

Hills healthspa employees plead no contest to reduced charges

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Originally charged with eight misdemeanor counts, including two for so-called

misconduct, was Myong Hui Ostium, 34, of Ann Arbor. She pleaded no contest to one count of engaging in an immoral or illicit occupation.

Also on trial were Yong Uj Choe, 34, of Ann Arbor and Song Cha Davis, 25, of Pott Valley, Okla., each originally charged with three misdemeanor counts of engaging in an immoral or illicit occupation, loitering in a place of ill repute and aiding and abetting in prostitution. Both pleaded no contest to one count of loitering.

THE THREE originally pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Schaeffer told the three women, "It's important that each of you gets counseling," and suggested that the Korean/American Service Organization provide this service. Interpreter for the defendants, John Kim of Warren, said he would help in arranging the counseling.

Through interpreter Kim, Ostium said, "If she had known this was a violation of the law, she wouldn't have started this." Davis had been charged with loitering in a public place.

Before the trial began, Tuesday, Schaeffer denied Hollander's request for a change in venue. The Birmingham attorney cited widespread media coverage and the city council's proposal of a massage regulation ordinance the night before.

Schaeffer, however, said Hollander

missed the December deadline for such a request and said she felt an impartial jury would be impaneled.

A FARMINGTON Hills police sergeant — a key prosecution witness — detailed his experiences at the spa during his testimony Tuesday.

Detective Sgt. Albert Havner told the jury of three men and three women of his two October visits to the Kelko Oriental Spa, 29513 Nine Mile, which led to the arrests Oct. 7-8 of 16 Oriental women and one man at five such Farmington Hills spas. Among the arrested were the three women on trial this week.

Schaeffer sequestered the jury and potential witnesses at the request of the prosecuting and defense attorneys. Witnesses were not allowed in the courtroom during testimony, by court order.

Under questioning from Bockweg, Havner told the court of his plain-clothes visits as a member of the SPOT (Special Police Operations Team) undercover squad Oct. 4 and 7, when he inquired about, and received, massages.

During those visits, Ostium — who identified herself to Havner as "Kay" — allegedly helped him undress, showered with him, gave him body massages and sexually fondled him

throughout both visits. He also saw Choe and Davis escorting male customers around the spa during his visits, he testified.

THE MAJORITY of time, Havner spent in the spa shower and on the massage table involved sexual-type massages, Havner testified.

Havner paid the defendant Ostium \$50 up front for each of his massages, he said.

He described the massage room as having a partially mirrored wall, "only showing what was taking place on the table."

Prosecution exhibits of photos taken by Havner during his Oct. 7 visit were entered as evidence. Schaeffer agreed to enter several confidant magazines from the spa, including issues of Hustler, Playboy and Penthouse, into evidence when presented during the trial, despite objections from Hollander.

The defense attorney contended the magazines were being presented to "inflame the jury" and were "absolutely unnecessary."

HOLLANDER ENTERED exhibits of police reports and search warrants

used when questioning Havner and the second prosecution witness, Farmington Hills Deputy Police Chief Mrl Spencer, who aided in the executing the search warrant at the Kelko spa Oct. 7. Discovered during the search and arrest of the defendants Oct. 7 was about \$2,400 in cash and three cashier's checks totaling nearly \$30,000, according to the prosecution.

The investigation of the Oriental spas began, Havner testified, following resident complaints about "alleged illegal sexual acts" being performed there.



RANDY BORST/staff photograph

Song Cha Davis was the third Kelko Oriental Health Spa employee on trial in 47th District Court.

Teachers saddened by space tragedy

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didn't believe it. You have the same reaction as when President Kennedy was killed. I had a hard time finishing the day."

LIKE MANY teachers in the nation, some in Farmington also planned to follow McAuliffe's two TV lessons from space. "We had received the booklets from NASA about what the lessons would entail," McAdaragh said. "We were going to tape the show at Woodcrest (elementary school) and then it would be available for (class) later."

Farmington had "a specific district plan" to uniformly use McAuliffe's planned lessons from space, but "there was an awareness (of McAuliffe's mission) throughout the district," Acting Superintendent Graham Lewis said.

Ports was teaching sixth grade last year when she applied for the Teacher in Space program. Because her lessons included science at the time, there was more of an opportunity to use the televised lessons, she said.

Lewis talked of sorrow for McAuliffe's family and her students who were watching the space shuttle lift off and 74 seconds later explode.

With concern about the children across the country and in the Farmington district that were also watching the lift-off and then the tragedy, Lewis said: "It is a horror movie, in a sense. I think they (children) will relate to this more than to the tragedies that happen on a day-to-day basis."

EVEN THOUGH McAdaragh said she believes the tragedy "will affect the (space) program" in some way, I don't think it will stop."

Lewis echoed her sentiments. While there is always the fear that something like this will create a new wave of fear, especially in students who followed McAuliffe's training and short journey, "life will go on. This is a continuation of man's adventure into space," he said.

"If it tells you anything, it shows how fast life can slip away. There were 74 seconds of exhilaration and then . . ."

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