Brooks' Sentence: Life in Prison

oks, 20, convicted of murder in he Houston mass sex-torturerder case, was sentenced to life isonment Wednesday. An eight-woman, four-man jury

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or appointment

HOUSTON (AP) — David Owen returned the sentence after a prosecutor had told them to "consider the nature of the animal." Brooks, thin, pale and bespectacled, stood without any show of emotion as the verdict was read. He was convicted Tuesday of killing one of 27 young

boys slain by the sex-murder gang. His parents and wife sat stoneyfaced as the court clerk read the jury's life sentence verdict. Brooks' father, Alton Brooks, said the conviction would be appealed and vowed "we'll continue to fight.

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My son said he never committed murder and I don't believe he did it," said the elder Brooks.

Mrs. David Brooks was dry-eyed Wednesday, in contrast to her unrestrained crying on Tuesday when the guilty verdict was returned. Asked if she would continue to 'stand beside David", she replied: Yes, I will." Brooks and his wife, Bridgett, married a month before he was arrested. They have a young daughter. Brooks' mother ignored news-

men pressing around her in the courtroom corridor and refused to nake any comment.

unpopular ruling. Testimony in the trial indicated that Brooks was aware of the mass The young man's father, how-

Ray Lawrence, 15.

of the mass murders. Brooks was on

trial only in the death of William

didn't have the nerve" to make an

The elder Brooks said "this judge

killings, but the state never pre-sented any evidence of Brooks takever, said he believes his son "will never get a fair trial. 'No elected judge will give him a ing an active role in the actual com-

fair trial," said the elder Brooks. "It mission of the crimes. was completely a farce.' In closing arguments, assistant district attorney Don Lambright said Brooks was "absolutely unprin-Alton Brooks, echoing the words earlier of defense lawyer Jim Skelton, said a ruling by District Court cipled . . . about taking a human life" and said the young man was Judge William H. Hatten permitted the state to present evidence on all without "any conscience at all."

Lambright asked the jury to "consider the nature of the animal" and give him either 99 years or life imprisonment.

Skelton, in his arguments, said that a different system of law was used in the Brooks trial than in an ordinary trial, which he said "was simply not fair.

The only thing the state could prove is that he was an accessory, which carries a punishment of two years," said Skelton.

"What has happened in this case is wrong," he said. "I'll argue that to my dying day.

The jury retired to consider the punishment at 11:35 a.m. CDT. Thirty-eight minutes later they asked for information on the actual difference between a 99-year and a life sentence.

At 12:37 p.m. CDT, they knocked on the jury room door to announce they had reached a verdict

In a hallway interview, Skelton said he would remain as Brooks' attorney and intended to file appeals He said Brooks could also still be tried on the three other murder indictments he faces.

And once again he bitterly denounced Judge Hatten's ruling which permitted Lambright to present testimony and evidence on all the murders.

'It was a 13-man jury," said Skelton. "The 13th man was Judge Hatten. I don't see how the jury could have made any other decision. Hatten, questioned about.

Skelton's statements, shrugged it off.

"Isn't it always the case that anybody who loses is treated unfairly, he said.

Evidence presented in the trial showed that Brooks developed a friendship with Dean Corll, an older man, when he, Brooks, was only 12.

About two years later, Corll paid Brooks to permit homosexual liberties.

Brooks said in a confession that he often went to Corll's home and found young, nude boys tied to a bed. Once he asked Corll what was going on, according to the statement, and quoted Corll as saying he was "having some fun."

Brooks, in the statement, said he later helped bury many of the victims, including some who were boyhood friends.

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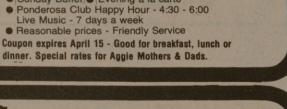
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Fish Camp Needs Counselors

Campus brieks

The Student 'Y' Association will be taking applications through Friday for those interested in serving as counselors at Fish Camp 1975. Applications may be picked up in Room 216 of the MSC and will not be accepted after Friday, March 7. Dates for Fish Camp are August 24 through 28.

International Students Dinner

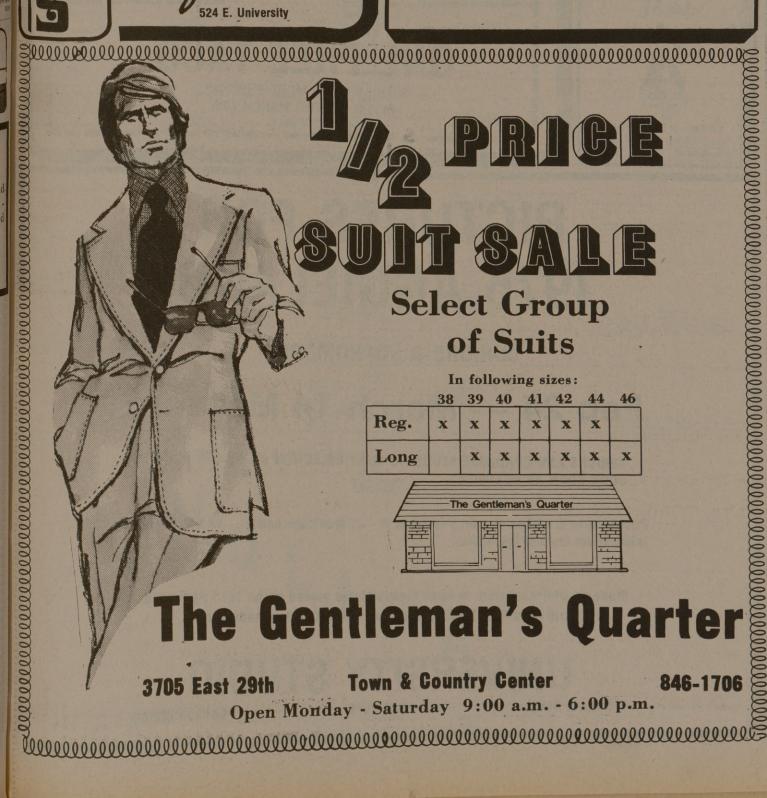
A dinner for Texas A&M's International Students will be held March 9 at 12:30 p.m. at the A&M Presbyterian Church. Dr. Clessen J. Martin, head of the Psychology Department, will speak on "Psychology, Science and Religion." Tickets are on sale now at the Foreign Student Office for \$1.00 and will be limited to 150 students.

An Account of Accounting

The Accounting Honor Society of Texas A&M, Delta Iota, will sponsor an orientation session tonight at 7:30 in Room 415 of the Rudder Tower. Topics to be discussed include the curriculum at A&M, job placement, and different accounting careers that may be pursued after graduation.

> Lakeview Friday, March 7 8-12 P.M. Music by RAMRODS \$1.50 per person

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is directed toward collecting funds to be used for cancer research and education. These donations also help in supporting rehabilitation and other services utilized by Texas cancer patients.

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16	I7 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18	19	20	21 SPRING BEGINS	22
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We will have our recruiting representatives on campus March 11th to discuss career opportunities with a multi-billion dollar insurance company. Contact the placement office for an appointment with one of our representatives.

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