

Horak guilty Horak faces up to 120 years on 13-count sex verdict

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WAUKEGAN - Carl Horak took the witness stand Friday in a last-ditch effort to clear his name.

The 26-year-old Wauconda man denied engaging in sexual activities with a girl over a period of several months.

However, after more than an hour of deliberation, a Lake County jury found him guilty on 13 counts of predatory criminal sexual assault.

As the verdict was read, Horak shook his head in disbelief. He faces up to 120 years in prison.

"A little girl does not lie about sexual assault," prosecutor AriFisz had said during cross-examination when her testimony was challenged. "It is clear that she was telling the truth."

A hearing on post-trial motions is scheduled Feb. 11.