

THE JOURNAL

Sunday, February 16, 1992 — Latest Edition 1

DAHMER SANE

Families of victims to describe their pain at sentencing Monday

By JIM STINGL
of The Journal staff

Jeffrey L. Dahmer was sane when he killed 15 young men and boys and destroyed their bodies, a jury decided Saturday.

As the last count was read, the verdict cut through the tense, crowded courtroom like lightning and brought an end to one of the most dramatic trials in Wisconsin history.

The jury dealt the defense the worst defeat possible. Dahmer, they decided, was not suffering from a mental disease at the time of any of the slayings.

Dahmer's defense lawyer, Gerald P. Boyle, said an appeal was unlikely but had not been ruled out.

Two jurors — one man and one woman — dissented from the decision of the majority. But only 10 out of 12 are needed to return a valid verdict under Wisconsin law.

The two jurors who dissented on each count were Russell P. Fenstermaker of Franklin and Clare M. Horvath of Milwaukee.

Because the answer to the question of mental disease was no in every case, the jury didn't even need to consider whether Dahmer could control his conduct or whether he knew right from wrong.

Dahmer, who has confessed to killing 17 young men in Ohio and Wisconsin, had pleaded guilty to 15 killings in Milwaukee County. His trial the last three weeks was on the issue of his sanity.

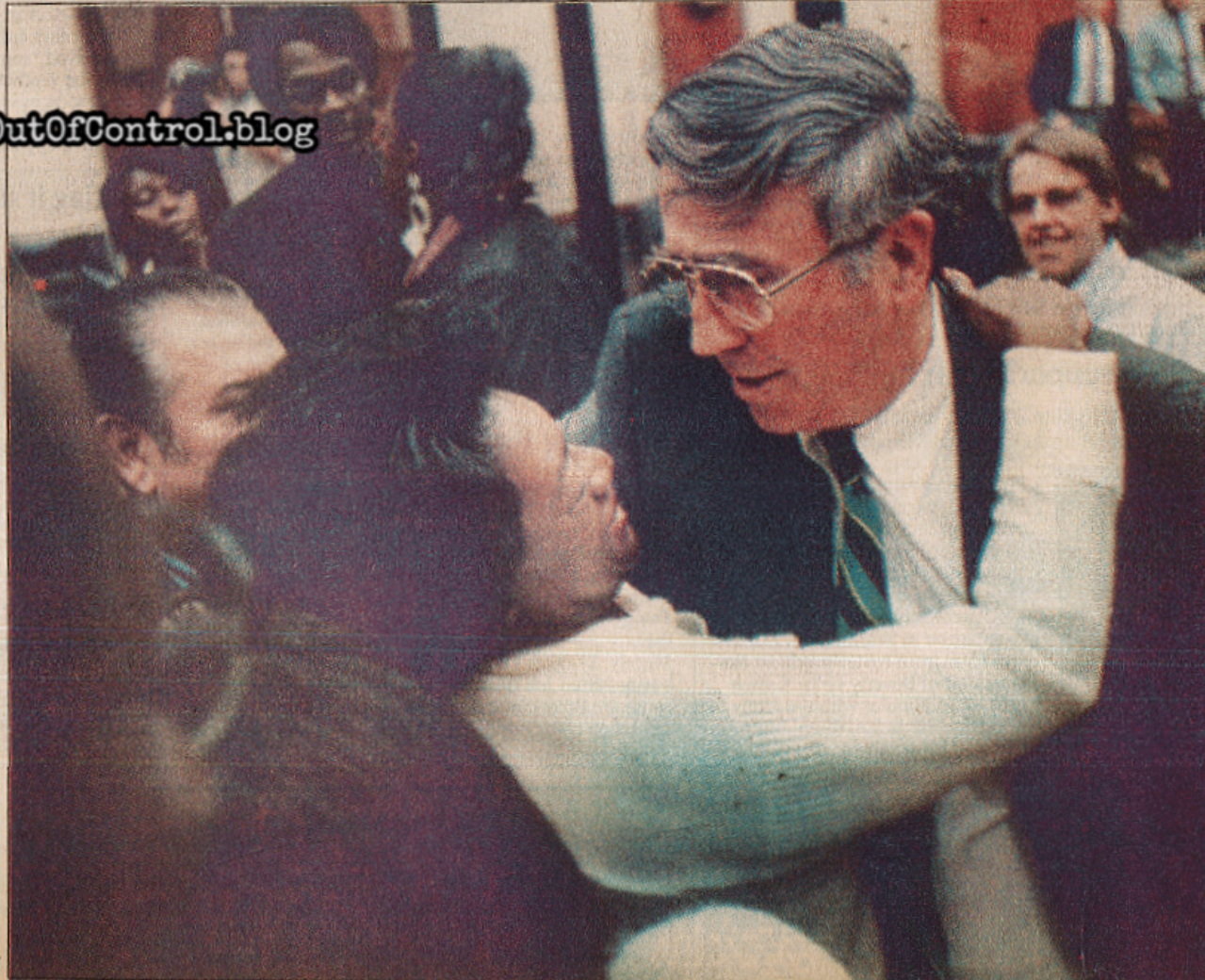
Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Laurence C. Gram Jr. scheduled Dahmer's sentencing for 10 a.m. Monday. Dahmer will be imprisoned for life, probably at Columbia Correctional Institution in Portage. Had he been found insane, he would have been sent to a mental institution.

Dahmer, the 31-year-old chocolate factory worker whose arrest in July shocked the world, sat straight in his chair and showed no reaction to the verdicts. His father and stepmother, Lionel and



ControlOutOfControl.blog

JEFFREY L. DAHMER



INEZ THOMAS, mother of victim David C. Thomas, embraces District Attorney E. Michael McCann in court Saturday afternoon

after a jury found serial killer Jeffrey L. Dahmer sane in 15 murders, including that of her son.

Pool photo by Benny Slew

Please see Verdict page 7A

INSIDE

- Editor Sig Gissler says the trial didn't destroy ability to be shocked/J8
- Columnist Dennis McCann says the sideshow is over, but the hurt isn't/B1
- Dahmer won't have a cellmate, but he will be able to smoke/A-7B
- Emotions of the victims' relatives released in shrieks, sobs and tears/A-7A

THE DAHMER TRIAL

Verdict/Dahmer will be sentenced Monday

From page 1

Shari Dahmer, also sat motionless in the back row of the courtroom.

Boyle asked that Dahmer be allowed to spend 10 minutes with his parents at the conclusion of the court appearance; the judge said he could.

JUDGE THANKED JURORS

Family members of the victims gasped and cried tears of relief as each of the 15 verdicts was read.

Gram invited one member of each family to address the court Monday before he pronounces sentence. Dahmer will be present as each one describes the pain and loss he caused their families.

Boyle said he would decide by Monday whether Dahmer would speak at sentencing.

The jury of seven men and five women reached the decision about 1 p.m. Saturday after deliberating for about five hours. At 4:08 p.m., after everyone had been brought together in the courtroom, Gram read each verdict.

Sheriff's deputies ringed the courtroom, anticipating the angry outburst from the families that might have followed a finding of insanity. There was no disruption.

After reading each verdict, the judge asked the jurors whether this was indeed their decision. They nodded.

Before excusing the jurors from service, Gram thanked them for their time and attention. He praised the lawyers and everyone else involved in the case.

Gram said he had achieved his goal, to make the Dahmer trial a "sound, professional, legal trial to show that in Milwaukee we have a system of justice that can't be beat anywhere else in this country."

Boyle made a routine motion to set aside the verdict. It was denied by Gram.

Milwaukee County Dist. Atty. E. Michael McCann, the prosecutor in the case, said afterward:

"I was very pleased with the verdict. It was a difficult and challenging case. They did a good job of sifting through the evidence."

McCann thanked his deputies and a list of out-of-town legal experts who helped him prepare his case, including William Kunkle, a Chicago attorney who prosecuted John Wayne Gacy.

McCann complimented Boyle on his closing argument.

"Jerry Boyle's argument was one of the most persuasive arguments I've ever heard," McCann said. "I waited with trepidation."



FRIENDS and family embrace Shirley Hughes, center, mother of victim Anthony Hughes, after the verdict.

Pool photo by Richard Wood

that Dahmer's crimes attracted.

McCann also said that he understood the intense media coverage of the case and did his part to bolster Milwaukee's image in the face of this case.

"I love this city unabashedly and people who come here know why," he said. "It's a wonderful place to do business, to live... I love it."

'THANKS FOR TRYING'

Speaking at the news conference after McCann, Boyle said he knew it would be hard to sway the jurors without being able to show that Dahmer was psychotic.

"They just probably decided that we're not going to

"They just probably decided that we're not going to let the world at large think that paraphilic disorders [sexual deviations] in Wisconsin are mental diseases."

Gerald Boyle,
Dahmer's lawyer

saying, "Thanks for trying."

The trial of justice



He was a runaway train on a track of madness, picking up steam all the time, on and on and on.
— Gerald P. Boyle, defense attorney, in his closing remarks Friday



Ladies and gentlemen, he's fooled a lot of people. Please, please, don't let this murderous killer fool you.
— E. Michael McCann, prosecutor, as he addressed the jury Friday

ControlOutOfControl.blog



On some level he didn't want to be killing the people he was killing and having sex with them after death. Although he hated doing

HELP FOR OTHERS

Asked whether the verdicts were the outcome he had anticipated, McCann said, "You have your fondest hope, and this met my fondest hope."

McCann said he hoped that others around the country who might have some of the same mental problems as Dahmer would now seek psychological help.

"There are people who want to help you," McCann said, addressing those people who might be in need of help.

"It's a good lesson learned," he said, "that we should control our fantasies."

McCann said he agreed that Dahmer was sick but not legally insane, and said that if Dahmer wanted to get better, he must first decide to seek help.

"The real tragedy here is I believe he could have stopped at any time," the prosecutor said. "He was not a rolling train. He was the engineer of a rolling train."

McCann said he was concerned that others might emulate Dahmer's use of drugs to control his victims and that they also might be attracted to the notoriety

let the world at large think that paraphilic disorders [sexual deviations] in Wisconsin are mental diseases," Boyle said. "That's their job and I respect that, and if I was sitting on the jury, I might have made the same decision."

Dahmer took the news in stride. Boyle had warned him from the start not to get his hopes too high.

"He reacted fine," Boyle said, quoting Dahmer as

Boyle added that Dahmer "just wants to find out where he's going to live the rest of his life."

Boyle said Dahmer wanted to plead guilty and told Boyle he "didn't know what was wrong with him."

"I told him I'd try to help him find out," Boyle said.

Boyle also complimented the two jurors who voted that Dahmer had a mental defect on all 15 counts.

"My hat's off to the two dissenting jurors," he said.

Journalists threatened in Haitian village

Port-au-Prince, Haiti —AP— Rural police wielding guns and machetes arrested and threatened to kill a group of journalists who were investigating the razing of 120 homes in a northern village, one of the journalists said.

In Washington, human rights activists cited the case as evidence that political repression was harsh-

er in Haiti than US officials — currently in the process of sending home thousands of Haitian refugees — were willing to admit.

Alan Tomlinson, a British citizen working for Washington-based National Public Radio, said he and Nathaniel Sheppard Jr. of the Chicago Tribune were freed.

Emir's kin slain

Cairo, Egypt —AP— A Filipino maid said she stabbed to death her employer, a sister-in-law of Kuwait's ruler, Sheik Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah, because the woman had mistreated her and refused to let her return to the Philippines, police said. A neighbor of Princess Latifa Abdullah al-Jaber al-Sabah, 45, found her body Thursday.



though he hated doing that, he couldn't do other than that.

— **Judith V. Becker**, psychologist for the defense, in testimony Feb. 5



The disorder (necrophilia) explains his motivation and explains his behavior, but this disorder did not cause him to lack the substantial capacity to know right from wrong or to conform his conduct to the law.

— **Frederick Fosdal**, forensic psychiatrist for the prosecution, in his testimony Feb. 8

Families of victims heave sigh of relief

By CELESTE WILLIAMS
of The Journal staff

Shirley Hughes felt the weight of grief lift from her shoulders when Judge Laurence Gram read the first verdict.

The name of her son, Anthony Hughes, would be the tenth of 15 to be read, but it didn't matter.

"That's when it started — when the first one came," she said. "Then I said, 'Thank God' for the second one, and the third one, and on down the line." Each time, the verdict was sane.

Jeffrey L. Dahmer stood trial in the deaths of 15 of the 17 young men he confessed to killing. The emo-

tions of the victims' relatives had built since Dahmer's arrest more than 29 weeks ago, and on Saturday, were released in shrieks, sobbing and tears over the 18 minutes it took Gram to read the verdicts.

"Good. He's going to jail," Janie Hagen said through tears.

Hagen is the sister of victim Richard Guerrero. She'd had a nightmare the previous night, that Dahmer was ruled insane. Her fears would not be realized.

"First I am going to read your verdicts to you," Gram intoned.

Many members of the families audibly sucked in their breaths and clutched the hands of those seated next to them.

"At the time the crime was committed in count one . . . in regard to the death of James E. Doxtator, did the defendant, Jeffrey L. Dahmer have a mental disease?" Gram read. The answer: "No."

The level of emotion the three rows of wooden seats occupied by family members increased as Gram recited each count, all identical except for the names. Many sobbed audibly and dabbed at their tear-streaked faces with handkerchiefs and tissues.

The sobs were the loudest when Dahmer was found sane in the slaying of 14-year-old Konerak Sinthasomphone. It was hard to tell if the crescendo of voices could be heard beyond the plexiglass barrier dividing the room. The judge did not pause, and Dahmer sat as stonily as he had throughout the three-week trial.

No members of the Sinthasomphone family were



There was no force pushing him to kill. There was merely a desire to spend more time with the victim.

— **Park E. Dietz**, psychiatrist for the prosecution, testifying Feb. 12

testimony Feb. 8



Anthony Sears
Age 24
March '89



Ricky Beeks
Age 33
May '90



Eddie Smith
Age 28
June '90



Ernest Miller
Age 24
Sept. '90



David Thomas
Age 23
Sept. '90



Curtis Straughter
Age 18
March '91



Errol Lindsey
Age 19
April '91



Toney Hughes
Age 31
May '91



Konerak Sinthasomphone
Age 14
May '91



Matt Turner
Age 20
June '91



Jeremlah Weinberger
Age 23
July '91



Oliver Lacy
Age 23
July '91



Joseph Bradehoft
Age 25
July '91

Journal graphic

relief streamed down Carolyn's cheeks and those of her sister, Teresa Smith. Both wore pictures of Eddie on large buttons pinned to their blouses.

J.W. Smith, one of Eddie Smith's nine brothers, spoke in a news conference after the verdict. "I am glad all the votes came back 'no.' But it's not over yet. We are still going to be here Monday, pulling strong."

J.W. Smith referred to the opportunity each family will have at 10 a.m. Monday to make an "impact statement" before the sentencing.

"We will let all America know about Eddie and what we've been feeling all these months we have been going through this," said Carolyn Smith.

Her tears had dried by then. "I can smile better," she said.

And a composed Shirley Hughes said she wanted "to thank God, thank Mr. McCann and thank the jury for bringing in justice for us. I believe, and I know this man is not insane."

One by one at a news conference, family members spoke about their loved ones and the ending the verdicts brought to a long chapter of grief. Some hugged and shook the hand of Dist. Atty E. Michael McCann.

Those in the courtroom for the verdict included Shirley Hughes' new granddaughter, nearly 2 months old. Her name is Tony Noel.

Shirley Hughes said her slain son did not know his sister, Barbara, was pregnant when he died. The baby was born prematurely, but strong, last Christmas Eve.

The grandmother took the birth as a sign that God did not want her to feel alone without her son.



Thank God, thank Mr. McCann and thank the jury for bringing in justice for us. I believe, and I know this man is not insane.

— Shirley Hughes, mother of victim Anthony Hughes, after the verdict Saturday



We have a system of justice that can't be beat anywhere else in this country.

— Judge Laurence C. Gram, the presiding judge, just before he dismissed the jury Saturday

THE DAHMER TRIAL

Trial didn't trigger gay bashing

Reactions range from relief to belief in the criminal justice system

By MANUEL MENDOZA
of The Journal staff

From homosexuals who feared that the Jeffrey L. Dahmer case would lead to gay-bashing to blacks who charged that the killings were racially motivated, a number of groups are breathing sighs of relief that Dahmer trial is over and that he was found sane.

"We're glad this is over with. The circus is now going out of town," Scott Gunkel, president of the Lambda Rights Network, a gay and lesbian group, said Saturday.

Gunkel said homosexuals in Milwaukee wanted imprisonment for Dahmer rather than sending him to a mental health facility. He praised Dist. Atty. E. Michael McCann and defense lawyer Gerald Boyle for treating Dahmer as an individual and not tying his crimes to his homosexuality.

"They did not play upon our greatest fears," Gunkel said. "We did not see any rash of gay bashing. We feared that."

If gays regret anything about the way Dahmer's case was handled it's that McCann didn't prosecute the murders as hate crimes, Gunkel said. Dahmer intentionally killed gays and blacks, Gunkel asserted,

and McCann missed an opportunity to send a message that hate crimes would not be tolerated.

Gunkel said the Dahmer case highlighted the extent of racism and homophobia in Milwaukee. He expressed hope that gays and other minorities could continue working together to help make people more tolerant.

Kitty Barber of the Lesbian Alliance of Metropolitan Milwaukee agreed that many gays and lesbians felt relief that the Dahmer chapter of Milwaukee history had closed.

"Nobody won," Barber said. "What did the families win? What did McCann win? What did Boyle win? This was truly a no-win situation."

Barber praised both attorneys, saying they avoided blaming Dahmer's sexual orientation for his crimes. "They really could have used us gays and lesbians as scapegoats," she said. "It took some courage for them not to. I'm proud of them."

SYSTEM WORKED

Fritz Spence, a victim assistance specialist at Career Youth Development, a social service agency, said the verdicts had helped assure blacks that the criminal justice system could work.

Some black organizations in Milwaukee had charged that Dahmer's crimes went undetected for so long because most of his victims were black and society was less concerned with their well-being.

"We have hope now," Spence

Journal reporters Tim Cuprisin, Craig Gilbert and Joel Dresang contributed to this report.

said. "People need to settle down and have faith in the system."

Madison forensic psychiatrist Frederick Fosdal, who was called by the prosecution as an expert witness, praised the jury's handling of the case.

Fosdal, who testified that Dahmer knew that what he was doing was wrong and could control his behavior, congratulated the jury for its "correct and accurate verdicts."

"I'm impressed that the truth prevailed in spite of the enormity and unnaturalness of the case, and in spite of the eloquent, passionate, and persuasive arguments of Mr. Boyle."

Park Dietz, a Newport Beach, Calif., psychiatrist who also testified for the prosecution, said the verdicts were a victory for the legal system and for the victims' families, Milwaukee in general and the legal system.

"The jury finding that Mr. Dahmer was sane... is important for the families of the men he killed and for the City of Milwaukee to whom he brought shame," Dietz said. "But the verdict is also important as a message to countless other men who long to commit sexual crimes."

"If the jury had found Mr. Dahmer insane, it would have been open season for sexual offenders,

because the core of the defense theory of the case was that sexual deviated [paraphilic] men cannot control their behavior... One message for those who long to perform harmful and anti-social sexual acts is clear: Society is not prepared to excuse you, however bizarre your actions."

Dietz disagreed with Gunkel's claim that Dahmer singled out gays and blacks as victims. "I only hope that the trial served to clarify that his crimes were not motivated by racial prejudice or homophobia," Dietz said.

WORRY ABOUT IMAGE

Meanwhile, those who promote Milwaukee's image say it is time for the city to move out of the shadow of Dahmer and his grisly killings. The Greater Milwaukee Convention and Visitors Bureau is planning a promotional tourism campaign this spring, at a cost of up to \$1 million.

The reason is the recession — and Dahmer. The idea is "to now bring back into perspective the favorable image of Milwaukee. It needs to be stated to offset the three months, really the year, of negative publicity we've been having," said David Nolan, head of the bureau.

Mayor John O. Norquist said: "The whole city is relieved that the trial is behind us. I'm glad that the judicial system and the jury system worked, and that Dahmer will spend the rest of his life in prison, where everyone agrees he belongs."



Pool photo by Benny Siu

JEFFREY L. DAHMER'S stepmother, Shari, and his father, Lionel, sit quietly in the courtroom as the verdicts are read.

ControlOutOfControl.blog

Dahmer will have a cell to himself at Columbia

By JO SANDIN
of The Journal staff

However crowded the Columbia Correctional Institution gets, Jeffrey L. Dahmer won't have a cellmate, prison spokesmen say.

Dahmer now goes to Columbia, the maximum-security facility for male offenders, which opened in 1986. Keeping a man at the Portage prison costs \$74.40 a day, compared with the average cost of \$361 a day for each patient at the Mendota Mental Health Institute in Madison, where Dahmer likely would have gone if the jury had found him insane in any of the killings.

Authorities repeatedly have said that Dahmer will be treated like all other prisoners. Yet going to Columbia isn't routine. Usually, new prisoners spend their first days in the system at the Dodge Correctional Institution in Waupun, where psychologists, doctors, social workers and vocational experts develop a plan for their incarceration.

Dahmer, however, already has gone through most of that evaluation process, according to Joe Scislowicz, information officer for the state Department of Corrections. He will be under observation for the first 10 days.

Although Columbia has 564 inmates in a prison built for 441, prison officials have decided that Dahmer won't have a roommate.

He will be allowed to smoke in his cell, which is good news for Dahmer, a heavy smoker. Smoking would have been a problem for

Judge has authority to deny parole chance

Under the so-called life-means-life law signed by Gov. Tommy G. Thompson in June 1988, judges can sentence those convicted of first-degree intentional homicide or other serious crimes to a fixed period of time without possibility of parole — even 100 years.

Under the old law, people sentenced to life in prison could be paroled after serving as little as 13 years, 4 months.

Dahmer faces up to 15 consecutive life sentences in prison. On 13 of these, Judge Laurence C. Gram Jr. can set a parole eligibility date far beyond Dahmer's life expectancy. The first two killings for which Dahmer was convicted, those of James Doxtator and Richard Guerrero, occurred before the life-means-life law was signed.

Dahmer's sentencing, scheduled for 10 a.m. Monday, will be carried live on WDJT-TV (Channel 58).

toward becoming a smoke-free facility.

Prisoners at Columbia are allowed to have some personal property, such as the radio Dahmer mentioned in telling one psychiatrist that all he thought he could look forward to was a life of reading, writing and listening to a radio.

Terms like "solitary confinement" and "isolation" are misnomers, said Scislowicz, who has been information officer for the



Journal photo by Jim Gehrz

JEFFREY L. DAHMER will be sent to the Columbia Correctional Institution in Portage.

vocational training or large-group recreation.

CLUSTERS OF CELLS

Prisoners at Columbia are housed in clusters of 24 to 50 cells that share dayrooms, showers and dining facilities.

"In fact, even prisoners confined most of the time to their cells go out for recreation at intervals," Scislowicz said. "They always see the people who feed them and who

Henry Luter, a man with 22 years of experience with the prison system — from the other side of the bars — said of Dahmer: "They'll put him in the smurf unit."

That is a prisoners' term for the housing unit in which prisoners are under constant, one-on-one surveillance, said Luter, 45, who has been out of prison for the last two years and is working in Milwaukee.

assassination or rape. So-called "celebrity prisoners" like Dahmer lose their notoriety quickly in the routine of prison, Scislowicz said.

"You see somebody often enough, and he's not a celebrity anymore," he said.

Luter said, "Other people are thinking about getting out, not about getting Dahmer."

Given the opportunity, other prisoners might spit on Dahmer,

McCann emerges as clear winner

Boyle faced uphill fight, local attorneys say

By MIKE NICHOLS
of The Journal staff

Lawyers, like their clients, also wind up winning or losing, several attorneys said Saturday, and in the case of Jeffrey L. Dahmer, Milwaukee County Dist. Atty. E. Michael McCann was clearly the victor.

One reason was that McCann had the stronger case; so strong, in fact, that it was his to lose, rather than his to win, several legal experts said after Dahmer was found sane in the murders of 15 people.

"Most cases are not won by one side or the other," Milwaukee attorney Robert J. Lerner said. "They are lost by either side."

It is difficult to compare the two attorneys in the case, local attorneys said, because the playing field was not level from the beginning.

In addition to having the tougher job, as defense attorneys often do, Dahmer's lawyer, Gerald P. Boyle, also had the burden of proof because it was a trial to determine sanity. In trials where guilt is the question, it is the prosecution that must provide proof beyond a reasonable doubt. As McCann noted repeatedly during closing argu-

Dahmer won't have a roommate. He will be allowed to smoke in his cell, which is good news for Dahmer, a heavy smoker. Smoking would have been a problem for Dahmer at Mendota. In an effort to conform to federal regulations for hospitals, Mendota is on its way

ing, writing and listening to a radio. Terms like "solitary confinement" and "isolation" are misnomers, said Scislowicz, who has been information officer for the prison system for 22 years. Really, they just mean that prisoners are kept apart from programs such as

"In fact, even prisoners committed most of the time to their cells go out for recreation at intervals," Scislowicz said. "They always see the people who feed them and who take them to the showers. And they yell to each other between the cells."

under constant, one-on-one surveillance, said Luter, 45, who has been out of prison for the last two years and is working in Milwaukee.

DAHMER WON'T FACE HARM

Luter and Scislowicz agreed that Dahmer would not be at risk of

anything serious, including "getting Dahmer."

Given the opportunity, other prisoners might spit on Dahmer, but they won't get much of a chance, he said. Security at Columbia is so tight, he said, "they won't be able to slip him a cigaret."

Juror contends Dahmer is a con artist; says panel relied on its common sense

By JIM STINGL
of The Journal staff

His fellow jurors are hesitant to say it outside the jury room, Karl W. Stahle said, but he is not: Jeffrey L. Dahmer is a con artist.

"His whole conduct showed that he was a con artist. He had [planned well] and he is above average in intelligence. And that's all we went by," Stahle said when he and two other jurors and two alternate jurors faced a crush of reporters Saturday a couple hours after their verdicts were read.

"He had plans and he had just one thing on his mind: to satisfy his ego and to satisfy himself. And he didn't even think of anybody else," said Stahle, by far the most outspoken of the jurors who agreed to meet the press.

Nine other jurors went home for the first time in nearly three weeks and declined to answer questions.

Stahle of Milwaukee said he was not affected by the fiery closing



STAHLE

Dunn, Palermo to discuss verdicts

A special edition of the Kathleen Dunn radio program will be broadcast on radio station WTMJ (620 AM) from 3:30 to 6 p.m. Sunday to discuss the sanity verdict in the Jeffrey Dahmer trial. George B. Palermo, a psychiatrist who testified for the court during the trial, will be the program guest. Listeners will have an opportunity to call in and express their opinions on the verdict.

arguments of either lawyer, and he didn't believe the defense's argument that Dahmer got sicker as his string of crimes went along.

The psychiatric experts were helpful, but in the end common sense carried the day, he said.

"The professional words were confusing, but when we went down to basics, I think we figured out what was wrong," said Stahle, a retired American Motors Corp. worker who turned 65 during the trial.

He revealed that the jury deliberated about five hours, all on Saturday. Asked why they didn't start discussing the case Friday afternoon when it was handed to them, he replied, "We were too tired."

The vote wound up to be 10 to 2 that Dahmer had no mental disease. But a few minds had to be changed first.

"At one point we were going like

8 and 4, and as far as even 7 and 5," Stahle said.

DISSENTING JURORS

One of the two dissenting jurors was Russell P. Fenstermaker, 46, of Franklin.

"I'm not so sure I would call it dissension, but a difference of opinion, as to what constituted a mental disease and as to what was a mental disorder," he said.

If there had been agreement that Dahmer did have a mental disease as defined by law, Fenstermaker said he would have voted on the second question that Dahmer still could have controlled his conduct and therefore



FENSTERMAKER

was not insane. The jury never got past the first question.

Another juror who spoke about the experience was Elba C. Duggins of Milwaukee. She was asked how the jury dealt with the barrage of gruesome details in the case.

"Each one of us had to deal with it individually, but we at night came together as friends," she said. "I already dealt with it partially by leaving the room and crying."

Dahmer's passive demeanor in court had no effect on her decision, Duggins said.

Jury deliberations went smoothly, she said. "There was no arguing. Everyone had their own opinion, their own way of interpreting. That was the biggest thing, how we interpreted the evidence."

After the verdicts were read, the jury received a brief period of counseling and debriefing. One of the counselors, Roger Bell, a University of Louisville professor, called the jury a "good, stable group of people" with a "high level of humor given the circumstances."

They were traumatized more by the separation from their families than by the horrific facts of the Dahmer case, Bell said.



DUGGINS

Ohio to seek extradition in '78 killing

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
of The Journal staff

Extradition proceedings will begin Tuesday against serial killer Jeffrey L. Dahmer for a 1978 murder in Ohio, a prosecutor from that state said Saturday.

Lynn Slaby, prosecutor for Summit County, Ohio, said he expected Dahmer's attorney, Gerald P. Boyle, to recommend that Dahmer waive extradition and plead guilty to the murder of Steven Hicks, an 18-year-old hitchhiker who has been identified as Dahmer's first victim.

"I am very set on getting him back. The [Hicks] family is very adamant to have him back," said Slaby, who has been in Milwaukee monitoring the trial.

With Ohio's tougher standards on proving insanity, the likelihood of Dahmer gaining such a verdict in that state is "slim to none," Slaby said.

He said Dahmer had nothing to gain by fighting the charges of aggravated murder and kidnaping in Ohio now that he has lost his case in Wisconsin. Slaby was referring to a Milwaukee Circuit Court jury's verdict that Dahmer was sane at the time he killed 15 men and boys in Milwaukee and West Allis.

Slaby hopes to have Dahmer in Ohio within a month. He said Dahmer must be in Summit County's jurisdiction to be sentenced, even if he decides to plead guilty.

reasonable doubt. As McCann noted repeatedly during closing arguments, if jurors had any doubts, they were obligated to side with the prosecution.

"Defense lawyers do not win that many cases," Lerner said. "Any lawyer who says they do not lose many is not trying many."

According to Franklyn Gimbel, another well-known Milwaukee defense attorney, there's a rule of thumb among lawyers that a jury that deliberates less than one hour for each day of testimony is a "prosecutor's jury."

"The longer the deliberations, the more likely there will be a chance for him not to be found responsible for at least one count," Gimbel said.

The jury deliberated about five hours; there were 12 days of testimony.

"My view is that the verdict was absolutely appropriate," said Stephen Kravit, a Milwaukee attorney. "I think it had very little to do with advocacy and more to do with the horrific facts involved."

Dennis Coffey, another defense attorney in Milwaukee, said: "You really cannot allow yourself to worry about winning or losing, because you will go crazy. More often than not, you are battling an adversary who has resources that you cannot touch. I do not think that you look at it as winning or losing. You have a function to fulfill, and you do the best you can."

Under those circumstances, Coffey said, Boyle did do the best he could.

Saying that Boyle does not lose stature is not to say that McCann doesn't gain stature, numerous attorneys said. The consensus opinion among the lawyers is that the district attorney will profit from his victory. The bigger question, however, is how.

McCann has been district attorney in Milwaukee County for a quarter of a century and is long past worrying about getting re-elected.

Subscribe to
The Milwaukee Journal
call 224-2222