



Jury seated in child murder case

United Press International
JEFFERSON — A five-man, seven-woman jury was seated Tuesday to hear the murder trial of a woman accused of fatally beating her 3-month-old daughter.
 The panel was selected after two days of questioning. Testimony in the case of Sherry Lynn is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. today.
 Allman, 25, of Marshall, is charged with murder and injury to a child in the Nov. 10, 1982, death of 3-month-old Sherry Lynn Allman. Her trial was moved from nearby Marshall

because of extensive news accounts of the case.
 Wedding said his client attained a "drug-induced sanity" after spending three months at Rusk State Hospital.
 "I think the whole key to this entire case is the state of mind," Wedding said.
 Harrison County District Attorney Sam Baxter opened the second day of jury selection by detailing for the group the possible verdicts that could be returned against Allman, who is accused of beating the child with her hands. He said the jury could return any of eight possible verdicts.
 Allman could be convicted of

murder or injury to a child, both of which carry prison terms of five to 99 years or life; involuntary manslaughter or wreckless injury to a child, which carry a two to 10 year jail term; criminally negligent homicide or negligent injury to a child, punishable by up to one year in jail; or not guilty by reason of insanity, or not guilty.
 The jury selection process began after Judge Ben Z. Grant denied a Defense attorneys had contended the woman was mentally incompetent when she confessed to police shortly after her arrest. Investigators said Allman told them she began hitting her

daughter when the infant would not stop crying.
 At a pretrial hearing last week, she said she did not remember giving oral and written statements.
 A psychiatrist testified during the hearing that Allman suffers severe depression, was mildly retarded and has multiple personality defects.
 Sherry Lynn's death initially was attributed to Sudden Infant Death syndrome, but an autopsy performed at Baxter's request found the child suffered several injuries, including a broken

neck, and that she also previously had been abused.
 The finding led to an investigation of the deaths of three other Allman children, and Allman later was indicted in Kansas City, Mo., for second-degree murder in the 1976 death of 4-month-old Marvin Neal Allman, who was smothered with a pillow.
 No indictment was returned in the 1978 death of 1-month-old Joseph, who Allman claimed accidentally smothered when she rolled over him in her sleep.
 The grand jury did not investigate the death of another Allman baby who died following a premature birth.

Mass-murder suspect described as 'a pleasant, religious man'

United Press International
MIAMI — A woman who hired a suspected mass-murderer to chauffeur juvenile delinquents said Tuesday the man who turned out to be George Clarence Bridgette "carried and quoted from the Bible."
 Bridgette, 37, accused of four slayings in Long Beach, Calif., surrendered without resistance Monday night to FBI agents at his rooming house in Miami's Coconut Grove section, where he lived with his wife and 2-year-old daughter.
 Listed as one of the FBI's 10 most-wanted fugitives, Bridgette was being held Tuesday in the North Dade Detention Center. He was to appear before a federal magistrate in Miami later Tuesday.

Bridgette, who worked for the state as a driver for a center for delinquent youths under the name Odell Davis, is suspected of killing four people, including a 3-year-old girl, in 1977, said FBI spokesman Dennis Erich. Two accomplices in the murder have been arrested and convicted.
 Officials said he has been employed as a baker, laborer and maintenance man, and also worked for the state Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services as a transportation worker.
 Doris Capri, superintendent of the Dade County Juvenile Center in northwest Miami, said Tuesday Bridgette was hired in April as a driver, frequently chauffeuring delinquent youths aged 10 to 17 to court

dates, to hospitals and to training schools.
 "He was a very good worker. We had no problem with his work whatsoever," Capri said. "He was pleasant. He was a religious man. He carried a Bible and quoted from the Bible," she said.
 FBI agents were tipped to Bridgette's whereabouts by an unidentified caller who said he recognized Bridgette from an FBI poster, Erich said.
 Five people were shot in the 1977 incident, which the FBI said was drug related.

Filipinos protest against government

United Press International
MANILA — Some 500,000 protesters, many chanting "revolution" and "Marcos resign," packed the streets of the capital Tuesday in the largest anti-government demonstration since the funeral of Benigno Aquino.
 Cheering throngs jammed rooftops, sidewalks and overpasses to welcome a crowd of about 30,000 demonstrators who joined the last leg of a 90-mile protest march the government vainly tried to stop.
 It began Friday in the birthplace of the slain opposition leader in northern Tarlac province as a jogging marathon to the site of his assassination on Aug. 21 at Manila Airport on his return from three years of self-exile in the United States.
 "We got what we wanted and more," said Aquino's younger brother, Agapito, who led the so-called "Tarlac to Tarmac" marathon. "It is a triumph of the memory of my brother and of the spirit of reconciliation."
 Police and church-run Radio Veritas estimated 500,000 Filipinos turned out, making the demonstration against the 18-year-old rule of President Ferdinand Marcos the biggest since 2 million people attended Aquino's funeral five months ago.

"Welcome, heroes of freedom," proclaimed signs held aloft as the protesters entered the Makati financial district. Smartly dressed secretaries and businessmen joined the marchers, many screaming "revolution" and "Marcos resign."
 Organizers said a small band of protesters continued on to the nearby Manila airport to complete the planned trek to the site of the Aquino shooting.

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