

# Mistrial in Craigslist murder

## Jurors deadlocked for third day in newsman's death

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A mistrial was declared Thursday in the Brooklyn murder trial of a Queens teenager who is accused of killing

a newsman who placed a Craigslist ad offering money for sadomasochistic sex.

Jurors on Thursday, their third day of deliberations, told the judge that they were deadlocked in the case of John Katehis, 18, who was 16 when he negotiated sex for money with George Weber, 47, a popular radio reporter freelancing for WABC at the time of his death.

State Supreme Court Justice Neil Jon Firetog declared a mistrial and briefly debated rescinding his decision when jurors said they wanted to continue deliberating, but decided to let his decision stand, according to published reports.

A pretrial hearing for Katehis to discuss next steps will be held Nov. 3, said a spokesman for the Brooklyn



Katehis



Weber

district attorney.

Katehis had faced 25 years to life in prison if convicted. On March 2009, police

found Weber's body in his Carroll Gardens apartment, stabbed more than 50 times, his legs immobilized with duct tape.

Katehis, a self-described sadomasochist and Satan enthusiast who displayed his collection of large knives on his MySpace page, was portrayed by his lawyer, Jeffrey Schwartz, during the trial as an exploited

young boy who panicked and stabbed Weber in self-defense after Weber plied him with drugs and alcohol and pressured him "to do things that made him uncomfortable."

Meanwhile, prosecutor Anna-Sigga Nicolazzi described Katehis as a hard-hearted, predatory hustler and a "cold, calculating, savvy killer."

## NYC harassment eyed in survey

As common as "no smoking" signs have become, "no catcalling" could be next.

A City Council committee said Thursday it will request that female New Yorkers be surveyed about street harassment.

Councilwoman Julissa Ferreras (D-East Elmhurst) said she wanted to hold the hearing after learning about young girls in Queens being harassed on their way to school.

(ERIK ORTIZ)

## Nearly 900 state layoffs on way

Gov. David Paterson said Thursday that 898 state workers will be laid off by year's end to balance this year's budget.

The move is meant to save \$250 million but is bound to be fought by unions who say that the governor violated an agreement to forgo layoffs in return for retirement benefit changes.

(NEWSDAY)



**Hanging around** A woman passes the "Scattered Light" installation in Madison Square Park by artist Jim Campbell. The installation features roughly 2,000 LEDs encased in standard lightbulbs. It will be displayed until Feb. 28.

(RJ MICKELSON/AMNY)

## Scary weekend transit tie-ups

With almost all of the city's subway lines skipping stops or changing local or express status this weekend, getting to Halloween fetes could become a gory mess.

A total of 16 out of 19 lines will be altered, though MTA officials say the only direct impact to the Greenwich

Village Halloween Parade is at Christopher Street, where the No. 1 train won't stop.

"This is a time when we're trying to get work done especially on elevated lines, because we're going to run into bad weather pretty soon," said MTA spokeswoman Deirdre Parker. (AMNY)

### ON TRACK

SOME OF THIS WEEKEND'S SERVICE DISRUPTIONS

**6** Brooklyn Bridge-bound trains run express from Grand Central-42nd St. to 14 St.-Union Sq., 11 p.m. to 5 a.m., Friday to Monday.

**1** No trains between

242nd and 168th sts. and 14th St. to South Ferry, 11:30 p.m. to 5 a.m., Friday to Monday.

**E** Trains are rerouted via the F in both directions between Roosevelt Ave. and W. Fourth St., 12:01 a.m. to 5 a.m., Saturday to Monday.

**2** Flatbush Ave.-bound trains run local from 96th to Chambers sts., 12:01 a.m. to 5 a.m., Saturday to Monday.

**5** No trains between Grand Central-42nd St. and Bowling Green. Take the 4 train instead, 6:30 a.m. to midnight, Saturday.



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