

Guilty in Santa Cruz

from page 13

lence. Instead they bought the prosecution's cover story for the police, literally turning the victim and her defender into criminals. Ironically, it was a replay of the "Rodney King" pattern, for that jury in Simi Valley which saw the videotape of four officers repeatedly beating King as he lay writhing on the ground, also saw no excessive force being used.

"If the mother was being brutalized by Lafaver, then that was a matter that should be settled in court," one juror explained. Where did she think she had been for the last 10 days? Did she understand that for Officer Lafaver to be criminally charged, only the District Attorney could make such a charge: the same D.A. who uses police testimony to convict defendants? Did she know that no officer in Santa

Cruz in the past 15 years has had to face charges of brutality or perjury?

Did she realize that Lafaver and all the other bumbling and lying police officers now know that even when their lies and brutality are caught on videotape that **NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO THEM?!**

The trials of the Santa Cruz 5 continue. Upcoming trials are scheduled for James Cosner, Vincent Lombardo, Nassim Zerriffi, and Kuo-ling Liao. Steve Argue will be sentenced by Judge Attack on November 3 in Dept. 5 of the Santa Cruz County Courthouse. An independent investigation of complaints against the police department in the May 22nd incident has been authorized by the City, but the City Attorney has ruled that all details of the case are to be kept confidential, even after the investigator finishes her report.

To reach the legal defense committee for the Santa Cruz 5 call (831) 425-4467.