	12:30 PM	
To New York City:	Dec. 21	11:30 AM & 5 PM	Rockaway Mall, Dover, N.J. (Sears Lower Level)
\$28.75 One Way	Dec. 22	11:30 AM	Port Authority (Taxi Roadway)
\$57.50 Round Trip			
To Long Island:	Dec. 21	5:00 PM	Roosevelt Field Shopping Center (Gimbels)
\$28.75 One Way			Walt Whitman Shopping Center (A & S Dept. Store)
\$57.50 Round Trip			

Tickets go on sale December 15-17, 20, from 9-4:30 at the HUB desk. All buses are express and leave from the HUB & Lot 80. Return trip from all cities on Jan. 2, 1983. Return time is 7:00 PM from Phila., Pitts., NYC, and 5:00 PM from L.I.

GO FOR IT! SUGAR BOWL SOUVENIRS

This is the year that the Nittany Lions go for #1. This is the year you'll want the special souvenirs that Farmers Community is offering at special "Penn State Fan" prices. They're good-looking, fun, and excellent quality... perfect for gifts, too!

- Baseball Shirts \$6
- Baseball Hats \$4
- Flippy Flyers \$3
- Commemorative Key Chains 50¢

It's not necessary to be a Farmers Community customer. The only obligation is that you be a roaring-great Penn State football fan!

Hurry!

Get your #1 souvenirs while they last!

STATE COLLEGE • LEMONT • PORT MATILDA • BOALSBURG • MILLHEIM

stock report

Discount rate cut spurs short rally

NEW YORK (AP) — Stock prices tumbled yesterday after a short-lived rally in response to the latest cut in the Federal Reserve's discount rate.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials, up almost 20 points in early trading, was down 14.90 at 1,009.38 by the close.

Volume on the New York Stock Exchange reached 98.38 million shares, against 63.14 million the day before.

After the close on Monday, the Fed cut its discount rate — the charge it sets on loans to private financial institutions — from 9 to 8 percent. Analysts interpreted it as an aggressive move by the central bank to stimulate a recovery from the recession.

Volume Shares	117,820,150
Issues Traded	1,971
Up	629
Unchanged	351
Down	991
ny.s.e. Index	79.32 - 1.35
s.&p. Comp.	153.85 - 3.14
Dow Jones Ind.	1,009.38 - 14.90