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Chad's parents consider return Once in midst of Laetrile controversy Greens are still wanted by court

BOSTON — It was the first time the four had been together since the funeral of Chad Green, whose parents are wanted for disobeying a court order and taking their child to Mexico for laetrile treatments.

At a secret meeting at a New England restaurant, the boy's parents and grandparents looked like any other family greeting one another after a year's separation — there were hugs, kisses, damp eyes, handholding and long looks.

But the Greens are not like any other family. Gerald and Diana Green are wanted on four contempt warrants, which have no statute of limitations in Massachusetts and are punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

Diana Green, 26, and Gerald, 30, took their son to Tijuana, Mexico, in January 1979, two days after a Massachusetts court ordered them to resume chemotherapy treatments for leukemia and stop the at-home nutritional and laetrile therapy they preferred.

Chad died in Tijuana on Oct. 12, 1979, two months short of his fourth birthday. The Greens buried their only child a week later in Hastings, Nebr., his birthplace, and until nine days ago made their home with Diana Green's mother in Hastings.

The older couple, Hollis and Vera Green, had urged them to "come home and face the Massachusetts courts."

"Take your chances in court and leave the rest to God," Vera Green told her stepson. "Then you can get on with your life."

But Gerry and Diana Green are still agonizing over what they should do.

The Greens say parental rights should have been the central

"Take your chances in court and leave the rest to God," Vera Green told her stepson. "Then you can get on with your life."

issue during their year-long litigation. Instead, the case became a legal tug-of-war between the chemotherapy-oriented Massachusetts General Hospital and the pro-laetrile forces who rallied around the Greens' cause.

Hollis Green urges his son to think about the future rather than waste time dwelling on the past.

An obliging waitress pours round after round of coffee during the weekend reunion. Gerry lights, smokes and discards cigarette after cigarette.

He is rail thin, his shoulder bones jutting through a brown plaid Western shirt. He admits he is desperately afraid of being thrown in jail for two years. One state official told him that's what he would get if he returned to his home state.

Diana Green sits calmly, dressed in red slacks and a navy blue top with rainbow striped trim. Her features are much softer and prettier than they appear in pictures.

"I have needed this year to get ready," she says slowly. "I

don't think I could have come back and faced up to it a year ago but now I'm ready. I just want to go back and get it over with."

She tells her family she has no qualms about performing some sort of community service should they go to court convicted. Several judicial officials have said several months "community service" would be an "appropriate, not-insignificant" sentence for a contempt conviction of this nature.

"That's certainly better than going to jail," she tells her husband. "And we would actually be helping the children and the elderly persons we were working with."

Her Christian faith is unwavering. She believes what happened to her son was for some purpose. "God took Chad and we know he is happy and peaceful now."

She wants to get on with her life, too, and have at least one more child. Her husband wants to build a house in the country.

She tells him they can't do any of these things until they're really free. We want to be able to go home to Massachusetts.

Gerald Green needs more convincing. He fears that if he returns to Massachusetts to face charges, it will be interpreted as an admission of guilt. Both of Chad's parents say they never be sorry for the efforts they made to save their son.

"We did what we thought was best for Chad," says Vera Green. "We had no intention of flouting the court's authority. But we couldn't treat him the way we wanted to at home. We had to go elsewhere."

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California marijuana crop object of police crackdown

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California's men in blue are wielding chain saws on a new beat: harvesting the state's illicit, billion-dollar cash crop of marijuana.

The code name for the crackdown on clandestine marijuana growers is "Operation Sensemilla" — so called for the state's manicured, high quality marijuana that sells for \$175 or more an ounce.

The joint operation by federal, state and local law enforcement agents has, so far, netted millions of dollars worth of pot plants — some so large they must be cut with chain saws.

Those favoring the legalization of pot scoff at police efforts, however, saying the fight to curb marijuana cultivation is a losing battle — just like "the Vietnam War." They predict there will be a bumper crop of the weed this year, about twice as big as last year.

Steve Helsley, the California Department of Justice's top marijuana policeman, agrees that the number of marijuana farms is increasing in Northern California. He estimates the value of the state's crop at more than \$1 billion annually.

But Helsley opposes legalization of marijuana — the goal of the National Organization for the Reform of

Marijuana Laws (NORML), which describes the enforcement effort as impossible.

"Law enforcement can't be any more successful winning the war against marijuana cultivation in California than the U.S. military was in winning the Vietnam War," said Gordon Brownell, NORML's San Francisco national director.

"We expect the harvest in 1980 to be twice as big as the one last year, on the basis that marijuana is grown by many more people all over the state," he said.

"There's definitely more sensemilla available at a time than was the case last year and in previous years."

Law enforcement officials have voiced fears that increased violence in the illicit fields as marijuana growers attempt to protect their crop.

District Attorney Joe Allen of Mendocino County says some weapons caches containing explosives and automatic rifles already have been found in the area.

There have been claims that hunters and hikers being beaten up or shot near illicit pot farms in the country of Humboldt, Del Norte, Mendocino and marijuana producing counties.

Court hears pension appeal

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court agreed Monday to decide whether military retirement pay is property that may be divided in a divorce settlement.

The justices said they would hear arguments on an appeal by Richard John McCarty from a case in which a California appeals court decided his retirement pay was subject to division with his ex-wife, Patricia Ann. Conflicting rulings on the issue have been handed down by courts in Alaska, Texas, Montana, Arizona and California.

McCarty filed for divorce in 1976 after 19 years of marriage and the divorce became final in February 1978. He retired from the Army seven months after the divorce, following 20 years of active duty.

The San Francisco Superior Court awarded Mrs. McCarty half of his retirement pay, accepting her argument that the pension was "quasi-community property" divisible upon divorce.

The court rejected McCarty's argument that the ruling would conflict with federal statutes and the supremacy clause of the Constitution.

McCarty took the case to a Califor-

nia appeals court, which rejected his arguments that the pension would interfere with military retirement system established by Congress.

The appeals court concluded Congress had not intended to exempt army retirement pay from community property laws, and McCarty's retirement pay was deemed, subject to division.

McCarty petitioned for a writ before the state Supreme Court. The court refused to hear his case.

McCarty's lawyers argued that the pension was an important benefit of the military, and that the pension was a form of property that should be treated as such. They argued that the pension was a form of property that should be treated as such.

"The split encourages forcing pensioning since the military pension benefits are secure in states but not in others," the state supreme court said.

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