

YOUNG BOYS MURDER CASE RULED MISTRIAL

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A **mistrial** was declared Thursday in the **murder** trial of reputed **Young Boys Inc.** enforcer Kurt (Kurt McGurk) Napier when a Recorder's Court jury said it was deadlocked after deliberating 13 hours over three days.

Recorder's Court Judge Warfield Moore Jr. ordered a conference for Friday to set a new trial date for Napier, labeled "Public Enemy No. 1" by the Wayne County Prosecutor's office.

NAPIER, 19, is charged with first-degree **murder** in the May 12, 1983, shooting of Joseph (Wamp) Brown. Brown, a minor drug dealer, was killed the day after his testimony helped clear **Young Boys Inc.** leader Raymond Peoples of a weapons charge in Detroit District Court.

Before dying Brown, according to testimony, told Detroit police officer Frank Shannon that he had been shot by "Mohawk and McGurk -- Kurt McGurk."

Maurice (Mohawk) Gibbs, 24, was acquitted of the killing in December, after a 2 1/2-week trial.

Defense attorney W. Otis Culpepper said Thursday that Shannon lied about Brown's statement to get Napier.

Culpepper said that only one juror held out for Napier's conviction.

SAID BY investigators to be an enforcer and hitman for **Young Boys Inc.**, Napier, one of 41 persons charged by federal authorities in 1982 with being part of the heroin ring, had been arrested in November after a massive manhunt.

Wanted for Brown's **murder** and the attempted slaying of a Detroit police officer and another man, Napier was captured by police in Oakland County.

In July, Napier was acquitted of assault with intent to **murder** in a shotgun assault on Sgt. Wilbert Hyman, of the Detroit police Major Crimes Mobile Unit. At the time of the shooting, Hyman was the leader of a crew assigned to track down Napier.

If convicted of **murder** in Brown's death, Napier faces a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole.

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