

State

Dallas inmate escapes from police, kills himself

United Press International
DALLAS — A Dallas County Jail inmate, deciding he would rather die than possibly spend his life in prison, escaped from police custody while in a hospital and killed himself.

Allen Larry Smith, 38, shot himself when the stolen truck he was driving broke down near the Ellis County farm from where he took it.

Police said the inmate's wife with him in the truck. Police reports indicate the two apparently had a suicide pact, but police

quoted the woman later as saying that when she turned the gun on herself it failed to fire.

Smith's wife, Betty Jean Wooton Smith, was in the back of the truck at the time the inmate put the pistol to his head. She told police that just before he shot himself, Smith said: "It's no use trying anymore. We are caught."

The suicide came nine hours after Smith escaped from Parkland Memorial Hospital where he was being treated for an infected bullet wound. Smith was facing a possible life term on charges of parole violation and being a habitual felon.

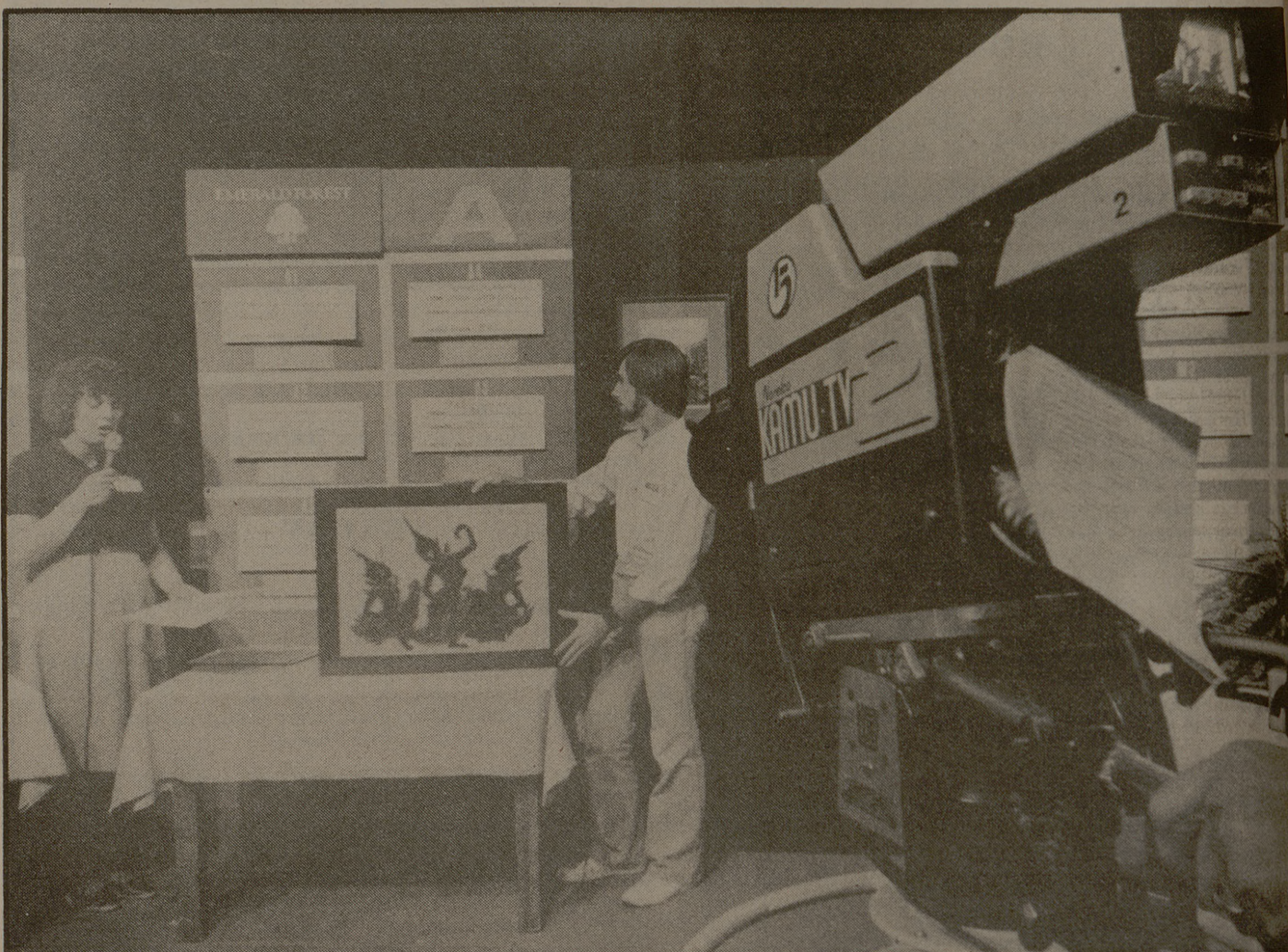
Police said Smith's wife visited him Tuesday night and they believe she smuggled him a pistol. Smith apparently overpowered a guard at the hospital Tuesday night — stabbing the guard with intravenous hospital needles — and was driven to a hotel in Ennis.

Police said at the hotel, they found a suicide note written by Smith and his wife.

Smith's wife told police her attempt to kill herself failed when the pistol did not fire. Mrs. Smith, her son, Mike Hill Lee Wooton, 20, and a family friend, Newanna Yvonne Stover of Waxahachie, were later charged with aiding an escape.

They were being held in the county jail in lieu of \$2,500 bail each. Smith's last arrest was on March 10 for allegedly carrying a weapon in violation of his parole terms.

Police said in the suicide note found at the hotel, Mrs. Smith stated that her husband "would rather be dead than be locked up anymore. We have chosen either to live in the world together or leave it together. You see, Larry really never had a chance because he was a ex-convict."



Lights, Camera, Auction!

The KAMU auction started Wednesday night. Among the auctioneers was Valerie Woodcock and her son, Jon, a

senior at A&M Consolidated High School. Jon helps display the items while cameraman televise them to the public.

Photo by Mary Ann Sisson

Doctor called in Daniel suit

United Press International
LIBERTY — Children of hysteria-prone people are likely to develop hysterical too, a psychiatrist testified Thursday in the child custody case of Vickie Daniel.

Dr. Richard Coons, an Austin child psychologist, admitted he had not examined Mrs. Daniel but said if she had a hysterical nature, it could be detrimental to her children.

Mrs. Daniel is trying to keep custody of the two sons — Franklin, 3, and Marion Price IV, 1 — she had with former Texas House Speaker Price Daniel Jr. Daniel's sister, Jean Murph of Richardson, claiming Mrs. Daniel is not capable of caring for them while awaiting trial in the killing of Daniel last January.

Coons testified young males were particularly susceptible to influence by hysterical mothers because such female role models made them feel inadequate.

He said male children often compound the problem by blaming themselves for the unhappiness of their hysterical mother.

Since he had not examined Mrs. Daniel, Coons said his opinions

were based on an examination by Dr. Kenneth Wetcher of Houston. Both men were brought into the trial by Murph, who paid the expenses.

He said he could draw his conclusions on the basis of the evidence in the case and that he had access to Wetcher's report and methodology.

In testimony Wednesday Murph said the Daniel children would suffer regardless of who won custody of them, but that their pain would be less if the judge granted her guardianship.

Murph said if the children remained with Mrs. Daniel, they would suffer long-term psychological damage, but would only suffer "short-term hurt" if they moved in with her.

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PG

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EXCALIBUR

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Nicholas Clay-Cherie Lunghi-Paul Geoffrey-Nicol Williamson
Executive Producers Edgar F. Gross and Robert A. Eisenstein
Directed and Produced by John Boorman
Screenplay by Rospo Pallenberg and John Boorman
Adapted from Malory's Le Morte Darthur by Rospo Pallenberg

7:10
9:45

"THE COMPETITION"
Starring:
Richard Dreyfus 7:15
Amy Irving 9:40

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
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Too many votes cast in Sachse election

United Press International
SACHSE — No one can accuse voters here of shirking their constitutional duties by not exercising their right to vote.

This Northeast Dallas County town, according to records, had a total of 406 voters registered to vote in last Saturday's elections.

However, Mayor Tommy Roan said when the totals were tallied, officials discovered 408 persons had voted — two higher than the number actually registered.

That amounted to a voter turnout of 100.5 percent, compared to less than a 17 percent in Dallas in an election on the same day.

The two-term mayor, who lost to challenger Jim Anderson by two votes, promptly ordered a recount. The recount was expected to be completed next Monday.

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