

DALLAS TIMES HERALD

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Man gets 2 life terms

WACO — A state district judge has sentenced a 24-year-old man to two concurrent life terms after he pleaded guilty to killing two of three Central Texas teenagers who were found bound, gagged and stabbed to death near Lake Waco. Anthony Melendez, one of four defendants in the case, pleaded guilty to the deaths at about 3 p.m. Thursday, said state District Judge George Allen. Testimony in the trial of another defendant, David Wayne Spence, will begin at 9 a.m. Monday. Allen, who also is hearing Spence's case, said an eight-woman, four-man jury was picked late Thursday. Melendez pleaded guilty in the slayings of Jill Montgomery, 17, of Waxahachie and Kenneth Franks, 18. Court officials said Melendez faces a capital murder charge in the death of Raylene Rice, 17, of Waxahachie.