

Final suspect in death found guilty of murder

The remaining suspect in the beating death of Theodore Wilt last October was found guilty Wednesday of first-degree murder.



**WILL HENRY
HOWARD**

Will Henry Howard II was convicted of helping two other men beat Wilt to death with bricks Oct. 9. A bloody footprint matching shoes worn by Howard was found on the chest of Wilt, 33, who died of

severe head injuries.

Howard, 19, of 640 25th St. faces a term of life in prison without parole when he is sentenced Aug. 19.

William Ridley, 20, of 1325 Fifth St. pleaded guilty in May of second-degree murder. He was initially charged with first-degree murder in the case but accepted a plea bargain in exchange for his testimony against Howard and Euric Fountain.

Fountain, 22, of 1502 Eighth St. was found guilty in June of first-degree murder in connection with Wilt's death. He will be sentenced to life in prison this month. Ridley is expected to be sentenced to 50 years and will be imprisoned outside of Iowa for his protection.

According to court testimony, Ridley, Howard and Fountain went to rob an apartment at 1814 Seventh St. Wilt confronted the men when they entered the building, a fight ensued, and the three men beat Wilt with bricks.

A television set and a phone answering machine were taken from Wilt's apartment.