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**Father kills family, self**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Mai Thao returned yesterday to the one-bedroom apartment where her husband killed five of their seven children and himself less than 24 hours before.

She went there to mourn. Instead, she found a police seal on the door, a last touch by detectives who had scoured the bloodstained rooms for an explanation.

Crying, Thao forced her way in, only to be turned back by the landlord, who boarded up the door and told her to leave. She sat on a staircase outside and sobbed, comforted by dozens of neighbors.

"They were a good family," Chong Cha of Lodi, a cousin whose family had spent Thanksgiving weekend with them, said. "We never expected this."

Police said Kao Xiong used a shotgun and high-powered rifle to shoot his youngest children Saturday afternoon, then turned one of the guns on himself.

Cha identified the children killed as Kong Meng Xiong; Lisa Xiong; Kong heng Xing, 3; Peter Xiong, 2; and Micky Xiong, 1.

Their older brothers, 14 and 9, escaped unharmed — one by climbing through a bathroom window — and are now staying with relatives, police said.

Cha described Xiong as a loving husband and father who worked hard but could never seem to earn enough to support his wife and children. He said he had no idea why his cousin would have opened fire on his family.

**Band leader**



Jess Wade, III, director of Women's Chorus, conducts during the Annual Christmas in Aggie concert Sunday afternoon in Rudder Auditorium.

**News in Brief**

**Five women found shot to death**

BALTIMORE (AP) — Five women were found dead of multiple gunshot wounds in a home last night, and police were searching for four suspects, officers said.

The identities of the women were

not released, but police said they believe the five may be related.

A 1992 gold Nissan Maxima was seen by witnesses leaving the area. A car matching that description was later seen at a McDonald's restaurant, where the car's four occupants apparently attempted to carjack another vehicle.

The shootings capped an unusu-

ally violent weekend in the city. 10 people were killed since

**Man pulling float runs over mother**

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP) — A man pulling a Christmas parade float of children accidentally pulled over his 74-year-old mother, killing her.

Police said Lela Brandon was standing between her son's truck and the float Saturday when the parade briefly stopped.

Mrs. Brandon was talking to a relative on the float and her whose name was not released. She was not released when she resumed, Officer Hank Perry said.

Mrs. Brandon, who died in a hospital following the accident, was the owner of a day care center that housed the float.

**Iceland's gene making wide wa**

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A Icelandic company plans to begin collecting DNA samples from 270,000 citizens and linking genetic profiles with their health and family trees.

The database it plans to discover genetic links to diseases. Identities will be encrypted. The company, Dr. Arnar Gunnarsson, founder and CEO of deCODE Genetics, the Reykjavik company which will develop the database.

Still, a security break could put people's potential for medical problems in the hands of insurance companies or potential employers. Dr. David Haile of the University of Texas Health Sciences Center

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