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Witness testifies Bower was in Sherman before

United Press International
SHERMAN — A woman who runs a vegetable market testified Wednesday she met Lester Leroy Bower Jr. last fall in the company of one of four men he is accused of killing in an ultralight hangar on a north Texas ranch.

Bower and his attorney, Jerry Buckner, have said the capital murder defendant was never in Grayson County before he was arrested in January at his home in Arlington, a suburb of Dallas, and taken to the Grayson County jail.

Bower, 36, is accused of shooting to death four men last Oct. 8 on property owned by Bob Tate, a Sherman building contractor. Authorities say the motive was the theft of an ultralight aircraft, valued at about

\$4,000, that Tate was advertising for sale.

The other victims were Grayson County Deputy Phillip Good, 29; former Sherman policeman Ronald Mayes, 37; and self-employed house remodeler Jerry Mack Brown, 51.

Marjorie Carr said she met Bower when he came to her Sherman vegetable market in late September with Good, who was a regular customer of hers.

Carr said she recognized Bower from his physique and from the nose up, because the man she saw had a beard. Bower had a beard until just before his trial began earlier this month.

She said she chatted with the large bearded man she identified as Bower about naval oranges, which he wanted but which were out of season, and about the relatively cool autumn weather.

"He laughed and he said to me 'If you think the Texas weather is cold you should see the weather we have in Colorado.' He said he had just

moved here from Colorado," Carr testified.

Bower, a native of Tulsa, Okla., moved to Texas from Grand Junction, Colo., late last summer.

Pressed by District Attorney Stephen Davidchik about why she would remember Bower, Carr said it was a slow morning at her market and he was extremely friendly.

"He was just a large man and he was real friendly with me," she testified. "It was slow that morning and it was sometime between 10:30 and 11:30. I don't get many customers with beards. Most of my customers are regulars and he was a stranger."

Carr said she recognized Bower as soon as she saw pictures of his arrest in January but did not contact authorities until she heard Buckner say his client had never been in the county.

Buckner said Wednesday he did not consider her testimony a surprise.

Around town

Williams to conduct final class

Clayton W. Williams Jr. will conduct the final semester of the Management 489 and 689 classes Friday from 2 to 4 p.m. in 307 Blocker. He has been conducting the classes this semester. Williams will speak from 2 to 3 p.m. and have a discussion with students from 3 to 4 p.m. The sessions are open to the public.

APO to help at Special Olympics

Members of Alpha Phi Omega will work with the Special Olympics Friday at Bryan High School. All proceeds will benefit the handicapped Boy Scouts.

Seminar applications available

Applications are being accepted for the Student Seminars' Seminar which will be offered during the fall semester. The seminar is designed to prepare students to speak on behalf of Texas A&M.

Seminar sessions will include topics such as the mechanics of speaking, speech preparation and delivery, and asked questions and answers and practical experience. The seminar will be informal and designed to be useful both before and after graduation.

Places are limited to 15 sophomore or junior (or senior) fifth year senior) students with a moderate to heavy involvement in campus activities. More information and applications are available in the Student Activities Office, 208 Pavilion or by calling 845-1133. Deadline for applications is May 4.

Orchestra finishes season Sunday

The Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra will present a final concert of the season April 29 at 3:30 p.m. in the Bryan Civic Auditorium. The orchestra will feature Susan Ann Hudson, formerly of Bryan, of the San Antonio Symphony. It will be under the direction of Thomas Bannister, guest conductor and principal hornist with the Houston Symphony. Ticket prices are \$5 for adults and \$4 for students and senior citizens.

Group sponsors tax workshop

Diversified Tax Planning Inc. will host a tax seminar Friday night at 7:30 p.m. in the community room of Manor East Mall. The seminar will feature Jeff A. Schnepfer, author of "How to Pay Zero Taxes." Schnepfer was a guest on the Phil Dinahue Show in 1983. Admission is free.

MCAT moved to Heldenfelds

This weekend's MCAT has been moved from Heldenfelds to Heldenfelds, but will start at the time given. Please with the last names Aboukhair to Ellis should report to Heldenfelds, Elsner to Hoelscher to 105, Hornedo to McKay to 107, McKnight to Sampeck to 109, and Sandberg to Zimmerman to 111.

193 exposed to low levels of radiation

United Press International

JUAREZ, Mexico — A total of 193 people were exposed to low levels of radioactivity from contaminated steel in January, but only two face serious health problems, federal officials said Wednesday.

Dr. Juan Rauda Esquivel said the two patients, a 16-year-old boy and a 28-year-old man, may be sterile as a result of contact with steel contaminated by Cobalt 60, a radioactive isotope used in radiation therapy.

The radiactivity was discovered in January in steel rebar at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, N.M. The rebar was returned to El Paso, Texas where Texas and can nuclear investigators the steel to a junkyard in Juarez, across the border from El Paso.

Investigators learned a der of Cobalt 60 had been used from a Juarez hospital house and sold as scrap for \$10.

The Cobalt 60 contaminated scrap metal sold by the yard to a foundry in Chihuahua City, 240 miles south, where was made into steel and exported to the United States.

Esquivel said all 193 affected patients have been receiving periodic examinations every 15 days at Federal Hospital in Juarez.

Court overturns sentence

United Press International

AUSTIN — The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Wednesday overturned the capital murder conviction and death sentence of a San Antonio man who was the alleged hit man in a 1976 murder-for-hire scheme.

Citing an error in jury instructions by a lower court, the state's highest appeal court ordered a new trial for Charles County, who was convicted of the March 20, 1976, murder of Chere Buffington.

Buffington's nude body was found in her car, which had been abandoned in the parking lot of a San Antonio junior high school.

According to San Antonio prosecutors, County was hired for the killing by James Buffington, the victim's ex-husband.

Buffington also was tried for capital murder, but his conviction was overturned by the high court last year because two jurors were improperly excluded from hearing the case.

In another case, the high court struck down as unconstitutional a portion of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code that forbids anyone authorized to sell beer from allowing conduct in their business that is "lewd, immoral or offensive to the public decency."

The court's decision stemmed from charges brought against Herman Bernard Wishnow, a Houston bar owner. Wishnow was convicted of allowing a patron in his bar to fondle the breasts of another customer while dancing.

He was fined \$500 and sentenced to three days in jail.

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