

HARVEY MAN GUILTY IN KILLING - ARGUMENT LED TO - Times-Picayune, The (New Orleans, LA) - April 27, 1996 - page B3
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A Harvey man pleaded guilty to manslaughter Friday in the hammer bludgeoning death of **Christian Smith**, 20, of **Gretna**.

Shawn Carter, 23, was sentenced to 40 years in prison, the maximum sentence for manslaughter. He had originally been charged with first-degree murder and armed robbery. But there were no witnesses to the killing and the state accepted his plea, entered before 24th Judicial District Judge Melvin Zeno. **Carter** said he and **Smith** had gotten into an argument and that he struck him in the head with a hammer. Manslaughter is a homicide committed in the heat of passion.

Smith's nude body was found on his bedroom floor in his home in the 2100 block of Hancock Street by neighbors June 1, 1994. The hammer was buried almost two inches in his skull.

Gretna police said that after the killing, **Carter** had taken **Smith's** cellular telephone and automobile.

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