

THE COURTS
Defense in Zebra trial chips away at witness

By Gale Cook
In a slow, sipping process, the defense in the Zebra murder trial has worked away again on the prosecution's chief witness, Anthony Connors Harris.

Harris was on the stand for the eighth day. Under cross-examination by defense attorney John Crankshaw, Harris was asked about a watch belonging to one of the Zebra victims, that the witness earlier had admitted paying for.

Harris had testified he was pressed for money and pawned the watch after finding it also a tape recorder at the Black Sedition Meeting Co., where he works. The watch belonged to Earlton Brown, slain in the Zebra killings on Nov. 20, 1973.

"Was the need for \$10 very strong?" asked Crankshaw. "Yes, it was," Harris said. "In other words, you stole that watch?" the attorney inquired.

Gossage testimony: Amy's boy friends
By Dick Alexander
Elen Gossage said her brother Amy had "10 or 12 boy friends" and at one time he had "at least one of them up" a Superior Court jury heard today.

The testimony was from a prosecution witness, homicide Inspector Ben Morley, who testified from a statement he had taken from Gossage, who is accused of the Feb. 13 murder of her husband.

Morley said the statement was taken at Central Police Station at 2:30 p.m. after he had given young Gossage the Miranda warning (defendant's rights). Gossage had not been placed under arrest at that time, the inspector said.

Amy's stabbed and bludgeoned body was discovered shortly after noon in her apartment at 1170 Kearny St. Morley said he later entered Elen's apartment at 1440 Montgomery St. with Gossage's permission and found in a box on a back porch a hammer that had a "red" substance on it.

"I called for the crime and photo labs to respond," he added. The inspector said that after Gossage had been placed under arrest and taken to the Hall of Justice, the young man asked what the penalty as an accessory was "if someone took a murder weapon to help a friend and hid it in his apartment."

Morley said that question was not answered by either him or his partner, Inspector Eugene Pignati. Assistant District Attorney Thomas F. Norman yesterday had his most dramatic day in court as he attempted to weave a tight web of circumstantial evidence against Gossage 20, son of the late advertising executive Leonard Gossage.

Zebra raid lawsuit filed
Two young San Francisco couples sued Mayor Moscone and top police brass for \$24 million today as a result of a raid carried out early last May 1 in the search for the Zebra killers.

The suit was filed in federal court here on behalf of James Krawczyk, 23, U.S. Army, his wife Monica, 21, and Andre Macdonald, 20, a student, and his wife Mabel, 21.

Both couples are residents of an apartment building at 400 Green St., where the raid, described in the complaint as a "commando operation," took place. The effect on the jury of seven women said first must not be gauged.

Harris denied taking out Krawczyk's watch, however. The witness said he pawned the watch because of a \$400 debt to the Victim Relief, operators of the moving company and a bakery. "They give you papers to sell, how can you sell it if you don't sell the bean tree, you have to pay for it out of your own money. If you don't sell, the papers you have to pay?"

Under questioning from Crankshaw yesterday, in former Harris acknowledged he had shortchanged police by first changing the edges of the Zebra killings on Nov. 20, 1973. "And you told the police the whole story that time?" the attorney asked.

"Not all of it," Harris said. "Just what I wanted to know." "Was the need for \$10 very strong?" asked Crankshaw. "Yes, I sold them that, but it was a mistake," Harris said.

Harris for his part seems to have gained confidence on the stand. He sometimes smiles at questions, demands clarifications and even gives caustic answers. When Crankshaw asked if Harris said "Arabic foot" implying that Harris traded at Krawczyk's grocery, Harris said no, and demanded: "What do you mean by Arabic foot?"

"Brown bread," suggested Crankshaw. "I eat brown bread, while bread, rye bread," said Harris, annoyed. "I don't hate anybody."

Asked under cross-examination who he repeated of the conversation later to police inspectors Corcoran and Masley, Lovelace replied. "Because I thought it was a pretty sick thing to do, your honor. I was a pretty sick murder."

A Mike Peterson a pretty brunette model who lived in an apartment two doors from Miss Gossage, testified that Elen Gossage made two visits to her apartment the morning of the murder - at about 11:30 and 12 noon.

"The first time Elen was very nervous - upset, shaking," said Miss Peterson, "knocked on my window and he had blood around his lips and on his hands." Police Inspector Thomas Morley, a fingerprint expert, testified he lifted from Gossage a palm print "with a residue time that appeared to be blood." The print matched the left palm of Elen Gossage, Morley said. The prosecution expected to wind up its case today.

Slaves for afterlife
Maniac-killer theory backed

By Stephen Cook
Sonoma County authorities who believe a lone, maniacal killer is slaying young women in western America, perhaps collecting slaves for the afterlife, received some qualified support from other law enforcement officers today.

Detective Sergeant Ervin (Buck) Cardwell of the Sonoma sheriff's office lists 20 killings or disappearances of girls and young women in Northern California dating back to 1963, which he thinks could be the work of one killer. He has speculated the killer may be drawing a grant for his female victims and may believe he "will receive and cleanse the world of these inferior fallen women."

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The psychiatrist noted that the Sonoma victim list, arranged by minutes before she died and another victim committed to the agonizing death which comes from strychnine poisoning. "The murderer kills slowly, for self-gratification," he said, and considers his victims "garbage to be dumped, alongside the road."

But in Washington state, Capt. Nick Macken of the King County sheriff's office said his officers discussed with Cardwell the similarities between their cases and they rejected the theory they were connected. "We came to the definite conclusion that there was no relationship between the Sonoma and our murders," he said.

Sonoma County law enforcement officials actually had two profiles drawn of their killer - by a psychiatrist and a behavioral scientist who examined crime records and court files.

San Francisco psychiatrist Edward Shaw noted the killer in Sonoma County never left the clothing, jewelry or other belongings of his victims behind. "The Zodiac is involved here in some way," he said.

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Motorcyclist skids into car and is killed

A motorcyclist was killed last night when his motorcycle skidded across a center dividing line into the path of a car in Oakland.

Michael Rowland, 23, of 1911 Anson Ave., Oakland, captured a witness, officers said, but it was trapped to the saddle of his bike.

The accident occurred on Gold Links Road near Carterwood Street. The driver of the car, Richard Brown, 21, an Oakland city employee, left the challenge, jewelry or other belongings of his victims behind. "The Zodiac is involved here in some way," he said.

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