

TRIAL

Continued from 1A

“I was too scared,” she said Wednesday.

Baker’s attorney, Dave Rynders, attacked Steiner’s testimony during cross-examination, pointing out several falsehoods in statements she made to police after her son’s death.

On Sept. 12, 2006, a few days before his death, Jordan was rushed to the hospital after what was described as a “seizure” on the 911 tapes.

Kelly Steiner said Wednesday that Baker threw Jordan into his crib that night, injuring him. However, she told police a different story in order to pro-

tect Baker, she admitted.

Also, Steiner told police shortly after Jordan’s death that she didn’t believe Baker was responsible, she testified.

Explaining why she lied to police, Steiner said Wednesday: “I was afraid of what Mr. Baker would do to me if I told on him.”

The prosecution also called several other witnesses to the stand Wednesday, including Jordan Steiner’s father, Lujuan Coleman.

“Jordan was great,” Coleman recalled. “Every time I saw him, he’d give me a kiss.”

The relationship between Coleman and Kelly Steiner

was not always stable, they testified, both saying they called Child Protective Services on different occasions out of concern for their child.

However, subsequent reports by Child Protective Services never indicated any wrongdoing by either parent, according to testimony.

Both parents and Dr. Kurt Krause, the child’s pediatrician, said Jordan was a healthy toddler.

Rynders said Jordan suffered from a slow heart rate and breathing troubles near the time of birth. However, Dr. Krause said the conditions hadn’t reoccurred since then.

Also, Karen Lopez, a former neighbor of Steiner’s, said she heard Baker yelling “shut up, Jordan,” then heard a loud “boom” at the time of Baker’s alleged attack. After the boom, she said, Jordan stopped crying.

Other notes from the trial:

■ Coleman testified he was worried about his son’s hygiene and appearance shortly before Baker and Kelly Steiner met. After he mentioned those concerns to Baker, Coleman testified the boy’s hygiene and appearance became better.

■ Kelly Steiner and Lopez, the neighbor, both testified

they had been committed to psychiatric centers in the past.

■ The jury heard two 911 tapes – one from Sept. 12 and another from Sept. 15 – in which Baker called to report that Jordan had been injured. In both calls, Baker told the dispatcher that he was an emergency medical technician, which neither the defense or prosecution has confirmed or denied.

Testimony is expected to conclude today, and the case is expected to go to the jury Friday.

The trial will resume at 9 a.m. today in Chemung County Court in downtown Elmira.

PETITION

Continued from 1A

Huber claims the board instead used the projected tax increase of 3 percent on the tax report card sent to all district residents.

State law requires all school districts to send budget notices to all residents. The notices are to include the amount of the proposed budget, the increase over the previous year as both a dollar amount and a percentage and the amount of the proposed budget that is going to administration, programs and capital.

Huber also charges that parent-teacher organizations sent home flyers with students prior to the second budget vote in June. She said the flyers were sent home without approval from the building principals, which violates district policy.

The flyer allegedly sent home with Severn Elementary School students lists the vote date and gives the district’s Web site for voting locations.

The literature doesn’t advocate how residents should vote.

Another of Huber’s complaints is the board did not take the wishes of West High staff, students and parents in mind when it accepted the resignation of West High principal John Wood.

Wood’s resignation was accepted by the school board in May. Staples and school board members have repeatedly said Wood’s resignation was a matter discussed in executive session and are prohibited by law from discussing the matter.

Staples said Wednesday she would bring Huber’s petition to the attention of the school board. She declined to comment further on the matter until she had an opportunity to discuss it with the full school board.

Huber said she received confirmation from the state Education Department that it received her petition. She said a department spokesman said it may take a couple weeks before Commissioner Richard Mills makes a ruling.

SCUTTLES

Continued from 1A

produce results. Gen. David Petraeus, the top U.S. general in Iraq and architect of the president’s latest strategy, is to deliver a report to Congress on Sept. 15.

Wednesday’s vote unfolded as Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice visited the Capitol for private meetings with lawmakers and the nation’s top military officer cautioned that the United States faces decades of fighting in the larger global war on terror.

“We can vote to fight it in one place or another,” said Gen. Peter Pace, whose term as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is nearing an end.

“But the bottom line is that as long as our enemy is sworn to destroy our way of life, we are going to be in a war,” said Pace, addressing troops in Afghanistan.

Inside the Capitol, senators voted from their seats as they settled the fate of the withdrawal measure, a procedure usually reserved only for the most solemn of occasions.

But the outcome was no different from numerous other contested votes this year on the war, yet another demonstration that Democrats lack the votes to force a change in course without the acquiescence of Senate Republicans – if not the White House.

Expressions of Republican discontent on Iraq have grown in recent weeks, a trend reinforced by an administration report that showed little progress by Iraqis toward political goals.

DIVIDEND

Continued from 1A

The company has said its priorities are to return the company to profitability, have enough cash to plan for the long term, and to be financially secure enough to fuel investments for future success, Collins said.

He said the company’s recent financial rating upgrade to BBB+ demonstrates that Corning’s on

the right track. Additionally, Corning generated more cash than debt over the last four years.

“This decision reflects our confidence in our strategic plan and our ability to continue to generate positive free cash flow in the future,” Weeks said.

Corning’s stock closed Wednesday at \$26.73 on Wall Street and rose to \$27 in extended trading.

SIGN

Continued from 1A

Coccho spoke to the board in favor of placing the sign on a Cantigny Street plot off Corning Boulevard. He urged the board to take action on the sign as soon as possible. He said construction of the sign was to begin last week.

Also speaking in favor of building the sign was Chris Murphy, who served on the committee who recommended the sign to the city council.

Muccini, whose ward includes Houghton Plot, where the sign would be located, objected to the location of the sign.

“I’d like to invite you to see what a 12 x 14 foot sign would look like,” Muccini said. “I’m sure you’d see the traffic hazard. It would block the line of sight.”

Muccini suggested putting a sign honoring the athletes in Corning’s Memorial Stadium. He said he had a petition with more than 40 signatures asking the sign not be placed on Cantigny Street.

Board president Bill Carlson said before the board could approve the sign the district’s attorney must approve a 50-year lease of the potential site of the sign to the school district.

Superintendent Judith Staples said once the attorneys approve the lease, the architects from Clark Patterson Associates must look over the plans for the sign for any potential problems.

If any problems arrive, the district may also receive permission from the State Education Department.

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST

**WETM 18 Storm Team**

Chief Meteorologist Scott Mayer

Meteorologist Joe Pasquarelli

Meteorologist Matthew Szwedjka

Today

M. cloudy, t-storms or rain later

High | 77

Low | 62

Friday

Clearing, becoming cooler

High | 73

Low | 60

Saturday

P. cloudy

High | 75

Low | 52

Sunday

M. sunny

High | 80

Low | 49

Monday

P. cloudy

High | 81

Low | 54

Tuesday

P. cloudy, iso. afternoon t-storms

High | 82

Low | 55

Wednesday

P. cloudy, iso. afternoon t-storms

High | 84

Low | 53

**National forecast**

Forecast highs for Thursday, July 19

Sunny

Pt. Cloudy

Cloudy

**Fronts**

Cold Warm Stationary

**Pressure**

Low High

-10s

-0s

0s

10s

20s

30s

40s

50s

60s

70s

80s

90s

100s

110s

**NEW YORK**

Today showers are likely in the morning then showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon with highs in the upper 70s. Tonight will see showers and thunderstorms with lows in the upper 50s. Friday will be partly sunny with a 40 percent chance of showers and highs in the mid-70s. Friday night will be partly cloudy with a chance of showers in the evening and lows in the lower 50s.

**WEATHER HISTORY**

In 1960, Cow Creek and Greenland Ranch in Death Valley, Calif., reported morning lows of 102 degrees. The afternoon high at Greenland Ranch was 124 degrees, and the high at Cow Creek that afternoon as 126 degrees. The coolest low for the entire month for both locations was 82 degrees.

**MOON PHASES**

First

Full

Last

New

SUNDAY

JULY 30

AUG. 5

AUG. 12

**SUNRISE | SUNSET**

Sunrise today

Sunset today

Sunrise Friday

Sunset Saturday

5:50

8:39

5:50

8:39

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