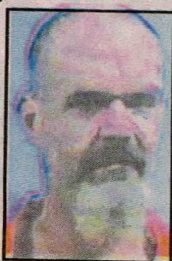


# Adkison gets 85 years in prison

**JAY FELSBURG**  
Editor

"I would call him a despicable human being, but he doesn't qualify as a human being," said prosecutor David Emery. He was referring to Shawn Lee Adkison, who was sentenced to 85 years in prison on September 1 at the Geneva County Courthouse.



**Adkison**

Judge P.B. McLaughlin pronounced the sentence according to the state sentencing guidelines after a sentencing hearing that morning.

Adkison was found guilty of the murder of Debbie Ayres in August after a week-long trial at Geneva County Courthouse. The jury was out for just 10 minutes.

Ayres's sister, Irene Bradley, testified at the hearing. She described her sister as the kind of person "that would give you the shirt off her back." She said that Ayres left two children and three grandchildren. She read other statement from family members as well as her own testimony.

"We are saddened and furious that she is no longer here," Bradley read from a daughter's statement. The statement included remarks about how Ayres tried to show a bright side even when she was down, and how hard it would be to grow up without her.

"It affected all of us," Bradley said. "Words cannot express our pain and anguish."