

Woman pleads guilty to neglect in son's death

■ She avoids a first-degree murder charge through a plea agreement.

BY BILL BRAUN
World Staff Writer



DEFENDANT

Sara McIntosh: A prosecutor will recommend a 15-year prison term for her on the neglect charge. Her 10-month-old son, Eric McIntosh, died Jan. 4, 2007, of blunt force trauma to the abdomen. She and Robert Brian Boeckman were at various times both charged with murder. No one is now charged with or convicted of murdering the baby.

A woman who had faced trial on a murder charge pleaded guilty Monday to neglecting her 10-month-old son, whose death was ruled a homicide.

Sara McIntosh, who had been free on bond, was jailed Monday to await an Oct. 28 sentencing on a charge of neglecting Eric McIntosh on the day he died.

Assistant District Attorney Jake Cain said he will recommend that Tulsa County District Judge Tom Gillert sentence McIntosh, 24, to a 15-year prison term.

A first-degree murder count against her was dismissed as part of the plea agreement.

Eric died Jan. 4, 2007, of blunt force trauma to the abdomen.

If the case had been tried, doctors would have testified that Eric suffered a blow that lacerated his liver.

The timeline provided as to when the fatal injury was inflicted "narrows it down" to McIntosh or her

co-defendant, Robert Brian Boeckman, Cain said.

If McIntosh had gone to trial, Boeckman was set to testify in support of the prosecution's contention that she is "the one who did it," but the prosecution would have faced the burden of persuading a jury beyond a reasonable doubt as to who inflicted the fatal blow, Cain indicated.

The neglect count includes an allegation that McIntosh did not call for emergency medical assistance for her son in a timely fashion.

She is required to serve at least 85 percent of any prison sentence she receives for that offense.

Boeckman, 51, has unresolved counts of neglect and assault and battery on a police officer. He is free on bond.

The posture of the case has changed many times since January 2007, when Boeckman was charged with first-degree murder on an allega-

tion that he fatally injured Eric in a Tulsa hotel room.

In March 2008, the District Attorney's Office changed the murder charge against Boeckman to a neglect count.

McIntosh was jailed in January 2007 on complaints of murder and neglect. She was released eight days later when prosecutors declined to charge her in the case.

In March 2008, prosecutors filed a neglect count against McIntosh. In July 2008, a murder count was added against her.

No one is now charged with or convicted of murdering the baby.

McIntosh said at a 2007 hearing that she and Boeckman were married in 2006 in Arkansas.

Boeckman's attorney, Rob Nigh, said Monday that McIntosh and Boeckman were never married.

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Man pleads no contest in Tulsa parking lot killing

One of three men who were charged with murdering a man in a Tulsa supermarket parking lot has pleaded no contest to a reduced charge.

Jonathan M. Curry, 21, received a 15-year prison term Monday on an accessory charge, which was amended from first-degree murder.



Curry

Curry, David Bible II and Shawn Hawkins had all been charged with murdering Tyler Mathis, 19.

Mathis was fatally shot on Aug. 2, 2008, in a parking lot outside the Reasor's store at 71st Street and Sheridan Road. Police reports indicate that the shooting was drug-related.

A robbery count against Curry was dismissed in accordance with a plea agreement accepted by Tulsa County District Judge Tom Thornbrugh.

Curry has been in the Tulsa Jail since Aug. 5, 2008, and gets credit on his sentence for time already served.

Some sentences require that at least 85 percent of the prison term be served before parole can be considered, but Curry's 15-year term does not carry that requirement, according to his lawyer, Kevin Adams.

Bible and Hawkins, both 19, are both in jail facing murder and robbery counts.

Curry's first name is spelled as Jonathan and Hawkins' first name is spelled Sean on some records.

— BILL BRAUN, World staff writer

Training sessions slated in Sapulpa for merchants

SAPULPA — The Sapulpa Police Department will host two training sessions this week on the latest state and local laws for merchants who sell alcohol and tobacco products.

In particular, the training will focus on the easiest way for store employees to verify a customer's age when presented a driver's license or Oklahoma identification card.

The first session will be at 5 p.m. Wednesday, and the second will be at 2 p.m. Saturday. Both sessions will be held at the Police Department, 20 N. Walnut St.

The Police Department is offering the training in conjunction with Oklahoma State University Prevention Programs.

The training is being funded by a 2Much2Lose project grant that the Police Department received from the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office.

OSU Prevention Programs also are grant-funded and seek to reduce minors' access to tobacco and alcohol products.

Call 227-5103 for more information on the training sessions. No preregistration is necessary.

— MANNY GAMALLO,
World staff writer

Inmate slain in McAlester prison cell is identified

McALESTER — The identity of an inmate who authorities believe was the victim of a Sept. 3 homicide at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary was released Monday.

Warden's assistant Terry Crenshaw identified the inmate as Daniel Clayton, 38.

Clayton had 22 convictions, 19 of them for property crimes out of Tulsa County, Department of Corrections records show.

His only active sentence was a 20-year term for first-degree robbery out of Comanche County.

Clayton had been at the maximum-security prison since October 2006. His death was the fourth suspected homicide there in a seven-week period.

Clayton was found unresponsive in his cell after suf-

LOCAL, STATE

fering multiple stab wounds to the chest, abdomen and back, Crenshaw said.

His cellmate for nearly two years, Greg Thompson, 36, also was injured. Both had cuts and markings that would indicate that a fight had taken place, Crenshaw said.

A homemade metal knife that was believed to be the weapon used in the attack was recovered.

— JOHN YATES, World correspondent

Creek Nation primary election narrows the field

Several challengers in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council primary election either defeated incumbents or forced runoff elections, according to unofficial results.

George Tiger defeated incumbent Larry Joe Cahwee for the Creek District National Council Seat B. Tiger has served on the council before and lost a runoff election for principal chief to incumbent A.D. Ellis in 2007 by 21 votes.

Three of the seven races were forced into a runoff election, which is set for Nov. 7.

Those races include an Okfuskee National Council delegate with incumbent Lena Wind and Mary L. (Severs) Lee running; an Okmulgee National Council delegate with incumbent Carmin Tecumseh-Williams and Pearl M. Thomas running; and a Tulsa National Council delegate with incumbent Kara Medina and Carol McHenry-Williams running.

The remaining three races saw incumbents Adam Jones III, Keeper Johnson and Cherrah Quiett re-elected. Quiett, who was in one of two races with only two candidates, won by eight votes.

During the Nov. 7 election, voters also will decide several constitutional amendments that were approved by a constitutional convention in December.

About 10 amendments likely will be on general election ballots, said tribal spokesman Thompson Gouge.

— CLIFTON ADCOCK, World staff writer

Stillwater council delays apartment-complex ruling

STILLWATER — A decision on a controversial apartment complex was postponed until next month after a representative from the project asked for a continuation at the City Council meeting Monday night.

A public hearing on the proposed complex, the Grove at Stillwater, was scheduled for Oct. 12.

Alex Eyssen, a regional development partner for the company, requested the delay because Campus Crest received "last minute information," including a city policy that requires a four-fifths vote to approve zoning changes when landowners representing more than half the area within a 300-foot radius oppose rezoning for the project.

The council chambers, filled mostly with residents who live near the proposed apartment complex, burst into an angry outcry at Eyssen's request and the City Council's approval to move the meeting date.

"This needs to be brought to a head," said Dave Brechwald, who represented neighbors opposed to the complex. "This is crazy."

Mayor Nathan Bates had to reprimand the audience a couple of times for speaking out of turn while the council was deciding when to hear the issue.

— AMANDA O'TOOLE,
World correspondent

Sooners urged to vote for books for state children

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahomans have a chance to win 50,000 books for at-risk children in the state.

The state is in the running to win the What Book Got You Hooked contest, sponsored by First Book, a national nonprofit agency.

Leslie Gelders, literacy director for the state Libraries Department, said all people have to do is vote online for their favorite children's book. To vote, go to tulsaworld.com/firstbook.

As of Monday, Oklahoma was in third place. Voting ends Sept. 30.

Oklahoma won in 2007, and Library Department officials would like for the state to win again, Gelders said.

People can vote once every 24 hours.

If Oklahoma wins, the books are distributed to organizations that serve children at risk for low literacy. The organizations must be registered with First Book.

Gelders said that in many cases, children in poor families do not have books, and getting books to children is the key to improving literacy in Oklahoma.

"According to First Book, middle-income neighborhoods have a ratio of 13 books for every child," Gelders said. "In low-income neighborhoods, the ratio is one age-appropriate book for every 300 children."

— DAWN MARKS, The Oklahoman

Arraignment again delayed in Cushing triple killing

CUSHING — A man who is accused of killing three people in February has been granted a second delay in his arraignment.

A judge on Friday granted Robert Chad Lansford-Barela, 21, a delay until Oct. 22 to accommodate his defense attorney, Leon Woodyard, who had asked for more time to prepare.

Lansford-Barela is charged with three counts of first-degree murder, and prosecutors have said they intend to seek the death penalty.

Lansford-Barela is accused in the Feb. 17 shooting deaths of Elizabeth Hueser, 19; Douglass Peck, 27; and Albert Sernas, 21.

All three victims were found dead in Peck's home in Cushing.

Police testified at an earlier proceeding that Lansford-Barela admitted to the shootings.

At a preliminary hearing that began May 18, police testified that the defendant said he shot Peck because Peck was a police informant and that he shot Sernas because he believed that Sernas had said an earlier shooting police had ruled an accident was actually intentional.

He is accused of shooting Hueser because she witnessed the other two shootings.

— FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two men are at center of B'ville arson probe

■ A meth lab was found in the debris of the burned May Brothers building, authorities say.

BY LAURA SUMMERS
World Correspondent

BARTLESVILLE — Authorities investigating an Aug. 31 arson at a historic downtown building seized blood, urine and hair samples from two men, along with chef's jackets, keys, financial statements, photographs and computer equipment in searches involving "persons of interest" in the case.

The fire at the May Brothers Building, discovered by a patrol officer about 3 a.m., destroyed several businesses in the 1910-era building.

When firefighters began clearing away debris, they found evidence of a meth lab operating on the second floor and determined that the fire was arson.

No one has been arrested or charged in the case.

However, investigators

obtained search warrants for Robert Boyce, 48, who owns Robert's Restaurant, located downstairs from where the meth lab was found, and John Patrick Pohrte, 49, a longtime friend and co-worker of Boyce's.

Police obtained blood, urine and hair samples from Pohrte and Boyce, affidavits indicate.

Police reports show that officers pulled over a maroon minivan during a traffic stop Sept. 8 and arrested the driver, Pohrte, for having a suspended driver's license.

Officers found 20 tablets of pseudoephedrine, a cold medicine that commonly is used to make methamphetamine, in the rear wheel-well storage compartment of the van, which was impounded.

Boyce and Pohrte had access for about a year to the upper floors of the building, which also is known as the Johnstone Building. Owner Mike May had given them keys so they could work to control the pigeon population, an affidavit states.

Robert's Restaurant em-

ployees told investigators that on several occasions evidence of meth use was found in the eatery's restroom, including "foil packs," hollowed out pens and "chemical-like" odors.

Investigators searching Pohrte's residence seized pipes, rolling papers, foil packets and drug paraphernalia, along with receipts from stores and other items.

From Boyce's home, police seized nine chef's jackets, a mathematical formula or recipe, financial statements and other items, documents state.

Police seized from Robert's Restaurant itself a flash drive, a computer and a monitor.

Officers noted in the affidavits that Boyce closed Robert's Restaurant from Aug. 22 to Aug. 26 without employees knowing why. The telephone service had been disconnected for about a week, as well.

A \$275,000 insurance policy on the restaurant had expired but was reinstated effective Aug. 31, the day of the fire, the affidavit states.

State inmate on hunger strike

■ He has consumed nothing but water for 31 days and is in the infirmary.

WORLD CAPITOL BUREAU

OKLAHOMA CITY — An Oklahoma County inmate at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester is on a hunger strike.

Monday marked Day No. 31 in the hunger strike by Rickie L. Green, 55, who is serving time for possession of contraband in a penal institution and grand larceny.

Green also has convictions of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, according to the Department of

Corrections.

DOC spokesman Jerry Massie said Green is in the prison's infirmary and is drinking water.

"Apparently, he has done it before," he said.

Hunger strikes by inmates are not common, Massie said.

Medical and psychological personnel have met with Green to discuss the hunger strike's long-term impact on his health, he said.

If it is determined that injury would result from the strike or that a life-threatening situation exists, the Department of Corrections could seek a court order to initiate life-sustaining measures, Massie said.

In a Sept. 3 letter to the Tulsa World purportedly

written by Green and mailed by another inmate, Green cites a number of reasons for the strike, including death threats, interference with his access to the courts, seizure of his legal papers, retaliation and alleged illegal action by prison officials.

Massie would not discuss the allegations, saying they were written "probably to get your attention."

He described Green as a management problem.

Green has had six episodes of misconduct in prison since 2006, including destruction of state property, refusal to obey orders and possession of a weapon, Massie said.

The Department of Corrections would not grant a telephone interview with Green.

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