

DAILY REPUBLIC

By Jess Sullivan

FAIRFIELD - After a day of deliberations, jurors found Ken Morris not guilty Tuesday of robbing the Travis Dairy in Fairfield on two separate occasions.

Jurors deadlocked 11 to one for a guilty verdict against Morris for the robbery of a Cordelia convenience store.

"The testimony of the (employees) at the store was not credible," the jury foreman, Anthony Brown said after the verdicts. Brown said jurors were not satisfied by identifications made of Morris that depended on the sound of his voice and the look of his eyes.

The suspect in the Fairfield robberies had either worn a ski mask or had pulled a sweatshirt up over his nose concealing much of his face.

Morris could have been sentenced to 18 years in prison he had been found guilty.

Morris' attorney, Deputy Public Defender Robert Warshawsky had relied on expert testimony from a psychiatrist who explained to jurors the fallibility of eyewitness observations.

Prosecutors are likely to insist on a second trial and Morris could face seven years in prison if a second jury decides he robbed the Cordelia store.

A ski mask Fairfield police found in the trunk of Morris' car was excluded as evidence after Judge Ramona Garrett ruled police violated Morris constitutional rights during a vehicle search.