

GREATER DETROIT

False confession signed at gunpoint, Mack says

BY JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writer

Murder suspect Jesse James Mack testified Thursday that his confession — in which he said he killed William (Junebug) Rice over a \$100 cocaine debt and Jacqueline Rice to eliminate a witness — was fabricated by police and signed at gunpoint.

Mack, according to the written confession and police testimony, admitted killing the parents but denied involvement in the death of their 11-year-old daughter Tameka. Officers testified Mack said he could not go to prison branded as a child killer.

Mack "physically tightened up" whenever he was questioned about Tameka, testified Sgt. Lee Caudill.

Taking the witness stand at a hearing to determine if the confession will be heard by the jury at his murder trial, Mack repudiated the confession. He admitted, however, that Tameka was at his home, but insisted she was not killed there.

"She was brought over there by someone else," he said, estimating she was in the house between five and eight hours. "I didn't actually see her leave."

Police testified Mack hinted another person was involved, but said he revealed no names, fearing he would be labeled a snitch in prison.

The hearing was adjourned until Tuesday before Assistant Prosecutor Robert Pearl could question

Mack more fully about the child's death.

The prosecution charges that Mack was sexually fixated on Tameka and killed her parents in the early hours of March 13 to get to her. The child, gagged with panty-hose and masking tape, was found strangled and sexually abused in an east side field the next afternoon.

Mack, according to Caudill, fended off questions about the child's sexual attack.

A used condom was found in Mack's bedroom, and the condom lubricant was found on the child's body, according to Pearl's opening statement to jurors.

Acting as his own attorney, Mack testified that Sgt. Ronald Sanders repeatedly threatened him with a gun until he agreed to sign the statement.

"Sgt. Sanders forced me to sign this confession at the point of a gun," he told Recorder's Court Judge Clarice Jobs. "I signed it only because I was in fear of my life."

Sanders, who denied having his gun inside the interrogation room with Mack, testified that "basically... Mr. Mack admitted to killing William and wife Jacqueline at the outset."

Mack answered "no comment" to all questions about Tameka, Sanders said.

Circuit judge back at work after drunken driving arrest

MONROE — A Monroe County Circuit Court judge who was charged with drunken driving Monday returned to work Thursday, two days after he reportedly was treated for carbon monoxide poisoning.

Paramedics found Judge Daniel L. Sullivan lying unconscious outside his garage Tuesday, apparently suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning, the Monroe Evening News reported.

"I know it may sound implausible, but what happened Tuesday was an accident," he said. "It had nothing to do with what happened the day before."

Of his arrest, he said: "I made a mistake. I didn't intend to do it."

Spill ruled not dangerous

SARNIA, Ont. — Water treatment plants in five Michigan communities reopened Thursday after state health officials determined a chemical spill on the Canadian side of the St. Clair River posed no threat to drinking water.

The plants in St. Clair, East China Township, Marine City, Algonac and at the Old Club on Harsens Island were ordered closed Wednesday after about 32,000 pounds of acrylonitrile — a toxic chemical used as an oil separator — was released into the wastewater treatment system at Polysar Ltd. in Sarnia.

Officials from the Michigan Department of Public Health and the Ontario Ministry of Environmental Control tested the water and determined there was no threat to the public.

Man pleads guilty to fraud

DETROIT — A Detroit man accused of bilking national and international photographers of \$3.6 million worth of photos of rock stars has pleaded guilty to two counts of fraud.

Edward Przydzial, 24, entered the plea Wednesday in U.S. District Court.

According to the indictment, Przydzial solicited the photos in 1987 while posing as a representative for Creem magazine, a national rock publication. He then tried to sell the photos, which he claimed were his own work.

Przydzial, who is to be sentenced July 12, faces up to three years' imprisonment and a \$500,000 fine.

2 charged in drinking case

WALLED LAKE — Cathy Jo Lowe, 31, and Mark Henry, 21, both of Walled Lake, were

arraigned Wednesday in 52d District Court on charges that they allowed two teens, who later were seriously injured in a car accident, to drink at an all-night party.

Police said Henry brought beer to the April 3 party at Lowe's house and then charged guests admission. An 18-year-old girl and a 14-year-old boy were injured after the party, police said.

Jeffrey Knapp, 20, a party store employee who allegedly sold alcohol to a 23-year-old man accompanying the two teenagers, was charged with selling alcohol after hours and selling alcohol to a visibly intoxicated person.

Defendant to face exam

ROCHESTER HILLS — Patricia Griffin, who police say tried to poison two of her sons before attacking them with a razor, has been ruled competent to undergo a district court preliminary examination June 6 on assault charges.

Griffin, 41, of Oakland Township, is charged with assault with intent to commit murder. She had been undergoing psychiatric evaluation and treatment since her arrest after the April 8 attacks.

Disqualification denied

PONTIAC — Oakland County Circuit Judge Richard Kuhn declined Thursday to disqualify the attorney for parents seeking to have their 11-year-old comatose daughter disconnected from life-support equipment.

Assistant Prosecutor Edward Cibor had argued that attorney Andrew Broder should be disqualified because of his connections to Children's Hospital of Michigan, where Joelle Rosebush was to have been separated from life-support on April 30.

Broder has served as attorney for the hospital and is a member of its bioethics committee, which has counseled Jacqueline and Francis Rosebush regarding future care of their daughter.

IN BRIEF

HARRISON TOWNSHIP — Authorities are offering a reward of up to \$2,000 for the arrest and conviction of whoever set fire Wednesday afternoon to 100 acres of marshland just north of Metropolitan Beach park. Anyone with information on the fires should call 466-1450 anytime.

House conferees agree on August school ballot issue

BY CHRIS CHRISTOFF
Free Press Lansing Bureau Chief

LANSING — Squeezed by a June 3 deadline, House Democrats and Republicans reached tentative agreement Thursday on an Aug. 2 ballot proposal to change the way taxpayers pay for Michigan schools.

But the issue may have to wait until the November election or possibly next year. Senate Republicans say too few people vote in August, and they'll block a plan that includes that date.

Thursday's agreement by House negotiators was a breakthrough in a months-long effort to compromise on

restructuring a school tax system many call unfair to students and taxpayers. House leaders plan to vote Wednesday on the plan, after failing twice before to agree on a different plan by Democrats.

The plan needs a two-thirds majority of the Legislature and voter approval because it would raise the state sales tax and cut property taxes. But Senate Republicans' opposition to the August date could scuttle it.

"The issue should be voted on by as many people as possible. Four times as many people vote in the general election as the August primary," said Guy

Gordon, Senate Republican spokesman.

Gov. James Blanchard has led the call for an August vote, saying the November ballot is too crowded. An emotionally charged abortion ballot issue is slated for November.

Rep. Lynn Jondahl, D-East Lansing, said the school finance issue could die because too many groups oppose the November date.

Under the plan:

- The sales tax would rise from four percent to six percent.
- \$500 million in additional tax money would be earmarked for public schools.

■ School property taxes for home owners would be cut an average of 12 mills, and a minimum of eight mills; businesses would receive smaller reductions.

■ Beginning in 1990, 45 percent of school taxes on new industrial or business growth would be pooled in a state fund and redistributed to all school districts.

■ School districts would be limited in the number of millage elections they could hold; a 50-mill limit on school property taxes would be lowered to 42 mills.

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36x48	217.00	48.83	343.00	80.26	414.00	96.88	365.00	85.41	343.00	80.26
48x60	279.00	62.78	445.00	104.13	564.00	131.98	482.00	112.79	445.00	104.13
87x84	477.00	107.33	776.00	181.58	1,065.00	249.21	867.00	202.88	776.00	181.58
102x84	598.00	134.55	974.00	227.92	1,346.00	314.96	1,091.00	255.29	974.00	227.92

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24x42"	13.95	52x42"	31.95	40x64"	34.95	51x64"	42.95
26x42"	21.95	59x42"	39.95	41x64"	35.95	52x64"	42.95
29x42"	21.95	71x42"	41.95	42x64"	35.95	60x64"	48.95
31x42"	21.95	72x42"	41.95	43x64"	35.95	71x64"	53.95
				46x64"	41.95	72x64"	53.95

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SIZE	SALE	SIZE	SALE	SIZE	SALE	SIZE	SALE
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36x50"	27.95	72x50"	45.95	27x72"	28.95	36x72"	34.95
52x50"	34.95			29x72"	28.95	39x72"	36.95

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24x64"	25.95	32x64"	29.95	32x72"	30.95	47x72"	41.95
25x64"	25.95	33x64"	33.95	33x72"	30.95	59x72"	51.95
26x64"	25.95	34x64"	33.95	33x72"	34.95	71x72"	56.95
27x64"	27.95	35x64"	34.95	34x72"	34.95		
28x64"	27.95	36x64"	34.95				
29x64"	27.95	37x64"	34.95	66x84"	84.95	102x84"	119.95
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31"x64"	10.99	48"x64"	16.99
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PEOPLE

Stephen Ewing, president and chief operating officer of Michigan Consolidated Gas Co., has been named chairman of the second Detroit Festival of the Arts, scheduled for Sept. 23-25. The festival is to feature more than 500 performing and visual artists. Festival grounds include the area bordered by Ferry Street, John R, Warren Avenue and Anthony Wayne Drive, including the Wayne State campus.

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