

# B of A Manager Captures Bandit

A 21-year-old mental patient on a day pass from General Hospital was arrested Friday afternoon, minutes after he allegedly held up the Bank of America at Pacific Avenue Mall and Soquel Avenue, for \$960.

Booked for armed robbery was Jerry Emerson Johnson, listed by the Santa Cruz Police Department as a "transient."

He was apprehended with the money by Bank Manager Ben Pino after a short chase.

Johnson's comment after his capture was short:

"I'm sorry," he said.

The holdup occurred about 1:20 p.m. and few customers conducting their after-lunch business knew that anything unusual was taking place.

According to police reports, Johnson walked up to Teller Ann Fenske and slipped a piece of paper across the marble counter.

The note read: "Okay, I have a gunne. (Sic) I want 20 big ones. Hurry up."

Mrs. Fenske looked at the note and then looked up at Johnson.

At that moment, she said, she thought he was kidding because of the way "gunne" was spelled and because there was a flower drawn on the note.

But then the holdup man told her, "Hurry up, I have a gun," in a "kind of deep muffled voice."

She asked, "How would you like this?"

Johnson then pushed a brown paper bag over to Mrs. Fenske.

The teller opened the bag and looked inside and saw a carton of cigarettes.

Another glance at the holdup man and she opened her money drawer and started to fill the bag.

Tellers have a certain amount of money close at hand

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## Weather

MONTEREY BAY AREA—Fair through Monday except low cloudiness night and mornings. Lows Sunday night in the 50s. Highs Sunday and Monday in the 60s near the coast to the 70s inland. West to north-west wind 10 to 20 mph afternoons.

Temperatures for 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Saturday: High 75, Low 68; for period ending at 5 p.m. Saturday: High 81, Low 48.

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# BofA Manager Nabs Bandit

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which has been marked for future identification.

Mrs. Fenske managed to reach the marked money and slipped it into the bag with the unmarked money and then she handed it over to the man.

Before he walked away the bandit looked at her and said, "Don't push the button," meaning the bank alarm.

Then, as he started to move toward the rear door of the bank, Mrs. Fenske quickly moved to where Pino was standing and said: "I have just been robbed."

## Young Girl Hurt In Auto Smashup

A 19-year-old auto passenger received mouth injuries in an accident Friday morning at Front and Cathcart Streets.

According to Santa Cruz police, injured was Tina Edwards, 9 Jolly Way, Scotts Valley, a passenger in a car driven by Shelly Edwards, same address.

Edwards told officers he stopped for a sign at Cathcart Street and that a car behind honked

She pointed to the man in the tweed coat and Pino, who is a BofA vice president, moved out toward him.

Pino said he saw the suspect head for the sidewalk on Soquel Avenue and shouted, "Hey, wait a minute! Where the hell are you going?"

The man turned and put his left hand in his pocket. There was a bulge.

But the bank manager moved in and grabbed him by his left arm and yanked Johnson's hand from his pocket.

It was empty.

As Pino moved toward Johnson he yelled for Mike Morelli, the parking lot guard, for assistance. They both grabbed Johnson and took the brown bag from under his arm.

Meanwhile, the silent alarm had alerted the police.

Lt. Chuck Scherer, chief of detectives, was several blocks away at the time and sprinted to the bank.

By then, bank officials had the man in an office, and he was handcuffed and taken away.

Lt. Scherer said that the suspect admitted that he had robbed the bank.

Johnson had been a patient in the psychiatric ward of General Hospital since July 7, according to a ward attendant.