

SC boys beat Watsonville in soccer

SPORTS • B1



SPORTS • B1
Furyk catches fire at Pro-Am
Chasing celebrity autographs

BAY LIVING • D1

Lone black juror dismissed

STATE • C1

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SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA

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Carriage rides set for return to SC

By ERIN K. QUIRK
Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — Randy Clayton, owner of the three draft horses that were hit on Highway 1 in December, is taking up the reins again just in time for a Valentine's Day carriage run through downtown Santa Cruz.

But it hasn't been easy. Jezzie, Clayton's 3-year-old Percheron, had to be put down earlier this week. The filly suffered several broken bones in the

accident and had undergone thousands of dollars worth of surgery at a clinic in Davis. She had casts on two of her four legs but simply could not recover from the injuries. "It's terrible because we were really trying to do a lot," Clayton said. "We put a lot of energy into her."

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Randy Clayton will give Valentine's Day rides with Greta. Dan Coyro/Sentinel



Shooting suspects plead guilty

Pair admit role in drive-by attacks

By BOB LINNEMAN
Sentinel staff writer

WATSONVILLE — Two Watsonville men are headed to prison after reaching a plea agreement this week for their roles in a June 1996 shooting spree that sparked a summer of gang violence.

Raul Chavez, 18, agreed to a 26-year prison sentence. He admitted to being the gunman in the series of three drive-by shootings, car chases and random gunfire through the downtown Watsonville area June 29.

Also accepting a sentencing agreement is Sergio Alvarez, 21, who will serve 24 years in prison for being the car's driver.

The third member of the group, Raul Tehandon, has been released on his own recognizance after serving six months for being an accessory after the fact. He faces a sentencing hearing on Feb. 28. Tehandon was only a back-seat passenger in the white Honda Civic and did not fire any shots, prosecutor Mike Bartram said.

Both Chavez and Alvarez must serve at least 85 percent of their sentences, meaning Chavez will be in prison for at least 22 years and Alvarez 20. The two were convicted of six counts of attempted murder along with various weapons charges.

Watsonville police are thrilled with the convictions, saying they could be the first of several convictions for those arrested over the summer for various acts of gang violence.

Closing argument Freeway-slaying case now in the jury's hands



Dan Coyro/Sentinel

SANTA CRUZ — Ben Rice, attorney for freeway killer David Turturici, re-enacts the Feb. 8 slaying of Rick E. Foster during closing arguments to the jury Friday. Turturici,

who claims he shot Foster in self-defense during a freeway dispute, is accused of murder. The jury is to begin deliberating Turturici's fate Monday. Story, PAGE A2.

Military probes hazings

'Zero tolerance' for abuse, U.S. defense chief says

By JOHN DIAMOND
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — "Disturbed and disgusted," new Defense Secretary William Cohen declared Friday the military must have "zero tolerance" for the kind of hazing shown in videotapes of Marines beating award pins into the chests of young troops. But he also said he didn't know how widespread it might be.

Cohen, at his first Pentagon news conference since his Cabinet confirmation, said he was ordering the military service chiefs to find out how extensive the problem is.

Appearing beside him, Gen. John Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said it was clear that "some leaders were involved and did not take the right steps. That's what's particularly bothersome about this incident."

Because hazing is not a specific violation under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Pentagon officials said they were unable to say whether the two videotaped incidents shown repeatedly on television Friday were common.

Others inside and outside the military said hazing occurs all the time, especially in elite units, and that it is accepted and condoned by the victims and by senior enlistees and officers.

"We're not naive," said Marine Corps Maj. Scott Campbell. "We feel that there is still a problem, and that's why we are addressing it."

Cohen said of the videotapes, apparently made by Marines who were involved, "I am disturbed and disgusted by the treatment of young Marines in the hazing incidents."

"I intend to enforce a strict policy of zero tolerance of hazing, of sexual harassment and of racism," he said.

The incidents took place at Camp Lejeune, N.C., in 1991 and 1993.

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Shalikashvili

■ No hazing trouble, parents of woman Citadel cadet say — Page A6

SC unhappy with non-profit's audit

Group to run homeless project

Local news

Freeway shooting case goes to jury

By **MAY WONG**

Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — One man had a loaded mouth. One man had a loaded gun.

"The two didn't match up very well, especially on the highway," Chief Deputy District Attorney Jon Hopkins said Friday during closing arguments in David Turturici's murder trial. "And as you all know, it was a deadly combination."

In the county's first known freeway slaying, Turturici, 42, of Aptos, is accused of fatally shooting Rick E. Foster, 38, of the Summit area, on Highway 1 in Capitola.

The shooting occurred around midnight Feb. 8 near the 41st Avenue off ramp, about 20 miles after the two men first crossed paths on Highway 17 in Los Gatos.

Despite more than two weeks of trial testimony, it remains unclear exactly what happened between the two motorists.

The only account came from Turturici, who claims he shot Foster in self-defense.

Turturici testified that Foster chased him, kept flashing his high beams on

Despite more than two weeks of trial testimony, it remains unclear exactly what happened between the two motorists.

him, cursed and spit at him, and almost rammed him into a guard rail on the fishhook curve where Highway 17 and Highway 1 intersect.

The San Jose restaurateur said he tried to shake his pursuer but couldn't. Finally, he said, he pulled over and brought out a loaded gun that he had bought for protection while carrying cash for his restaurants. He said he meant only to scare Foster off with the gun.

Instead the two struggled over the weapon, Turturici said. He feared he would die by his own weapon.

"Did David suddenly snap? Did David suddenly turn into a cold, calculated killer?" asked defense attorney Ben Rice, who portrayed Turturici as a caring, non-violent man during the trial.

Foster was a troubled man with a foul mouth and temper, Rice said. He

drank, then drove that night, and Turturici "was caught in the cross fire," Rice said.

"I can't imagine a more appropriate case for self-defense," Rice continued. Turturici "picks the most brightly lit part of the freeway and for what? To ambush (Foster)?" If he wanted to kill him, he could have taken him to a deep, dark place. But we know Dave isn't like that.

"Dave was absolutely in his right to pull out that gun," Rice said.

Hopkins disagreed.

Launching one attack after another, Hopkins raised questions about Turturici's credibility, about his memory of some details and not others. He disputed Turturici's claim of self-defense.

Where, Hopkins said, is the "eminent danger" — a requirement for self-defense — when Turturici pulls over,

and Foster walks out of his car, and approaches him, unarmed?

Even if the "road shenanigans" that Turturici testified about were true, Hopkins said, "once you stop, is pulling a gun more like revenge or getting even?"

If Turturici indeed thought, as he testified, that Foster may have had a gun, "then why did he pull over and put himself at risk?" Hopkins asked.

"A reasonable person does not pull off the freeway then open his (car) window, and then his door, when he's afraid for his life," Hopkins said.

Also, "if the defendant is the one being wronged, why isn't he the one who's writing down the license plate number?" Hopkins asked, referring to how Foster scrawled Turturici's license plate number onto a piece of paper left in his car.

The fatal shooting, Hopkins argued, was second-degree murder — an unlawful killing that is committed with malice but without premeditation.

"He cocked the hammer and pointed it square at Foster's chest. That is malice ... and malice means murder," Hopkins said.

The jury will begin deliberating Monday.