

# Trials: Two different juries would have been needed

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obstacle to keeping the couple as co-defendants was the fact that Wing and Roden have different charges. Roden's charges have the possibility of the death penalty, while Wing's charges do not.

Two different juries would have been needed, one for the death-penalty case and one for Wing's case.

"Since we were not able to figure out a way to have two juries at the same time at the same courtroom, we need to reset one of these cases," Judge Brownhill said.

Roden was indicted on 15 counts. The charges include four counts of aggravated murder, two counts of murder by abuse, felony murder, first-degree unlawful sexual penetration, first-degree sex abuse, three counts of first-degree assault and three counts of criminal mistreatment.

The sex-abuse charges



Daily Astorian File

Defense attorney John Gutbezah, left, and Dorothy Wing, right, look on as people leave the courtroom following a hearing at the Clatsop County Courthouse in February.

relate to Roden allegedly subjecting the girl to sexual contact by touching.

Wing was indicted on counts of murder by abuse from neglect and maltreatment, first-degree manslaughter and six counts of criminal mistreatment.

The alleged crimes occurred Oct. 31 to Dec. 20 of last year. An autopsy found Wing's daughter, Evangelina Wing, was the victim

of homicide and apparently died from blunt force trauma. She would have turned 3 on Jan. 22.

In their motions to sever, Roden's defense lawyer, Conor Huseby, and Wing's defense lawyer, John Gutbezah, argue the couple made incriminating statements about the events and both implicate the other.

The couple told investigators about incidents



Daily Astorian File

Randy Roden, right, walks out following a hearing in the Clatsop County Circuit Court Feb. 12.

where the 2-year-old girl fell coming from a bus stop, fell off of a toilet and got in tussles with Wing's two sons, ages 5 and 2, who

were found injured the same day Wing's daughter was found dead. The boys were hospitalized and placed in state protective custody.

According to Huseby's motion, Wing made multiple statements about injuries to her children that occurred while she was at work. She made statements about a broken arm her daughter suffered while in Roden's care.

Roden is serving 100 months, or about eight years, in prison for a probation violation from a previous domestic violence conviction.

He violated the probation by possessing marijuana, oxycodone and methadone and failing to report that he moved in with Wing. The drugs were discovered during a search warrant of Roden and Wing's Seaside home Dec. 20, the day the toddler was found dead.

Roden did not want to be transported from prison to court Wednesday, according to his lawyer.

Wing, who appeared Wednesday, remains in custody without the possibility of bail.

# Power: Special and local crews involved in transformer installation

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"Balloons may seem like small things," Pacific Power Safety Manager Gene Morris said. "But when escaped balloons touch power lines or substations, even the smallest amount of metal content material can conduct electricity. This can interfere with lines, causing power fluctuations and outages."

When a balloon "gets in

there in the wrong spot, it just basically short circuits the transmitting of the electricity," added Pacific Power spokesman Tom Gauntt.

As soon as the power went out, the Seaside Fire Department called the substation to respond to the incident. The failed transformer had smoke coming from it, but flames were not detected, Seaside Division Chief Chris Dugan said. There was not much

for the fire department to do, he said, but they were told it would be a significant outage.

The second transformer at the substation that can provide backup was going through regular maintenance and was not usable at the time, Gauntt said.

Local Pacific Power employees were the first to respond when the outage occurred. They "went to work on finishing the maintenance

on the second transformer so that it would be ready to use when the Portland crew arrived," Gauntt said.

The crew from Portland specializes in installing transformers and other equipment in substations.

"Both special and local crews were involved in the delicate switching work entailed with bringing the newly installed transformer back on line," Gauntt said.

## BALLOON 411

- Keep balloons indoors where they can't rise into overhead power lines or drift into contact with transformers or substations.
- Make sure each balloon's string is securely attached and short enough to control its direction.
- Attach a weight to the balloon's string so it cannot float away; and never intentionally release metallic balloons.
- Deflate balloons after the holiday to keep as a memento or dispose of properly. Birds and squirrels have been known to carry balloon remnants onto lines.
- Never chase a loose balloon across streets or attempt to retrieve a balloon from a power line or substation.
- If you notice a balloon near a power line, do not try to retrieve it. Report it to Pacific Power by calling 888-222-7070.

# Fish: 'It's just a perfect storm of bad weather conditions for salmon'

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warmer and drier-than-normal weather made worse by the ocean-warming condition known as El Niño, she added.

"This is the worst case scenario playing out right now, a warm winter and then a warm and dry summer," she said.

The Willamette River saw scores of dead salmon in June.

This week, state biologists examined about 50 dead sockeye salmon in the mouth of the Deschutes River. State fisheries biologist Rod French said they appeared to have been infected with a gill rot disease associated with warm water, and had probably left the warm waters of the Columbia River in search of cooler water.

In California, inland fisheries manager Roger Bloom says they are considering emergency fishing closures on several rivers so that fish weakened by the warm water do not die from being played by an angler, even if they are released. They include the lower Merced, the American and the Klamath.

In Washington, two federal fish hatcheries in the Columbia Gorge released 6 million juvenile salmon two weeks early in the Columbia River, in hopes they would have a better chance of reaching the ocean before temperatures got even warmer, said Johnson.

"It's just a perfect storm of bad weather conditions for salmon," he said. "Pray for rain and snow."

River flows are so low, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is sending out crews to clear out impromptu dams people build with rocks to create a pool to cool off in, so the salmon can swim upstream to spawn, said department drought coordinator Teresa Scott. Rivers are at levels normally not expected until September, and no one knows if they will drop even further.

"This is such a huge magnitude compared to previous droughts," she said. "Records available from before don't come close to preparing us for what we are encountering this year."

In Oregon, deputy fisheries chief Bruce McIntosh says they have imposed closures around cool water areas where salmon seek refuge at the mouths of trib-

utaries flowing into the lower Umpqua River, but he did do not anticipate any more closures unless things get worse.

"Certainly we've had significant droughts in the past, such as the late '70s," he said. "But the challenge this year has been not only are there drought conditions, we're having August temperatures in June. That combination we really have not seen before."

Liz Hamilton of the Northwest Sportfishing Association, said closures are not needed, because when temperatures get too warm, fish go off the bite, and anglers quit fishing anyway.

"It was 2001 or 2002 and the Columbia got really hot in the fall," she recalled. "There were fish everywhere. You had a better chance of one jumping in the boat than of biting. It's one of those things about fishing. If people are not catching, they are not spreading the word to go, and less and less people go."



Benjamin Brink/The Oregonian via AP, File

A juvenile spring chinook goes into a holding pond in Sandy in 2011.



Brian Davies/The Register Guard via AP, File

Fisherman watch as the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife release a portion of 1,550 trout into the Alton Baker Canoe Canal in Eugene in 2012. Hatcheries are releasing fish as much as a month earlier for their trip to the ocean to try to protect them from diseases that can occur in warm water.