

Attorneys' arguments in kidnapping trial end

United Press International
GALVESTON — A prosecutor Thursday urged jurors to convict Ronald Floyd White of kidnapping and burying alive his former employer's son, but a defense lawyer argued White was a victim who should be acquitted for insanity.

White, 38, was accused of kidnapping Michael Baucom, 22, of Santa Fe, for ransom Sept. 21 and burying him alive for five days in a box near Conroe, 70 miles to the north. Baucom was freed unharmed. No ransom was paid.

"I ask you to bring back a verdict you can be proud of, a verdict of guilt," prosecutor Jim James said in final arguments.

Defense lawyer Elmo Schwab told the jury in his final argument White should be found innocent by reason of insanity because he was a victim of his own mental state and possibly the victim of a larger plot.

"It's the only reasonable verdict that's fair to both victims," Schwab said.

Schwab suggested throughout the trial someone else duped White into a plot to extract money from Baucom's father, Benny Baucom.

But James struck hard and angrily at the defense suggestion White was either a victim or legally insane at the time of the kidnapping.

R.I.

Finals Week in Aggieland...

Political Science 206
Final Exam
Name: *Chris J. Jancy*



1. Which is not a Constitutional power of Congress?

- (a) Taxation
- (b) Regulation of Interstate Commerce



(c) Impeachment
(d) Commander in Chief functions



(e) I don't know, I'm only taking this because I have to.



Chief not invited to party

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — The Police Officers Association has

decided not to invite Police Chief Charles Rodriguez to the group's annual Christmas party, angering some rank and file officers who called the move "stupid."

The decision by the SAPOA has prompted at least two officers to resign from the police association.

"I have been a member for 30 years, and in that time the association has made some mistakes but not one as stupid as not inviting the chief of police to the Christmas party," Sgt. Horace Neaves wrote in a resignation letter Wednesday.

"I think at the very least it is a stupid move," said Lt. Javier Moreno, who also resigned. "All the other chiefs have been invited."

Rodriguez, recently hired from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, angered SAPOA officials last week by saying he wanted the option of going outside the department to hire two non-union assistants.

The union objected to Rodriguez's appointment in the first place because the city picked the

new chief from outside the department.

SAPOA President Robert Rudewick and Vice President Billy Wolf declined comment on the decision not to allow guests including the chief, to attend the annual party.

But many officers criticized the decision, saying SAPOA officials were misrepresenting their feelings.

"Isn't this the season of peace on earth and good will to men?" said Detective Anton Michael

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The Aggieland yearbook is giving juniors, seniors, and grad students

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Pictures will be taken today and Dec. 12-16 at the Pavilion from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information call 845-2681.

Aggieland yearbook

Purdue prank is OK

United Press International
WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — The souvenirs that six Purdue University students smuggled aboard a space shuttle will cost the school a chance to send more experiments into space this summer of 1986.

"But I can assure you the students won't be sending any extra souvenirs next time," said John Snow, the Purdue faculty adviser for the experiments. "We wound up with a lot of controversy over this, but it was actually resolved on a good basis."

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration confiscated souvenirs the students planted among NASA approved student experiments on the Challenger flight in January.

Some of the Purdue students feared arrest, but no charges were filed after NASA officials interviewed them on campus.

The students had hoped for return of the items, which included postage stamps, baseball cards, dollar bills, love letters and snapshots of students' families.

The scheme worked well enough to *order* the items, but might have succeeded, but a student was caught near a souvenir shop at Cape Kennedy's Visitor Center offering to sell some of the stamps that made the items. Two buyers turned out to be NASA investigators.

Part of NASA's concern has been the memory of a 1975 incident in which three Apollo 15 astronauts secretly carried souvenir stamped envelopes to the moon. Their space capsules were ruined when the envelopes ended up with a German souvenir dealer who sold them for \$150,000.

The students fared better. "We didn't regard it as a criminal offense," said Dennis Miller, a NASA manager who works with outside groups wanting to share shuttle space experiments.

Abandoned mine shaft to be filled

United Press International
AUSTIN — The Texas Road Commission said today it has contracted with a Stockton company to fill an abandoned mercury mine near Terlingua that poses a danger to tourists.

The commission said Stockton Contractors, Inc., submitted the low bid of \$35,354 for the work, which will begin in a month.

The contract calls for 11 shafts, one of which is 11 feet deep, will be sealed at surface under a separate contract.

Funding for the work was provided by a grant from the federal Office of Surface Mining.

Commission officials said the exposed shafts on federal land pose a hazard to tourists.

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