

Jury Finds Kemper Guilty

By TOM HONIG
Sentinel Staff Writer

The jury in the Edmund Kemper murder trial, after deliberating only five hours, this morning found the defendant guilty of eight first-degree murders.

The 6-foot-9 Kemper, his face red and puffy from mace burns he received last weekend from guards who attempted to keep him from slashing his wrists, showed no emotion as Judge Harry Brauer read the verdict. After the announcement of his guilt, Kemper talked quietly with his attorney, Jim Jackson.

After reading a piece of paper given to him by the jury, Brauer announced, "The verdict reads guilty, sane and first degree to all eight counts."

Turning to the jury box, the judge commented, "I had some fear you would arrive at a different verdict. I agree with you entirely."

He then requested an individual poll of jurors on each of the eight counts. As the poll commenced, Jackson said, "we'll waive the polling of the jury."

The judge, however, said such a poll was needed, so it continued, with each juror confirming his vote.

Santa Cruz Dist. Atty. Peter Chang was quite

satisfied with the verdict. "It was perfectly proper," he said.

Jackson expressed his disappointment, but added, "I don't have any argument. I'm disappointed with the verdict, but it is certainly reasonable. I thought this jury was intelligent when they were chosen and I still think so."

When asked if Kemper thanked him for his efforts during the trial, Jackson said, "Sure. Ed is a very nice guy."

Brauer concluded his final instructions to the six men and six women that made up the jury about 2:20 p.m. yesterday. They deliberated until about 5:30 p.m., and didn't begin again until after 8 a.m. today. At 10:30 this morning, bailiff Don Chapman was notified that they had come up with a verdict. About 30 minutes later, Kemper, wearing an orange prison jumpsuit, was escorted into court by his two guards.

During the court session, one of his guards remained close to Kemper, who was seated next to Jackson at the defense counsel table.

The jury filed into the jury box, and Bennett E. Gates informed the judge that he had been selected as foreman.

Kemper will return to court tomorrow at 8:30 a.m. to be sentenced.

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Kemper Found Guilty

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He was found guilty three weeks to the day after his jury had been selected.

He was arrested in late April after he telephoned local law authorities from Pueblo, Colo., and said he had killed eight women, including his mother.

He was convicted of killing Mary Ann Pesce and Anita Luchessa, coeds at Fresno State; Aiko Koo, a 15-year-old high school student from Berkeley; Cynthia Schall, a Cabrillo College coed; Rosalind Thorpe and Alice Liu, both of whom attended UCSC, his mother, Clarnell Strandberg; and Sara Hallett, Mrs. Strandberg's best friend.

Both Mrs. Strandberg and Mrs. Hallett were employed at UCSC.

Members of the jury told the bailiff that they did not want to talk to newsmen, and all of them were ushered out a back door of the courtroom.

Before they left, Judge Brauer thanked them for their service and said, "You have performed one of the highest duties of citizenship."