

# JEFF W. REISIG District Attorney

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

301 SECOND STREET WOODLAND, CA 95695 (530) 666-8180 FAX: (530) 666-8423

### PRESS RELEASE

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jonathan Raven Asst. Chief Deputy DA (530) 666-8092

#### **KILLER'S PAROLE DENIED**

Vacaville, CA -- October 1, 2008 Convicted murderer Daniel Wehner was denied parole for the seventh time Wednesday at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville. In 1980, Wehner brutally murdered his former girlfriend Robin Ehlman and her friend John Manville at the Castilian Apartments in Davis. Wehner had been stalking Ms. Ehlman and physically abused her during their relationship. On two occasions he strangled her which, in one instance, led to her hospitalization.

On June 19, 1981, Wehner was sentenced to 27 years to life for the murders. A court appointed psychiatrist interviewed Wehner's family prior to the sentencing hearing. They described him as "irresponsible," having an "explosive temper," and "violent." "He had a winning personality and charmed older people but had not an ounce of sincerity." Wehner's family described Robin as "soft and gentle."

Wednesday's hearing concluded at 7:45 pm after 45 minutes of deliberation by Parole Board Commissioners Jack Garner and Booker Welch. Commissioner Garner in denying parole stated that the crime was "heinous and atrocious." Wehner killed Robin "execution style" and she was probably aware of her pending doom. Wehner took "extraordinary steps" to commit the murders including driving the 90 miles from San Jose to Davis, drinking alcohol and being under the influence, and purchasing a 357 magnum gun 30 days earlier. He was on probation at the time for driving under the influence. Commissioner Garner continued by stating that Wehner "lacked insight into the causative factors" of the crime and needed to make a "personal assessment of issues that involve women." He had "never had a successful relationship with a woman while free." Wehner, now 55, was denied parole for one year.

Two of Manville's sisters and a brother-in-law attended the hearing. Also, Ehlman's father and her younger sister attended the hearing. Her father was celebrating his birthday on the date she was killed. Her sister was 14 years old at the time. Robin's sister read a statement from her 14 year old daughter at the hearing. Although she had never met her aunt Robin, she had heard many inspiring stories about her. Robin Ehlman would have turned 49 the day prior to the hearing.

Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney Jonathan Raven attended the hearing on behalf of the Yolo County District Attorney's Office. He told the commissioners that Wehner was "a narcissist and today he was the same person to the core who had brutally taken the lives of two young innocent and vulnerable people who were attending UC Davis." Although he had performed well in prison, "what will happen when he is in free society with no structure or monitoring? What will happen when he is put in a difficult and stressful situation involving a woman? Probably nothing good will come." Raven was pleased with the outcome. "Wehner is a danger to society and we will be back every year with the family to ensure that Wehner remains where he belongs, in prison."

Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig stated that he is proud of the efforts of the Lifer Parole Division. "I can't imagine the pain these families continue to endure. It's immeasurable. We will continue to do everything we can to support the Ehlman and Manville families. John and Robin did not deserve this. Although their lives were cut short, we will continue to remember and honor them. That is the very least we can do for these families and all families who have survived similar tragedies." For more information, contact Jonathan Raven at 530-666-8092.

###