

# Klan jury's long delay surprises lawyers

GREENSBORO (AP)—After more than a week of deliberations in the Ku Klux Klan-Nazi murder trial, defense attorneys in the case said they expected a verdict before now.

But they said the presiding judge's lengthy instructions to the jury panel and jurors' comments prior to being seated could explain why the panel is having difficulty coming to a decision.

Jurors began deliberating the fate of the six Klansmen and Nazis Nov. 7, but when the panel went home for the weekend Friday afternoon, it showed no sign of being close to a verdict.

State court officials said this was the longest they could remember jurors deliberating on a case in more than 40 years.

The six defendants are charged with five counts each of first-degree murder in the shooting deaths of five Communist Workers Party members at a "Death to the Klan" rally Nov. 3, 1979. They also are charged with felonious rioting. All have pleaded innocent to the charges.

Superior Court Judge James M. Long also told the all-white jury of six men and six women that it could return five verdicts on the 30 murder charges—first-

degree murder, first-degree murder by premeditation and deliberation, second-degree murder, voluntary manslaughter and innocent.

"I believe the judge is probably pleased with the jury's progress," defense attorney Hal Greeson said Friday. "He told them not to try to reach a quick verdict and they're taking it to heart."

Greeson, who represents Klansman Coleman Blair Pridmore, declined to speculate on when a verdict might be returned, but he admitted he had expected one much earlier.

"If you're asking me when I expected it, I'll say I expected it last Monday," he said.

Defense lawyer Robert Cahoon said he had looked for a verdict "sooner than this. I have no idea what to expect now as far as time," he said.

The jurors spent several hours last week reviewing videotapes of the bloody confrontation and once again examining the hundreds of pieces of evidence introduced in the 22-week trial. While they scrutinized weapons, photographs and a 4-by-8-foot diagram of the neighborhood where the shootings occurred, jurors became involved in animated discussions and appeared to disagree on several points.

Attorneys said jurors' comments on the incident before they were seated for the trial may reflect their difficulty making a decision.

For example, William A. Browning, a 35-year-old Browns Summit truck driver and the seventh juror to be chosen, said during the selection process: "I look over there and see six men, and I can see myself sitting right over there with them."

Greeson said he didn't know if Browning meant he sympathized with the defendants, but he said Browning's remarks satisfied defense attorneys, who had the final word in approving Browning.

Jury foreman Ocatavio R. Mandulay, a 46-year-old Cuban native who fought communism 20 years ago, recalled Castro's "disregard for free enterprise" in pretrial remarks.

"There's no way to know what the jurors are agreeing or disagreeing on," Greeson said Friday. "I feel sure they all have different ideas, which is why this has taken so long. I don't know how they feel about what happened and the defendants and communism, but I'm confident that they're doing a good job and that they'll reach a fair decision."

# Violence marks shift in nation's race relations

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groups have increased their activities," Doctor said. He served as a member of the N.C. Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, which recently studied race relations in Greensboro.

Doctor said there had been a change in the strategies of the KKK and other radical groups. "They are trying to become more visible and are recruiting more young people," he said.

Brock attributed the rise of the KKK's more militant stance against blacks to a misconception of public sentiment by the group. "The kooks...read the conservative attitude of the country as a signal to take aggression on black people," Brock said. "They think they can do this without fear of retribution." He said it was necessary for groups like the KKK to "practice their violence on somebody—be it blacks, Jews, liberals or long-haired college students."

He said the best method for dealing with the Klan and other radical organizations was to challenge them in costly legal battles and to "put them in the proper perspective," which

he said the press had failed to do.

"The media will have to put (the Klan) in its proper perspective," Brock said. "Newspaper editors will have to stop treating every cross-burning as a front-page lead story," he said, noting that because the Klan thrives on publicity, an effective weapon against it would be to deprive the group of so much media attention.

But he warned against ignoring the Klan. "There will be more (racially inspired aggression) as long as people have a degree of immunity," he said.

Both Brock and Doctor said one reason for the present state of race relations was the conservative mood of the country, a mood that elected Ronald Reagan president and gave conservative Republicans control of the Senate. Such a conservative government may have a good impact on race relations in the 1980s, but both Brock and Doctor adopted a wait-and-see attitude.

Since blacks overwhelmingly supported President Jimmy Carter in the 1980 election, giving him about 80 percent of their vote, Brock said blacks were apprehensive about

Reagan's administration. "They've (blacks) heard a lot of rhetoric and code words from him," he said, but he stressed he did not "have a crystal ball" and could not predict what a Reagan presidency would do for race relations.

"The NAACP will sit down and talk to him about our goals and he will articulate to us his goals," Brock said. "If his leadership is bad, the 1980s will be characterized by a lot of bickering and acrimony," Brock said. "Race relations will become worse." However, Brock said if Reagan provides good leadership, tensions among the races would ease.

Doctor, too, was cautious in his appraisal of Reagan, noting that the president-elect was required to uphold the spirit of the law and could not adversely affect civil rights legislation. "The progress (in civil rights) must be maintained," he said.

Doctor said he was disappointed with the general rightward shift in attitude by the country, saying he would like to see "an abrupt halt to this rightward trend. The

country seems to be shifting right and in race relations that is a sad commentary.

"If you stop to analyze the ultra-right," he said, "you will find that they feel efforts made on behalf of blacks were made at their expense."

Based on the Greensboro report, Doctor said, attitudes and different perceptions existed because of inequality. "Those on the receiving end are going to feel differently than those on the other end," he said.

For instance, in Greensboro there is an absence of women and blacks in elected positions, and that absence suggests to blacks that they are not part of the system, that they are alienated and excluded, he said.

"These things are all taken for granted by the white community," Doctor said.

These perceptions contribute to an increased strain in race relations, he said.

"Prejudice has always been there, and it isn't always racial," Brock said. "It's not new. It will be around for a long time."

# News In Brief

## Ervin approved of anti-busing bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., says the anti-busing legislation he helped introduce last week had the approval of former Sen. Sam J. Ervin, D-N.C.

Both Ervin and Helms said Saturday they consulted on the bill before Helms introduced it in order to work out any possible constitutional snags.

Although constitutional scholars predict a challenge to the bill in the courts, both Helms and Ervin insist the law will end busing to achieve racial integration in the schools.

## Reagan meets with economists

LOS ANGELES (AP)—President-elect Ronald Reagan met Sunday with a blue-ribbon panel of Republican economists to receive a detailed plan intended to turn his campaign promises of tax and spending cuts into reality.

The 14 economic advisers, including former Treasury Secretary George Schultz, have been meeting here since Friday to write what Schultz described as "a comprehensive long-term strategy" to coordinate tax, energy, regulatory and monetary policies for the new administration.

## Child's bloody clothing discovered

ATLANTA (AP)—Police were trying to determine Sunday whether a child's bloody jacket and T-shirt discovered by tracking dogs may be connected with a string of unsolved child slayings which have shaken Atlanta.

The green windbreaker and T-shirt, both covered with dried blood, were found by two tracking dogs Saturday in woods near a cemetery on Atlanta's northwest side, City Councilman Arthur Langford Jr. said Sunday.

## Fires sweep Southern California

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Thousands of residents fled hillside homes Sunday as brush fires fanned by powerful winds raced across 17,500 acres in five Southern California communities, destroying more than 100 homes—some valued at more than \$1 million.

Officials blamed at least one of the largest fires on arson. One man died of a heart attack as he fled his burning home in the Bradbury area, where the worst fire destroyed or damaged 80 homes, officials said.

## Heels

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"The first and foremost thing is for us to win the ACC," Tar Heel free safety Steve Streeter said after the game. "We've got a good chance to win it now."

Maryland, which defeated Clemson Saturday and accepted a Tangerine Bowl bid, is second in the conference with a 4-1 record, its loss coming to UNC in the third game of the season.

"Before this game, everybody was talking about going to a bowl and not Virginia," Taylor said.

His opinion seemed to show in the first half of the game, when the Tar Heels, although they led 6-3 after two Jeff Hayes field goals, looked ineffectual.

"We were a little sluggish in the first half," Crum said. "We didn't have a lot of rhythm."

But I think we were motivated a little more in the second half. We knew how important this game was in the title chase.

Carolina used two short touchdown runs from Amos Lawrence and an 81-yard scoring run by Kelvin Bryant to open up the game in the third and fourth quarters. The Tar Heels, who encountered an eight-man Virginia front on defense in the first half, ran and passed well the final 30 minutes against the Cavalier defense.

Bryant's score, with 10:40 left in the game, came on a trap play keyed by a Ron Spruill block. "I had to break a tackle after I got the block, then after that it was a foot race between me and the defensive back," Bryant said.

Bryant led the UNC rushing game with 111 yards, which gave him 840 for the season. Lawrence, who gained only four yards in five carries in the first half, finished with 95 yards. His effort moved him to ninth on the NCAA career rushing list (4,248 yards) and gave him 975 yards on the year.

UNC quarterback Rod Elkins, who had passed little the past two games, was 12-of-17

for 144 yards. Tight end Mike Chatham led the receivers with six catches for 56 yards.

"They knew we were going to try to run on them and we had to adjust," Chatham said of the passing effort.

Virginia, whose only score came on a 40-yard Wayne Morrison field goal in the second quarter, was forced to start reserve quarterback Lindsay Delaney after regular Todd Kirtley developed muscle spasms before kickoff.

The Cavaliers had effective running from tailback Tom Vigorito, who gained 84 yards—70 in the first half—but lost momentum in the second half.

"In the second half, once they broke the big run we lost some of our intensity on defense," Virginia coach Dick Bettwick said.

Even with the victory and the boost it gave to Carolina's ACC title chances, most of the postgame talk was about going to the Bluebonnet Bowl.

While speculation early last week hinted that the Tar Heels would be the host team in the Peach Bowl in Atlanta, Ga., most UNC players were against playing there, which figured in the decision to accept the Bluebonnet bid.

"Coach Crum knew the players didn't want to go to the Peach Bowl," Rick Donnalley said. "Bowl fever would be over by the time (Jan. 2) the Peach Bowl was played. A whole lot of people wouldn't have been interested in our game."

Swofford, asked about UNC students being able to attend the game, said he would like for them to be able to go but that the first consideration was where the team and the football staff wanted to play.

"It would be nice to get the best of both worlds, but sometimes that doesn't happen," Swofford said. "We still hope many of our people will go to the Bluebonnet Bowl."



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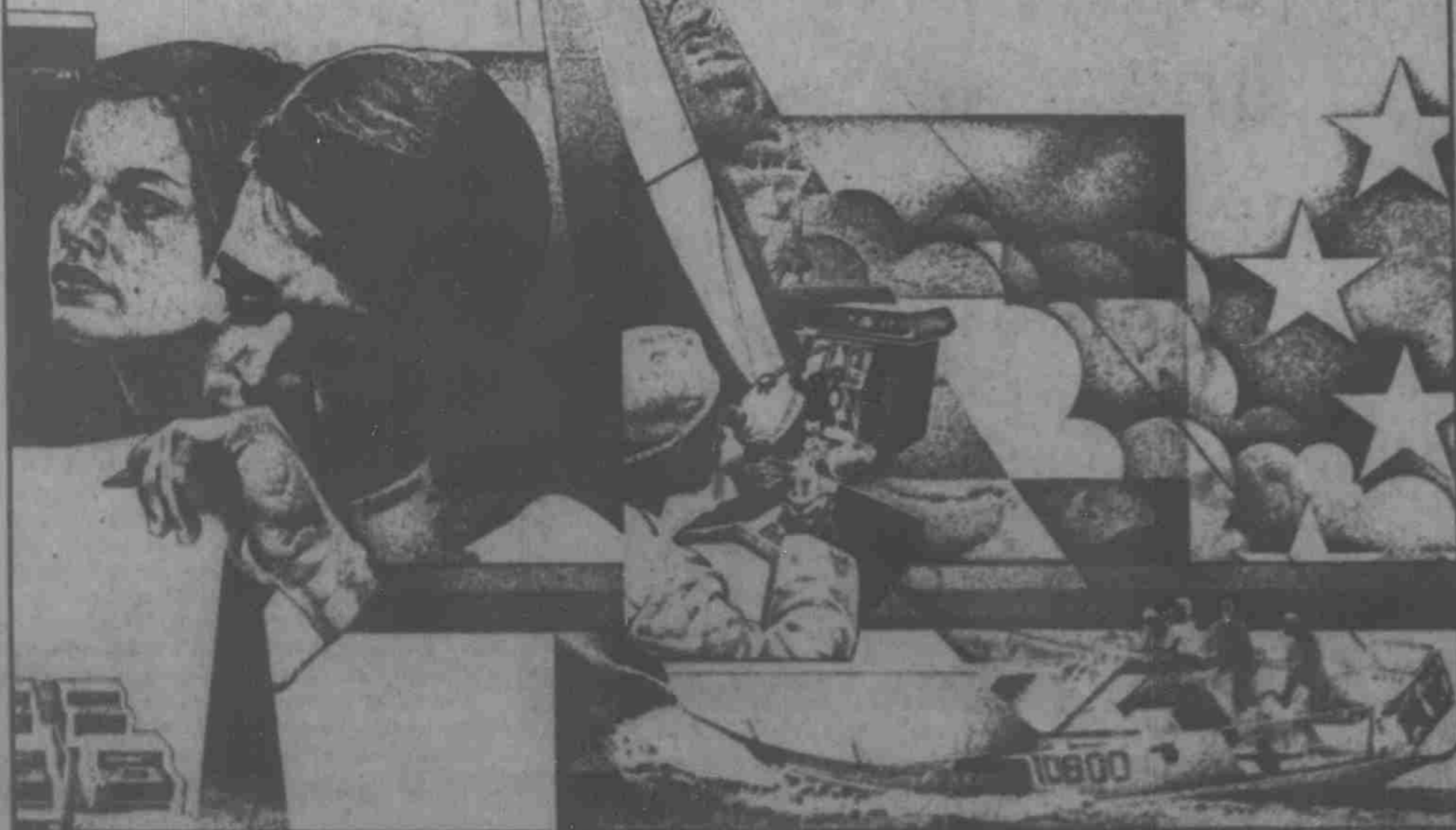
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