

Defense Witnesses Called Wednesday In Jaynes' Trial

Defense attorneys called their final witnesses in the last two days of testimony in the 1st degree murder trial of James Edward Jaynes.

But before the trial switched to the defense, District Attorney Alan Leonard called an SBI firearms examiner who identified a bullet found in the woods where Jaynes and Shane Smith were arrested. He said the bullet was identical to the one used to kill Paul Acker in October 1990.

On Wednesday morning, defense attorney Michael Edney called Christopher Michael Roach to the stand in an apparent effort to discredit the earlier testimony of Shane Smith.

Roach testified that he had known Smith all his life and that, "He could tell a lie pretty good and not even crack a smile."

Although Smith was born without any fingers, Roach said he can handle a weapon well and hit a target accurately.

Regina Waters of Spindale testified that she had observed Shane Smith target shooting and the he had no problem splitting a piece of wire grass with a pistol.

SBI special agent Brian Halman testified that Acker's mobile home probably burned at a temperature of around 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The fire was so hot that it buckled the steel girders that underpinned the trailer.

Under questioning by the defense, Jerry Thomas, a forensic chemist for the SBI, reported that from his examination of sifted debris on the scene, he could not determine if an accelerant such as gasoline was used to start the fire.

But when Leonard cross-examined, Thomas said it is not uncommon for all traces of accelerant to be destroyed by such a hot fire.

The five-woman, seven-man jury listened intently to testimony as the defendant, James Jaynes, sat impassively at the defense table.

Just before noon, defense attorney Edney announced that the defense would call no more witnesses. But he did introduce over two dozen exhibits into evidence.

Dr. Janet Cox Returns to N.C.

Dr. Janet Leslie Cox, a wholistic health professional, has returned to the Western N.C. mountains to live after 25 years of travel, study, and living in some of America's most beautiful areas.

Janet spent her childhood in Marblehead, Mass. and from 1955-1965 she lived in Hendersonville. Now she has returned to Tryon, recognizing it as one of the most beautiful and desirable places to be.

Among the places she has lived is the Hawaiian Islands, where she was first introduced to the natural healing arts.

She has lived in Oregon, in Southern California, and the San Francisco Bay area. She attended Los Angeles College of Chiropractic and graduated from Northwestern College of Chiropractic in Minneapolis.

She had a private practice in Minneapolis and in the Northern Rockies. For the past two years she has traveled and pursued postgraduate training in the Pacific Northwest, St. Louis, Santa Fe, Boulder and Chicago.

Although she is a licensed chiropractor in two states, it will be midsummer before she can secure her chiropractic license in N.C. While she will not be offering chiropractic services until then, she will be offering services, products, and classes in her wholistic approach to health and wellness including: Therapeutic Massage; Specific Muscle Testing to identify areas of stress (Kinesiology); Ergonomic Equipment and Accessories; Classes and Workshops; House and Office Calls.

Janet said she looks forward to her new beginning in Tryon, and may be reached by calling 704-859-3176.

-Community Reporter

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Tryon Daily Bulletin, Thurs., Apr. 16, 1992

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