

# Graf trial to resume Thursday

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Prosecution testimony in the capital murder trial of Edward E. Graf Jr. will continue at 9 a.m. Thursday after a five-day break.

Testimony will be postponed until Thursday because one of the jurors, the executive vice president and general manager of Brazos Electric Power Cooperative Inc., is committed to attending a national convention.

The juror is president of the National Association of Generation and Transmission Managers, which is meeting in

## The state expects to rest its case after three expert witnesses testify, says McLennan County District Attorney Vic Feazell.

Washington, D.C.

Judge George Allen of Waco's 54th State District Court said attorneys on both sides were aware he would be going to the convention when they selected him as a juror. The judge said since both sides wanted him so badly as a juror and the juror already has invested five days of his time in the trial, he thought it best to postpone the trial.

The state probably will rest its case against Graf after the testimony Thursday of three expert witnesses, said McLennan County District Attorney Vic Feazell.

Graf, 36, is charged with two counts of capital murder in the August 1986 fire deaths of his two stepsons, Joby, 9, and Jason, 8.

Feazell, who with assistant Karen

Amos, called 23 witnesses during the first week of trial, declined to identify the witnesses he will call this week. Feazell said he has a "long list" of potential rebuttal witnesses he might call after the defense presents its case.

Charles M. McDonald, who is defending Graf with his law partner, Lynn Malone, said he expects an official from the state fire marshal's office, an arson expert from New York and a photogrammetrist from New Mexico to be the state's expert witnesses.

McDonald said he expects to begin

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calling defense witnesses on Friday, adding that the case probably will go to the jury April 27 or April 28.

He said he is unsure if Graf will testify.

"In our opinion, they have not presented one bit of incriminating evidence to prove that Mr. Graf or anyone else started that fire or

that it was anything other than an accident," McDonald said. "It really depends on whether they put on any evidence of an incriminating nature."

He said he will call fewer than 20 witnesses. He also said he intends to call witnesses to contradict testimony about Graf's behavior toward the children, the boys' overall behavior and a reported

change in them after they began living with Graf.

Clare Gerdes, Graf's ex-wife, and her relatives testified last week that Graf showed no emotion or compassion after the deaths of the boys. They said the boys became withdrawn after the family moved in with Graf, who was described as acting like a "drill sergeant" toward the boys.