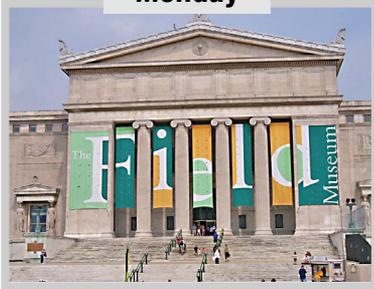


Brown's trial in review

WEEK THREE

A review of the third week of trial in the case of Juan Luna, one of two men charged with seven murders at a Brown's Chicken restaurant in Palatine 14 years ago. Both men have pleaded not guilty. The trial moves on to final arguments and jury deliberation next week.

Monday

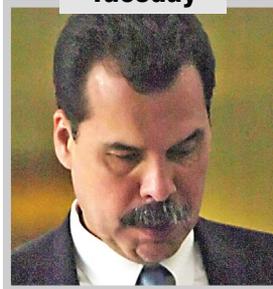


ANCHETA WIS

The Field Museum

A bird expert testifies he handled key evidence without gloves — an admission that could bolster defense claims of an error-prone investigation. Field Museum scientist David Willard tells the jury Palatine police asked him to look at several chicken parts in 1995 so they could determine the number of pieces found in a garbage can inside the restaurant. Willard says he handled the pieces without gloves or a mask. DNA on the bones was later matched by authorities to Juan Luna.

Tuesday



Sgt. Richard Cruz

Palatine police Sgt. Richard Cruz testifies about taking a statement from Jonathan Simonek in which he admits to helping a friend commit the murders. Cruz testifies he asked for a prosecutor to be present, but the request wasn't granted. In the statement, Simonek provides details that had not yet been released to the public.

Wednesday



Sgt. Steve Bratcher

Prosecutors shred a confession made by another suspect in the Brown's Chicken case in an attempt to prove only Juan Luna has truthfully implicated himself in the murders. In doing so, however, a veteran officer is forced to concede Palatine police were capable of getting an innocent man to confess. The defense hopes that admission will cast doubts on the veracity of Luna's own videotaped statement, taken shortly after his May 2002 arrest.

Thursday



DNA

The testimony concludes after 13 days of evidence. Prosecutors end rebuttal phase with a statistician who says the likelihood of Luna's DNA matching the saliva found on chicken bones at the scene is one in 2.8 trillion. Closing arguments will be held on Wednesday, with jury deliberations expected to begin that afternoon.