

Jury finds McVeigh guilty on all 11 counts

■ **BOMBING:** Cheers went up in Oklahoma City at announcement of verdict

By Michael Fleeman
The Associated Press

DENVER — Timothy McVeigh was convicted Monday in the deadliest act of terror on U.S. soil, a verdict that brought jubilation and bitter tears to relatives of the 168 people killed in the Oklahoma City bombing. The jury will now decide whether he should pay with his life.

McVeigh sat at the defense table with his hands in a white-knuckle clasp and an impassive expression as U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch announced the verdict of guilty on all 11 counts of murder and conspiracy.

In the audience, tears welled in the eyes of the more than two

dozen bombing survivors and victims' relatives. After the court session, they broke into sobs and embraced each other. One man thrust his fists into the air.

"We were holding hands and praying and crying," said Katherine Alaniz, whose father, Claude Medearis, died in the bombing. "My mom reached into her purse and handed me his wedding ring and, of course, I just lost it. ... I started crying. It was wonderful."

The momentary joy was tempered by memories of the losses in the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. The blast shattered America's sense of security and belief that this level of terror could never have come from within.

Bud Welch stood in downtown Oklahoma City near the site of the bombing, where cheers erupted

from more than 500 people who got news of the verdict on television set up on the sidewalk.

"You heard most all of them clap. I couldn't do that because McVeigh has put us through so much," Welch said. "I thought it'd all be joy, but it isn't. A very dull victory. The bottom line is my little girl isn't coming back, and I have the rest of my life to deal with that."

The same jury that took 23 1/2 hours over four days to convict McVeigh returns Wednesday to hear evidence on whether he should die by injection.

It will be a mini-trial featuring what likely will be the most wrenching testimony of the case: survivors and relatives describing the upheaval in their lives. McVeigh will probably call family members to plead for mercy, and offer testimony about the dis-

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dict.

Prosecutors contended McVeigh drove a Ryder truck loaded with a 4,000-pound fuel-and-fertilizer bomb to the Murrah building and set the fuse in a twisted plot to avenge the disaster at Waco exactly two years earlier and spark a second American revolution.

The bomb went off at 9:02 a.m., turning the morning into a swirl of flying glass, collapsing walls and crumbling concrete. Among the dead were 19 children, most of whom had just been dropped off at the building's day-care center.

The hunt for the bomber yielded one of America's own, the fresh-faced former Army sergeant who was raised in the small town of Pendleton, N.Y., and was decorated for his actions as an armored-vehicle gunner in the Persian Gulf.

astrous FBI siege at Waco, Texas.

Jurors remained under a gag order preventing them from discussing the reasons for their ver-

Modems: Many University members receive busy signals when trying to dial in

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trying to get in."

After being aware of similar cases to Russial's, the center determined two hours a day was the maximum amount of time people should use the service.

"It would be inappropriate to allow a small number of users to use a disproportionate share of that limited resource," St. Sauver said.

The center decided upon this two hour limit after "looking at the empirical statistical distribution of connect times," St. Sauver said.

It was determined roughly 95 percent of all sessions were less than two hours long, while roughly 5 percent were longer than two hours.

Russial said this limit of hours makes sense.

"Personally, I think it would be good for people to be limited for less time than two hours ... but I don't know if that would solve the problem," Russial said.

Jones said limited on-line hours is not the solution.

"If they want students to use less time than two hours, they

should get more phone numbers and modems," she said. "I don't think bothering students is the way to go about it."

Though the staff at the Computing Center realizes this limit won't satisfy those who use the service more than two hours, "the simple reality is that meeting their needs would basically have required dedicating a modem to each and every one of those users," St. Sauver said.

The University chose not to take that step because of the amount of money it would require. Each modem costs about \$25 per month for the phone line, plus the capital cost of about \$1000 for the required hardware, plus installation and administration costs, St. Sauver said.

And when the center discovers people use more than two on-line hours a day, they receive a message requesting them to decrease their on-line time, as did Jones.

"While we'd like to be able to provide every student, faculty member or staff person with unlimited modem access, we simply

don't have the resources to do so, and so we need to ask your cooperation in reducing your usage to the target level of not more than 14 hours a week," the message states.

To remind people of the two hour limit, the modem connection will automatically terminate after two hours of continual use, St. Sauver said.

This happens to take care of users who "forget" they are logged on and to ensure all users have "at least some shot at getting a modem," St. Sauver said.

"Without that limit, users could connect when they get done eating dinner and not log off until they go to bed," St. Sauver said. "That would imply we might serve only 330 user per evening out of a population of roughly 20,000 faculty, students and staff."

But wanting people to decrease on-line time is contradictory to what the University encourages, Jones said.

"I feel like the University has encouraged people to be on-line, and then they turn around and say don't use more than two hours a

day," Jones said.

And the University has been successful in encouraging students to go on-line.

In the May issue of *YAHOO! Internet Life* magazine, the University was the highest ranking public institution in a nationwide survey of America's "100 most wired college" and was ranked sixth overall in the nation. In February, the Knight Library received a \$258,220 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to catalog and preserve all archived Oregon newspapers and place them on the Internet.

"Our goal is to continue to encourage students to use the Internet," said Lucy Lynch, academic user support specialist at the Computing Center, in the April 22 issue of the *ODE*.

And the University also encourages students to use its technology services through having students pay \$50 per term for the technology fee. But with a limitation of on-line hours, some students feel they are not getting their money's worth.

"It is my incidental fees that pay, in part, for the University network," Jones wrote in a letter to the *ODE*. "Were I to take my personal portion of that money and spend it on a commercial provider, I would receive a flat-rate plan. This means unlimited time online."


But the money for the technology fee doesn't go only to the University's on-line services. It also goes to microcomputer open access labs in the Knight Library, Science Library, Millrace Lab and Social Science Instructional Lab. The fee also contributes to education technology work-study positions, Gladstone upgrades and the purchase of more modems.

For people like Jones, St. Sauver encourages them to seek out other on-line services.

"Users who need in excess of a couple hours of modem connect time a day need to obtain an account from a commercial provider who will be willing to sell them a dedicated or near dedicated modem connection," St. Sauver said.

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