

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 100 (REV. 10-6-60)

DAILY NEWS

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Critic erred

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It must have been “backward day” when Gary Kast decided that the prosecution ordered the jury to consider only a murder charge against au pair Louise Woodward.

With his egregious and false accusations against the Massachusetts prosecutors, Kast seriously compromises his

own credibility, to say nothing of the insult to all those who cherish America's judicial system.

— **Bill Becker**  
Woodland Hills

The editor omitted the paragraph below (indented) to create this two sentence letter. It was included between the two sentences the editor decided to print. Above my letter was another on the same subject, and which contained the same quote by Judge Hiller, and pretty much the same interpretation I make. I suspect that the editor printed mine because of my reference to "backwards day," made famous by the mischievous cartoon character Calvin, co-star, with his stuffed tiger Hobbes, of the famous Bill Watterson strip Calvin and Hobbes.

In fact, this charge is not supported by the evidence. In his ruling reducing Woodward's conviction from second-degree murder to manslaughter, Judge Hiller B. Nobel wrote: "Defense counsel- vigorously urged, and the government with equal vigor opposed, my denying the jury an opportunity to c6nsider the verdict of manslaughter, Today, the positions are reversed. The defense seeks a reduction to manslaughter; the government decries allowing Defendant a second opportunity." Zobel thus confirms consistent news reportage that it was the defense, not the prosecution, which gambled with Woodward's fate by insisting on an all-or-nothing consideration of murder.