

B4 The Daily News, Longview, Wash., Friday, August 29, 1986

Northwest

**MAXed out** Derailment mars debut



Passengers board Portland's Metropolitan Area Express (MAX)

PORTLAND (AP) — A light-rail car — part of the 700-foot main transit agency's new Metropolitan Area Express (MAX) — derailed in downtown Portland Thursday with a group of reporters aboard.

There were no injuries, said Doug Babb, a TriMet spokesman.

Babb said the trouble apparently was caused by a faulty switch which caused the front end wheels to veer from one track to another as the car slowly approached a turn.

"It just stopped dead in its tracks," Babb said. "The maintenance crew got there, it only took about 20 minutes to jack it up and it was back on the tracks."

The \$16 million, 15-mile light-rail line begins regular service Sept. 4.

**Mistrial declared in murders aboard Alaskan fishing boat**

KETCHIKAN, Alaska (AP) — A deadlocked jury was dismissed and a mistrial declared Thursday in the eight-month murder trial of John Kenneth Pool, ending the longest and most expensive trial in Alaska's history.

Ketchikan Superior Court Judge Thomas Scholtz tentatively scheduled a retrial for Jan. 28, pending a hearing on a defense motion for acquittal, the judge's law clerk said.

Mr. Pool is an innocent man, so naturally he's somewhat frustrated at not being totally vindicated by an acquittal," defense attorney Philip Paul Widener said. "But he's thankful to the jury for the months

and months of effort they expended in preventing a travesty of justice."

Pool, 38, a resident of Bellingham, Wash., was charged with killing Mark Coullhart, skipper of the fishing vessel Invader, Coullhart's wife, Irene, their two young children and four teenage crewmen.

He also was charged with burning the boat to destroy evidence of the crime. The boat was found in flames Sept. 7, 1982, near Craig, about 20 miles east of Ketchikan.

Prosecutors relied on circumstantial evidence accumulated during two years of investigation. They said Pool, a former employee of Coullhart, committed the killings in a moment of rage.

Juries heard testimony from more than 10 witnesses during the six-month trial, which cost the state at least \$1 million. They deliberated for six days.

Judge Scholtz dismissed the six-woman, three-man jury after it notified him it could not reach a unanimous verdict. The judge told jurors out to discuss the case with

jurors.

The hearing on Widener's motion for acquittal will be held Wednesday. But Babb, state attorney general, said the state will decide after that hearing whether to retry the case.

District Attorney Mary Ann Henry, who has worked nearly full time on the case for the last 18 months, said she would recommend a retrial.

"Naturally I'm disappointed they were unable to reach a verdict," she said. "My view of this case is the same as on the first day of the trial. There was more than sufficient evidence to establish John Pool was the murderer beyond a reasonable doubt."

Brown said it is unlikely Scholtz would grant acquittal. "It's not to go to the jury in the first place, obviously. It's there for a reason."

Pool has been free since May 1983 on \$1 million bail raised by friends and family in Bellingham.

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Thursdays: 9:00 p.m. .... 3 Teams  
Fridays: 7:00 p.m. .... 4 Teams  
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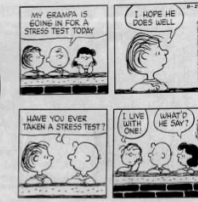
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