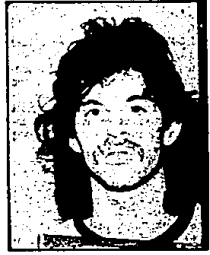


Hills man in standoff was free on bond



David Scott Klueger more charges await

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known each other about a year, police said.

Negotiations that police hoped would lead to a peaceful surrender continued until Klueger shot himself at 3 p.m. with a 9 mm automatic pistol.

Police do not know why Klueger shot himself. They do not believe he currently had a job.

"Progress was being made in our discussions when he suddenly became despondent for reasons unknown to us," Ferndale Sgt. Don Johnson said. "Negotiations were progressing very, very satisfactorily."

"He mentioned repeatedly to negotiators he did not wish to go to jail," Royal Oak detective Richard Babecki said.

IN A bedside arraignment Tuesday, District Judge Daniel Sawicki of Royal Oak advised Klueger of the latest charges brought against him: unarmed robbery, armed robbery, receiving and concealing stolen property over \$100 and use of a firearm while committing a felony.

The judge described Klueger as in pain but lucid.

The unarmed robbery involved the theft of a purse from a 76-year-old woman at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the parking lot at Barton Towers, a senior citizens apartment complex near 11 Mile and Main.

The other charges involve the theft of about \$60 at gunpoint from a 42-year-old Royal Oak woman arriving for work at Meijer Thrifty Acres, Coolidge Highway and 14 Mile, at 4:55 a.m. Saturday. The thief was

driving a stolen car.

Judge Sawicki set cash/surety bond for Klueger at \$60,000.

On Monday, Friberg stood mute at her arraignment before Sawicki on an unarmed robbery charge in connection with the Barton Towers purse snatching. She is being held in the Oakland County Jail in lieu of \$5,000 cash/surety bond.

Sawicki entered innocent pleas for both. The judge scheduled a preliminary exam for next Tuesday in 44th District Court, Royal Oak. But that's likely to be postponed until Klueger reverts.

Conviction carries a maximum penalty of life in prison for armed robbery, 15 years in prison for unarmed robbery, and five years in prison for receiving and concealing stolen property over \$100. A felony firearms possession conviction

brings a mandatory two years in prison.

POLICE IN Lathrup Village, Southfield, West Bloomfield and other Oakland County communities also are investigating purse snatchings that occurred in apartment/condominium parking lots Friday and Saturday. They're working with Royal Oak police to determine if the incidents are connected, detective Babecki said.

Also Monday, Oakland County Circuit Judge Richard Kuhn granted assistant prosecutor Gregory Townsend's motion to cancel Klueger's \$1,000 cash bond on the Farmington Hills felony counts. Defense attorney Eugene Friedman of Farmington Hills didn't object.

On Sept. 24 in Farmington Hills, Klueger was charged with one count

of breaking and entering of an occupied dwelling with intent to commit larceny, three counts of receiving and concealing stolen property and one count of carrying a concealed weapon.

Jewelry, a camera and a .32-caliber pistol were reported stolen from houses on Appleton, Greythorne and Castlenigh in Farmington Hills and on Rougecrest in Southfield. Most of the stolen property was recovered from Klueger's car, said Farmington Hills detective Douglas Anderson.

THE FARMINGTON Hills Police Department's Crime Suppression Unit, working the 11 Mile-Inkster area because of increased break-ins, noticed a suspicious car on Branchcamp at 10 a.m. Sept. 22.

Combined with information about a break-in that had occurred on

nearby Appleton, officers followed the car. On the Lodge Freeway in Southfield, the driver, later identified as Klueger, bailed out after his car collided with two patrol cars. Klueger was arrested in the median after a short chase. A loaded .32-caliber pistol was found in the car.

On Nov. 29, Klueger pleaded guilty to one count of breaking and entering of an occupied dwelling with intent to commit larceny, one count of receiving and concealing stolen property over \$100 and one count of carrying a concealed weapon. Kuhn is scheduled to sentence him on these felony counts Jan. 10, Friedman said.

On Dec. 1, Klueger posted \$1,000 cash bond pending sentencing — 10 percent of the \$10,000 cash/surety bond that Kuhn had set at arraignment Oct. 18.

Police recount what resulted in 2 arrests

Continued from Page 1

Ferndale police determined that the car belonged to a man in Room 201 on the second floor. The man had checked in at 5:35 a.m.

The car was not under surveillance as officers tried to contact the man in Room 201. When officers discovered the man had a gun and a possible female hostage, they retreated.

The motel was then evacuated. A command post was set up, and Ferndale SWAT officers, in fatigues, joined uniformed officers in surrounding the motel.

FROM THE motel office, officers called the room. At first, no one answered. Then the woman answered. The man got on the phone at 8 a.m. Conversation went back and forth intermittently.

Once police determined the woman was not a hostage but the man's girlfriend, they decided to wait him

out. "We were in no hurry. The woman was not in danger. Time was on our side," Johnson said.

Negotiations that police hoped would lead to the man's peaceful surrender seemed to be progressing well until the man became despondent, dropped the phone and shot himself.

"We were negotiating with him on the phone when he finally shot himself," Ferndale police Chief Patrick Sullivan said.

To hasten the man's surrender, police turned off heat and electricity to the room. They covered the window to darken the room. The door was tied shut. "We tried to make it as uncomfortable as possible so he wouldn't prolong it," Johnson said.

After police heard a muffled shot, the woman screamed. Police then untied the door, hustled the woman to safety and found Klueger, conscious, lying on the bed, with a gunshot wound to the stomach.

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