

**The Rockies**

**Wyoming governor slices Deborah Jahnke sentence**

**Associated Press**  
**CHEYENNE, Wyo.** — Deborah Ann Jahnke will be spending time in college rather than in prison as a result of Gov. Ed Herschler's decision to commute her 18-year sentence for helping her brother Richard and kill their abusive father.

The Jahnkes' legal nightmare came to an end Monday with Herschler's decision to commute Deborah's sentence, as he had earlier done with Richard's 15-year sentence.

Saying Deborah should not be punished more than her brother, Herschler instead ordered her placed on probation for one year.

In a 5-page statement, he said his commutation was contingent on Deborah agreeing to an intensive 20-day psychiatric evaluation at the Colorado Youth Center in Denver, where she has lived since her case went on appeal last year.

The governor said if further psychiatric counseling is not needed, she will be placed under close supervision of the state Department of Probation and Parole.

In June, Herschler also commuted the sentence of Richard John Jahnke, 48, who was convicted in February 1982 of voluntary manslaughter. The youth shot and killed his father, Richard C.

Jahnke, 38, on Nov. 16, 1982.

Deborah, 23, was convicted in a separate trial of aiding and abetting voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 18 to 24 years in the Wyoming Women's Center in Lusk. The Wyoming Supreme Court upheld that decision last week, but Herschler, a lawyer, questioned the court's legal reasoning.

Deborah's attorney, Terry Mackey, said Monday she has made "significant progress" from her treatment at the Executive Youth Center and he was pleased with Herschler's decision, which gives her a new lease on life.



Deborah Jahnke

**Accused drug dealer's remarks OK for court**

**Associated Press**  
**BOULDER** — Comments that accused heroin manufacturer Ronnie Jones made to police and a newspaper reporter after his arrest can be admitted at trial, Boulder District Court Judge Richard McLean ruled Monday.

"I want to get high until I die because 'To an American,' was among the alleged statements that defense lawyers fought to have deleted from trial on ground Jones had not been properly advised of his rights.

Jones, 38, arrested last July in accused of running a sophisticated heroin laboratory in Longmont. He faces trial Jan. 20 on charges of

heroin possession and heroin possession with intent to manufacture.

During an interview with the Denver Post, Jones allegedly admitted knowing how to make heroin and having a \$2,000 daily habit in Boulder County sheriff's Detective Ken Hall was assigned to attend the interview for security reasons and overheard the conversation.

The judge held that no law requires police, who simply overhear statements, to advise suspects of their rights. McLean ruled that the reporter neither offered Jones any promises nor acted on the behalf of law enforcement officers.

**Wire check**

**Denver**  
**Frontier, machinists' pact averts strike**

A spokesman for Denver-based Frontier Airlines said late Monday that the airline has reached a settlement with members of the International Association of Machinists, averting a strike.

Bob Schulman, a Frontier spokesman, said the settlement had been reached, but had no immediate details.

Negotiations had gone on past a strike deadline of last Monday, but machinists hadn't said whether they would set another deadline.

Frontier was seeking concessions from the IAM, noting that its parent firm, Frontier Holdings Inc., lost \$10 million in the first three quarters of this year and is expected to lose another \$20 million this quarter.

Frontier's pilot unions and its flight attendant union had agreed to cut of about 20 percent in the past year, and the company had said it needed additional cuts, in the range of 20 percent, to become profitable.

**Boulder**  
**Train mishap victims get \$23 million**

Jana Prescott, who sustained permanent brain damage when a Burlington Northern train smashed into her car last year, squealed with delight and hugged her lawyer Monday after a Boulder jury awarded her and her sister, \$23 million for their injuries.

Prescott's victory — the greatest majority of the award goes to her — is believed to be the largest jury award in Colorado history, according to Ben Alsenberg, president of the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association. It comes on top of some \$750,000 Boulder County and the city of Longmont have agreed to pay her for the accident.

**Police probe Neo-Nazi link in Berg case**

**Associated Press**  
**DENVER** — Exactly six months after radio talk show host Alan Berg was slain in his driveway, Denver's top detective is exploring the first big break in the case — the discovery of the murder weapons at the home of an avowed neo-Nazi arrested after a shootout with police.

Don Multha, the Police Department's chief of investigations, said Monday he is going to Boise, Idaho, to interview Gary Varbrough about the killing of Berg, who was known for his caustic criticism of right-wing groups.

The discovery of the murder weapons at the Sandpoint, Idaho, home of Varbrough, once head of security for a neo-Nazi group called Aryan Nations, for the first time links the case with white supremacists who have grown increasingly active in the Pacific Northwest, authorities say.

Varbrough, 26, is accused of shooting at an FBI agent near his home Oct. 16, the day the FBI found an RFE Industries MAC 10 machine pistol in an arsenal in his home. Varbrough eluded authorities until his arrest Nov. 24 after a shootout at a Portland, Ore., motel.



Gary Lee Varbrough, shown in this photo taken last year with his daughter, Autumn, is one of the first solid suspects in the murder of talk show host Alan Berg. The murder weapon was found in his home recently.

**Bullet removal not privileged, justices rule**

**Associated Press**  
**DENVER** — A bullet removed from the chest of a robbery suspect doesn't qualify as privileged information between a doctor and a patient, the Colorado Supreme Court ruled Monday in upholding the state's conviction.

The high court rejected all the appeals raised by Wilfred Dwayne Harvers, who was convicted of two counts of aggravated robbery, second-degree assault, crime of violence, and being a habitual criminal.

Marquet was convicted in connection with the July 6, 1980, robbery of a Colorado Springs motel.

During the robbery, one man armed with a knife and another armed with an automatic pistol entered the lobby of the motel and forced the motel's security guard, James Lewis, into a rear office.

Lewis, who also was a sergeant with the 23rd Police County Sheriff's Department, was forced to lie on the floor while the gunman aimed a weapon, but the gunman missed Lewis' 38-caliber revolver, with which he later shot both robbers.

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