

Father found guilty, sentenced to 18 months

HEBRON — A man who left the body of his young son in a roadside ditch to "let God take care of him" was sentenced Monday to 18 months in prison.

Eli Stutzman, 37, pleaded guilty in Thayer County Court to misdemeanor charges of abandoning a body and concealing the death of his 9-year-old son, Danny.

After Stutzman pleaded guilty to the misdemeanor charges, County Attorney Dan Werner asked the judge to dismiss a more serious charge of felony child abuse. However, Werner said no plea bargain was involved.

Danny was identified only last month and his name was added to the tombstone. Stutzman was arrested in Azle, Texas, by authorities acting on a trip.

In court Monday, Stutzman calmly told of his son's death the night of Dec. 14, 1985, as they were driving from Wyoming to Ohio.

Stutzman said Danny had developed a respiratory problem early that month while staying with foster parents in Lyman, Wyo. Danny was given antibiotics and appeared in good health and spirits when they began the trip the morning of Dec. 14, Stutzman said.

They drove east on Interstate 80, then turned south on U.S. Highway 81 to get to Interstate 70 for the remainder of the trip to Ohio, Stutzman said. Danny was napping in a sleeping bag in the back of the car, a 1975 Gremlin.

The last time he talked to his son was "a little bitty conversation" which they had in the car after stopping for dinner at a truck stop,

Stutzman said. As midnight approached, Stutzman said he tried to awaken Danny to take his medication.

I reached back while driving and got a hold of him and couldn't get him awake," Stutzman said.

He said he pulled the car to the side of the highway and saw that Danny's eyes were rolled back in his head, his face was white, he had no pulse and wasn't breathing.

"I was shocked to see that there was no response at all," Stutzman said, adding that he tried desperately to revive him with mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and heart massage. Realizing the child must have died, Stutzman said he drove about a mile farther before turning onto a side road.

"I had difficulty facing the fact that he had died," he said. "I couldn't understand, I couldn't figure out why."

Stutzman said he prayed and stayed with Danny for several hours before placing the body in the ditch. Stutzman said he had given Danny the pajamas he was wearing as a Christmas gift.

"I decided to leave him and let God take care of him," Stutzman said.

Asked by County Attorney Daniel Werner why he didn't seek medical help or report the death, Stutzman replied: "That's what I still keep asking myself today. I wish I would have."

Werner said autopsy results were inconclusive and that the state could prove no specific reason for why Danny died.

Soviets to compete

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union said Monday it will send a full squad of 500 athletes to the Summer Olympics in Seoul, ensuring Soviet and U.S. athletes will face each other at the world games for the first time in 12 years.

The Soviet Olympic Committee urged that some Olympic events be held in communist North Korea instead of pro-West South Korea, but made it clear that Soviet athletes would participate regardless.

"Soviet athletes will take part in the Summer Olympic Games of 1988," said Marat Gramov, chairman of the Soviet Olympic Committee.

All Soviet bloc nations except Romania boycotted the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

Hart says he would not be only adulterous President

IOWA FALLS, Iowa — Democratic presidential contender Gary Hart, in an emotional interview published Sunday, said if he's elected, he "won't be the first adulterer in the White House."

But he said American voters appear to be prepared to understand the personal problems that forced him out of the race last May.

"The people of this country in the last three weeks have been tremendously warm and accepting," said Hart, who rejoined the Democratic field last month "It's great to be back. We've had some great times here."

Hart and his wife, Lee, met Saturday with the editorial board of the Des Moines Register during a campaign

swing in Iowa.

"Whatever personal pain, or whatever you don't want personally to do, is nothing comparison to what is important in life," Mrs. Hart said.

Hart asked that his personal life be kept in "perspective." At one point during the session, he wiped away tears, the newspaper said.

"If I am elected I won't be the first adulterer in the White House," Hart said. "I may be the first one to have publicly confessed, but I won't be the first."

He insisted that he wanted to be held to the same moral standards as other politicians — "a normal, traditional, fair political standard, not a higher one."

Fears of another 'blue Monday' dispelled

NEW YORK — Blue chip stocks rallied in late trading, dispelling fears of another "blue Monday" on Wall Street as the market showed signs of steadying after last Friday's sharp drop.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials, down 140.58 Friday for its third-largest point loss ever, rebounded 33.82 to 1,945.13. Other, broader market measures were less strong, however.

Declining issues slightly outnum-

bered advances on the New York Stock Exchange, with 759 up, 844 down and 381 unchanged.

Big Board volume totaled 158.98 million shares, down from 197.30 million in the previous session.

Wall Streeters came to work braced for a volatile day after Friday's selloff, which evoked vivid memories of the sequence of events that led up to the market crash on Oct. 19.

The sudden drop Friday wiped out

all the gains recorded in what had looked like a promising rally over the first four sessions of the new year.

Analysts said traders were upset by a jump in bond market interest rates and worries over the likely content of the monthly report due out this Friday on the nation's trade balance.

However, no severe selling carried over to the opening Monday, and blue-chip issues came on strong toward the close.

Government not responsible for effects of tests

The Supreme Court Monday refused to hold the government financially responsible for deaths and diseases allegedly caused by years of open-air atomic weapon tests in Nevada.

The court, without comment, turned away an appeal by some 1,200 people who themselves lived downwind from the test site or had relatives who lived in Nevada, Arizona and Utah.

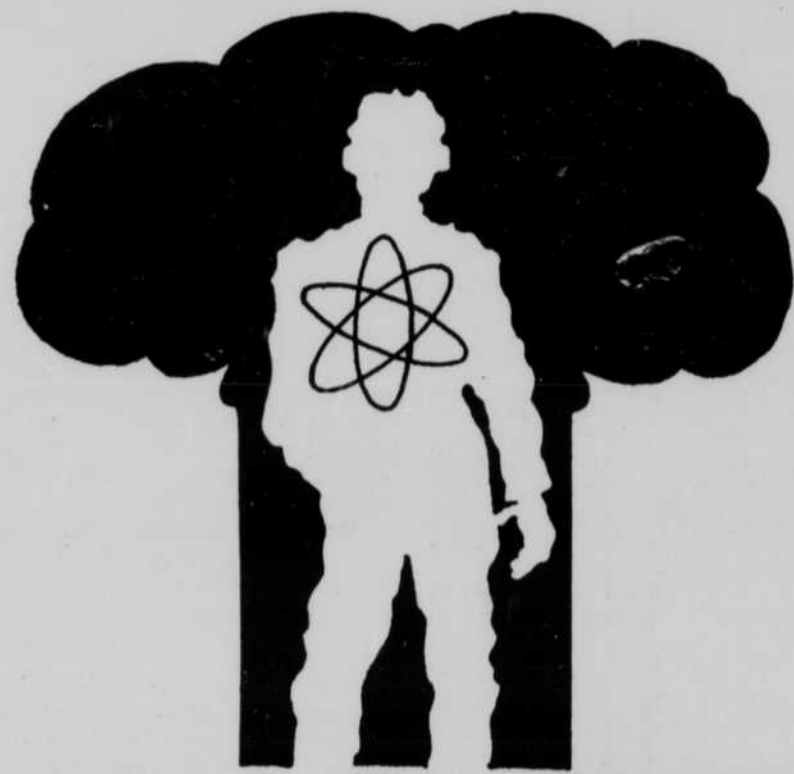
The federal government, under the aegis of the Atomic Energy Commission, conducted over 100 atomic weapon tests between 1951 and 1962.

A 1979 lawsuit filed in Utah contended that the radioactive fallout from those tests caused numerous deaths and diseases, such as cancer and leukemia.

The suit charged that the government negligently failed to monitor test results and to warn about the fallout hazards.

A federal trial judge, after reviewing the claims of 24 of the plaintiffs, ruled that 10 of them could recover monetary damages. U.S. District Judge Bruce Jenkins said the government was liable for a negligent failure to follow the commission's public-safety guidelines.

The judge said the claims of the other plaintiffs could proceed



under the Federal Tort Claims Act, a law that allows people to sue the otherwise legally immune federal government.

But the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed Jenkins' ruling last April 20.

The appeals court said that the atomic testing program's public information plans could not be held liable under the FTCA because it amounted to a "discretion-

ary function."

"These plans clearly fall within the discretionary function exception" to government liability, the appeals court said.

In a concurring opinion, Judge Monroe McKay said, "While we have great sympathy for the individual cancer victims who have borne alone the costs of the AEC's choices, their plight is a matter for Congress."

In Brief

Woman arrested for 1986 German discotheque bombing

BERLIN — Police arrested a 27-year-old woman suspected in the April, 1986 attack on a West Berlin discotheque that led to the U.S. bombing of Libya in retaliation.

Officials continue to probe whether Col. Moammar Gadhafi's agents were behind the terrorist blast.

Reagan claims huge deficit not necessarily bad

CLEVELAND — President Reagan said Monday that the nation's huge trade deficit and big foreign capital investments in the United States "are not necessarily a sign of an economy's weakness" and can even be desirable.

In a speech to the City Club of Cleveland, Reagan said that trade deficits should be reduced over time but that the United States has a big imbalance now "because our growing economy enables us to buy their goods" from other countries.

Dukakis ridicules Bush and Dole for mud slinging

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — Democratic presidential hopeful Michael Dukakis ridiculed Republican rivals George Bush and Bob Dole on Monday for acting like little boys "throwing mud pies," while sources said the vice president took questions from lawyers for the Iran-Contra independent counsel.

Dukakis threw his dart as he, Richard Gephardt, Sen. Paul Simon, and Bruce Babbitt converged on Sioux City for a two-hour debate.

World military spending soars in 1987

WASHINGTON — Global military spending soared to a new high in 1987 of about \$930 billion, or \$1.8 million a minute, an annual study found Monday.

The 1987 total was \$50 billion more than in 1986.

More Killed in Israel

BETIN, Occupied West Bank — Two prominent Jewish settlers shot and killed a Palestinian teen-ager Monday in the West Bank, and Israeli troops killed an Arab who tried to grab a soldier's rifle in the Gaza Strip, the Army said.

It was the first confirmed instance of Jewish civilians killing Arabs in the violence that began Dec. 8 in the occupied lands, where 1.5 million Palestinians live. Israel captured the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Jordan and Egypt in the 1967 Middle East war.

Many of the 65,000 Jewish settlers in the territories carry weapons.

Army spokesmen said the settlers opened fire on Arabs who stoned their car outside Betin, 10 miles north of Jerusalem. Ahed Motti Nabnam, 15, and other Arab witnesses said the youths did not throw stones and the civilians started shooting after their car was stopped by a roadblock of burning tires.

Soldiers shot another Palestinian dead in the Gaza Strip city of Khan Yunis when he tried to jump a trooper and seize his automatic rifle, the army said.

A third Palestinian died Monday of wounds he suffered last week, bringing the official count of Palestinians killed to 31 since Dec. 8. More than 200 have been wounded and about 2,000 arrested.

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The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448, weekdays during academic year (except holidays); weekly during the summer session.

Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Don Johnson, 472-3611. Subscription price is \$35 for one year.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, NE.
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