

The Battalion

Judge: Railey liable for strangling

DALLAS (AP) — From the beginning, they were an odd couple, she a twice-divorced bouffant blond psychologist and he a married minister and rising star in the mainstream United Methodist Church.

Friends described her as flashy and flighty. He was short, balding, intense and driven, and for awhile, their liaison was unknown.

In a hushed courtroom this week, an angry young lawyer struggled to convince a judge that Walker Railey's obsession with Lucy Papillon drove him to a bizarre murder scheme that ran tragically amok.

The lawyer succeeded.

In a case that once drew national television attention, a state judge has ruled that Railey, 41, tried to choke his wife to death and is liable to her relatives for some \$16 million in actual and punitive damages.

The twisted drama was muddled by the fact that Railey did not contest the civil allegations, spurned Monday's court proceedings and quite possibly may never pay a dime of the judicially ordered damages.

Stranger still, he does not face criminal charges but has fled Texas and is believed to be living in San Francisco.

And in one final bit of bewildering irony, police and prosecutors can prove that Railey devised a clever but phony alibi the night of his wife's attack but have no evidence linking him to the crime itself.

Peggy Railey survived but grotesquely so. She was unable to identify her assailant and remains in what doctors call a persistent vegetative state from which she is not expected to recover.

Expressing his frustration over

the Railey affair, criminal prosecutor Norm Kinne once declared, "This guy's a liar. He's trying to cover his tracks. He wasn't where he was at the time he says he was. Now the question is, if he wasn't there, where was he?"

"The conclusion that everybody's drawn is that he was home choking out his wife."

"But that doesn't necessarily follow. There's no proof he was at the scene at the time she was strangled. There's no evidence that he strangled her or that he knew who strangled her or that he arranged or participated in any way."

The symbolic issue was the extent of Railey's financial liability, but the more compelling issue was Lucy Papillon's love affair with the ex-minister of the 6,000-member First United Methodist Church and what

role that romance might have played in the attack on Mrs. Railey.

Papillon, 46, unsmiling but self composed, insisted there was no connection between the two, but plaintiff attorney Bill Arnold, his anger poorly concealed, endeavored to show otherwise.

Here are excerpts from their brittle exchange, including Arnold's liberal reference to the contents of a sworn deposition taken from Papillon last May but never before revealed.

"Is it fair to say that from June of 1986 until the attack on Peggy Railey April 21 of 1987 that you met with Walker Railey at your home on an average of three times a week?"

"Yes."

"Did you have intimate relations regularly on these thrice weekly meetings?"

"Yes."

"Did you and Mr. Railey sometimes drink champagne in the afternoons when he was at your home?"

"Occasionally."

"Did you have intimate relations with Walker Railey one week before the attack on Peggy Railey?"

"Yes."

Pressing that issue later, Arnold said, "Approximately four days before the attack on Peggy Railey you are with him for three or four nights at the Doubletree Inn here in Dallas while he has sent Peggy and the children to be with her parents. Is that accurate?"

She muttered a qualified yes.

Arnold recalled asking Papillon about her intensifying relationship with Railey and wondering if she ever considered "in the back of your

mind that there might be some connection" with the attack on Mrs. Railey.

"Your answer was, 'No, not once. Is that still your answer?'"

"Yes, it is."

Arnold read again from Papillon's sworn statement, "Railey and his wife did not have an intimate relationship and Railey did not long for such a relationship before he had me because he did not know what he did not have."

"I never gave Railey an ultimatum about divorce. Mrs. Railey was not aware of her husband's affair with me."

His voice heavy with sarcasm, Arnold asked the witness, "Did I read that accurately into the record, Ms. Papillon?"

"Yes," she murmured.



Just fir you
Richard Shaw, a junior forest management major from Huntsville, removes the plastic netting from a Virginia pine to prepare it for sale in front of the Commons Tuesday. A&M's Forestry Club is scheduled to sell Christmas trees through today.
Photo by Kathy Haveman

Bush picks Texan for commerce post

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect George Bush, once more calling on friends and government veterans to fill key positions, on Tuesday selected Texas oilman Robert Mosbacher to be commerce secretary, named Washington lawyer Carla Hills as trade representative and said he would keep William Webster as CIA director.

Bush also named Thomas Pickering, a career diplomat who is currently U.S. ambassador to Israel, as U.N. ambassador, but said he had decided that the post would no longer carry Cabinet-level status.

The vice president, announcing his latest choices at a news conference in the Old Executive Office Building, said he was completing his economic team with the naming of Stanford economist Michael Boskin as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Bush also told reporters he had decided to "take the offensive" on coming up with a budget strategy that attacks the federal deficit without new taxes.

"It is my responsibility to do that," he said. "What that means in terms of form, I am not quite sure yet."

On the subject of Wednesday's meeting in New York with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Bush continued to stress that he was going to the meeting "as vice president" but indicated that he planned to engage in a careful review of U.S.-Soviet relations once he takes office on Jan. 20.

"I'm confident they (the Soviets) know our system well enough to know that it is only prudent to review national security policy, and to review our relationship with them," he said.

"Stay tuned, we're only about halfway through this act," Bush said as he headed off stage. The five announcements were the first in a week and no more are expected un-

til after Bush's meeting with Gorbachev.

Hills, 54, who was secretary of housing and urban development in 1975-77 under President Ford, is the first woman Bush has designated for a high-level position in his administration.

Although the trade post was not originally a Cabinet-level job, Reagan elevated it to such. Hills told reporters that Bush had agreed to retain the post as a Cabinet position in his administration.

Mosbacher, 61, is an old friend from Bush's oil days in Houston in the 1960s. Bush said Mosbacher would bring "tremendous energies to promoting exports abroad" to the post.

Currently the chairman of the Mosbacher Energy Co. of Houston, Mosbacher was finance chairman of Bush's presidential campaign.

"Robert Mosbacher will be an outstanding U.S. secretary of commerce," Texas Gov. Bill Clements said Tuesday.

"President-elect Bush has selected an individual with a distinguished business career. A man who has long been considered a leader in the energy industry. A Texan who cares deeply about his country and his fellow man."

"Robert Mosbacher brings to the Commerce Department a 'Texas can-do' attitude, a keen sense and understanding of the U.S. and world economies, and a life-long commitment to public involvement and to enlightened public policy."

Sources said Bush had decided to delay his announcement of a defense secretary, widely expected to be former Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John Tower of Texas, until later in the week.

Bush declined to add to speculation about that post, but voiced "a great high regard for Sen. Tower" when asked by a reporter about re-

Finals schedule

The following is the final exam schedule for this semester. The last day of classes is Wednesday, Dec. 7. Thursday, Dec. 8, is a reading day. Finals begin Friday, Dec. 9.

Friday, Dec. 9	7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.	MWF 4 and after
Friday, Dec. 9	10 a.m.-12 noon	MWF 8
Friday, Dec. 9	12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.	TR 12:30-1:45
Friday, Dec. 9	3 p.m.-5 p.m.	TR 11-12:15
Monday, Dec. 12	8 a.m.-10 a.m.	MWF 9
Monday, Dec. 12	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	MWF 12
Monday, Dec. 12	1 p.m.-3 p.m.	TR 8-9:15
Monday, Dec. 12	3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	MWF 3
Tuesday, Dec. 13	8 a.m.-10 a.m.	MWF 10
Tuesday, Dec. 13	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	MWF 2
Tuesday, Dec. 13	1 p.m.-3 p.m.	TR 3:30-4:45
Tuesday, Dec. 13	3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	MWF 1
Wednesday, Dec. 14	8 a.m.-10 a.m.	TR 9:30-10:45
Wednesday, Dec. 14	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	MWF 11
Wednesday, Dec. 14	1 p.m.-3 p.m.	TR 2-3:15
Wednesday, Dec. 14	3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	TR 5 and after

cent news reports concerning the Texan's personal life.

"If you're talking about negative reports, I'm disinclined to believe anything of that nature," Bush said.

Meanwhile, New Hampshire Gov. John Sununu, chosen to be Bush's chief of staff, said in a news conference in Concord, N.H., that the Defense Department's top echelon would be named in a batch of as many as five appointments.

"If it hits five, it would be unusual, but that's not an outlandish number to think about," Sununu said.

Bush said his decision to keep Webster on as CIA chief was "open ended."

"I know this agency well," Bush said. "He is the best man to lead the intelligence community."

Bush said that, in his administration, covert activities "from time to time" would be essential. However, he said U.S. law requiring notification of appropriate congressional committees of such actions "should be meticulously followed."

He said neither the CIA director nor the U.N. ambassador, a position he also has held, would have Cabinet rank in his administration.

"There is no point in the U.N. ambassador sitting around — as I did for awhile — talking about agricultural policy," Bush said.

Pickering, the only one of the five new appointments who did not appear with Bush at Tuesday's briefing, is one of the State Department's highest ranked diplomats and has served in several foreign posts, including Israel and El Salvador.

Senate conservatives led by Jesse Helms of North Carolina fought Pickering's 1983 assignment as ambassador to El Salvador in part because of his previous ties to Carter administration policies.

Bush announced the two top trade jobs — commerce and trade representative — in the midst of delicate trade negotiations in Montreal under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Pan Am regents vote for merger with UT

EDINBURG (AP) — Pan American University's Board of Regents voted Tuesday to support a merger with the University of Texas System.

The next move in the process of joining the two institutions is up to UT, whose regents will meet in Austin Thursday and consider whether to take in Pan American, based in the Lower Rio Grande Valley city of Edinburg.

Merging Pan American with UT ultimately is a decision for the state Legislature, which meets in January.

Two state legislators from the Valley have pre-filed a merger bill, but other merger bills are expected.

"Now the task ahead of us is to forge a common bill among all our Valley (state legislative) delegation so that they all can work together toward one common bill," President Miguel Nevarez of Pan American said.

Nevarez said he believes UT's regents will vote for the merger on Thursday.

UT Chancellor Hans Mark and other officials from the Austin-based university have come out in support of a merger. If the Legislature were to approve a merger, Pan American, with campuses in Edinburg and Brownsville, would be the 15th school in the UT System.

The Edinburg campus, with 11,228 students enrolled this semester, is the state's southernmost four-year institution. Pan American University at Brownsville, an upper-level school, had 1,528 students enrolled for the fall semester.

Regents of UT and Pan American

last month agreed to develop a comprehensive merger pact. Included in the resolution passed by Pan American on Tuesday was a statement of intent to develop a total of 30 academic programs in allied health, engineering, business, education and arts and sciences, including two doctoral programs.

Pan American officials said joining UT would bring additional educational programs and political clout to South Texas. The pro-merger vote passed Tuesday by an 8-1 vote, with regent Homer Scott of McAllen abstaining.

Scott said he supported a merger, but wanted a more specific resolution outlining the needs of Pan American.

If approved, the merger would probably take effect after the beginning of the new fiscal year, beginning Sept. 1, meaning that degrees issued after that time from the Valley would be UT degrees, said Mel Hazlewood, a UT attorney who attended the Pan American meeting. Joining the two institutions also would abolish Pan American's board of regents.

Pan American's regents Tuesday also supported making the Brownsville campus a free-standing institution.

The Legislature last year ordered UT and the Texas A&M University System to look at the higher education needs of predominantly Hispanic South Texas. Since then, UT has courted Pan American and proposed \$10 million in collaborative programs with the Edinburg school.

Gorbachev arrives in New York City

NEW YORK (AP) — Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev arrived Tuesday in New York, where he is expected to offer a "Christmas gift to the American people and to mankind" in wide-ranging proposals on arms control and other issues.

Gorbachev is expected to put a moderate face on Soviet foreign policy and show himself eager to achieve progress with the new U.S. administration.

The plane carrying Gorbachev, his wife Raisa and three top Soviet foreign policy advisers touched down at John F. Kennedy International Airport shortly before 3 p.m.

A United Nations' delegation, headed by Chief of Protocol Aly I. Teymour, was on hand to greet Gorbachev in a low-key airport reception.

Gorbachev was accompanied by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze and Politburo member Alexander N. Yakovlev, and by Deputy Premier Vladimir Kamentsev.

It was the first visit by a Soviet leader to New York since Nikita Khrushchev's 1960 trip.

Gorbachev, dressed in gray overcoat and hat, exited the Aeroflot plane with his wife after the 10-hour flight and walked down to the tarmac, where they were welcomed by Teymour and U.S. Chief of Protocol Selwa Roosevelt.

Addressing the crowd, Gorbachev said: "We are living in a world that is going through some very crucial changes and we all, all nations, have their own concerns and interests. We shall be sharing our concerns and interests in thinking over the current situation."

"I believe that we can safely say even now that the conversations and the meeting itself will doubtless promote greater dynamism in the dia-

logue and relations between our two countries," Gorbachev added.

The Soviet leader said he expected to meet with American business leaders and officials of other countries and that he hoped these will be "useful and fruitful days. We are certainly prepared to make our contribution toward that end."

Buses merge shuttle routes during finals

Shuttle buses will run combined routes Thursday because there are no classes and little traffic to and from campus is expected.

Dell Hamilton, Bus Operations dispatcher, said the off-campus buses will run their regular nightly combined routes. The combined routes will be:

- Marion Pugh, Parkway and Anderson will be combined on the Anderson bus.
- Welsh and FM 2818 routes will be on the FM 2818 bus.
- Munson, Dartmouth and Scarlett O'Hara routes will be on the Scarlett O'Hara bus.
- Lincoln and 29th Street routes will become Lincoln.
- Villa Maria and Finfeather will become Villa Maria.

Inner-campus routes will remain the same, but only one bus will run each route.

Hamilton said the routes will return to normal Friday and will run their normal routes until 6:30 p.m. Dec. 14.