

Attorney asks lesser penalty for Vermeulen

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Brooks, who did an autopsy on the body two days after the shooting, said he did not type the blood on Lewis' stomach or face because there was no request to do so. Typing is done only upon request. He said there is no way of identifying whether the blood belonged to Lewis or Vermeulen.

Based on powder residue, Brooks estimates Lewis was probably shot from a distance of eight to 12 inches. "Death was instantaneous because the heart was literally shattered. The heart ceased to beat the minute the bullet struck it," he said.

VERMEULEN AND Lewis were

discovered about 2 p.m. the day after Christmas, lying on the floor of the front room in the couple's two-bedroom unit at Mulwood Apartments, Grand River and Drake. Vermeulen, who was conscious, was described as "groggy" and seemingly in much pain. But he was able to respond to questions, according to testimony.

Norm Smith and Greg Glowacki of Mulwood Apartments testified to finding the couple. Larry Henderson of the Farmington Hills Fire Department testified about providing emergency medical services. Officer James Jarrett and Sgt. James Whitcomb of the Farmington Hills Police Department testified about

securing the area and interviewing Estelje Rehpehl of Texas, Lewis' sister.

Rehpehl, the last person aside from Vermeulen to speak to Lewis, is expected to testify today. Sharon Vermeulen, Jon's first wife who was legally wed to him at the time of the shooting, is also expected to testify.

Sharon's testimony will be limited to what she saw on the morning of the shooting when she drove to Mulwood Apartments to visit with her then-husband. Based on a state Supreme Court decision earlier this month on privileged communication between husband and wife, Sharon may not testify about any conversations between her and Jon prior to

their divorce Feb. 11, 1986.

On or about Dec. 19, 1985, Vermeulen allegedly told Sharon he intended to kill Lewis if she left him, according to the high court brief. But Vermeulen maintains he said he'd

kill himself if Lewis left him.

Vermeulen had been married to Sharon 21 years when he filed for divorce in late October 1985. He married Lewis, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Yugoslavia, in early November

1985, six weeks before the shooting and three months before the divorce from Sharon was final.

In closing comments Thursday, Meester told jurors testimony would probably conclude early Tuesday.

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

KNIFE SEIZED

A 18-year-old Farmington Hills man was charged with carrying a concealed weapon when a hunting knife was allegedly found in his possession in the parking lot at 7-Eleven, 23375 10 Mile, at 12:15 a.m. March 12.

Arraigned before Magistrate Dennis Phenehy of Farmington, the man pleaded not guilty to the felony charge. He also pleaded not guilty to two misdemeanor charges, disturbing the peace and transporting open intoxicants in a motor vehicle.

He was released on \$1,000 personal recognizance bond pending a preliminary exam in 47th District Court. He faces up to five years in prison if convicted of the felony charge and up to 90 days in jail if convicted of either misdemeanor charge.

WEAPON CONFISCATED

A knife was confiscated at the Farmington Training Center last week after a student allegedly used it to threaten another student on the school bus.

According to a Farmington Department of Public Safety report, a 17-year-old student produced a knife on the bus and allegedly made threatening remarks and gestures toward another student. Other students reported the incident to school counselors, who confiscated the knife and contacted police.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Two more incidents of rocks being thrown through windows were reported in the city of Farmington March 11, causing an estimated \$1,650 in damage.

Both occurred shortly before 10:30 p.m. on Cloverdale, according to Farmington Department of Public Safety reports. In the first incident, \$1,000 in damage was done when two large rocks were thrown through the front window of a house. In the second, the front window of a car was smashed and the hood dented.

Several similar incidents were reported in the city the week before. Also reported in the city between March 8-10 were two incidents of tire slashing, causing \$500 in damage. One occurred on Valleyview, the other at the W.P. Young Co. on Chesley Drive.

FELONY CHARGES

A 18-year-old Detroit man faces two felony charges after he was allegedly found in possession of a stolen car and a concealed weapon March 10, Farmington Hills police said.

A traffic stop at Grand River and Nine Mile revealed that the 1988 Pontiac Grand-Am had been stolen. Both the steering column and a rear window were found smashed. A .38-caliber Derringer was found inside the car beneath the driver, according to the police report.

Arraigned before Magistrate Dennis Phenehy of Farmington, the

suspect pleaded not guilty to receiving and concealing stolen property over \$100 and carrying a concealed weapon. Conviction of either charge could bring a penalty of up to five years in prison.

Cash/surety bond was set at \$3,000 pending a preliminary exam in 47th District Court.

SUSPECTED MARIJUANA

Assistant principal Ken Dean found two students in possession of suspected marijuana at North Farmington High School Thursday.

After a teacher became suspicious of a 16-year-old girl's companion, he alerted Dean. Confronting her, Dean found a baggie filled with suspected marijuana in the girl's purse. A gym teacher notified Dean after he noticed a 16-year-old boy was glassy-eyed. Dean found a baggie containing suspected marijuana in the boy's jacket, taken from his locker.

Officers are investigating each incident, according to Farmington Hills police reports.

BREAK-IN PROBED

Police continue to investigate the break-in of a house on Hawthorne in Farmington March 11. More than \$300 in personal items were stolen.

Stolen were a compact disc player valued at \$200 and an AM/FM cassette player valued at \$113. The cassette player was recovered. Two young men were questioned in relation to the incident, according to a Farmington Department of Public Safety report.

TICKETS ISSUED

A 20-year-old Livonia man was ticketed for possessing drug paraphernalia when a crack pipe and part of a crack pipe were found in his car during a traffic stop at Shawwassee and Middlebelt March 11, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

A 19-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for possessing marijuana when a quantity of the substance was found on a piece of cardboard inside a car during a traffic stop on Rensselaer March 16.

CAR RECOVERED

A stolen 1988 GMC Jimmy was

found running outside the Red Roof Inn, 24300 Sinacola Court, at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday.

The \$14,000 truck was parked next to a 1984 Chevrolet Camaro 2-28 reported stolen car between 3-7:30 a.m. The Camaro was valued at \$4,500, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

SCHOOL BUS DAMAGE

Damage was estimated at \$80 when a rock was apparently thrown from the roadside into the windshield of a school bus westbound on 13 Mile, near Drake, at 2:25 p.m. Wednesday.

The bus driver didn't see any other vehicles in the area, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

THEFTS REPORTED

Jewelry valued at \$550 was reported stolen from a house on the 26200 block of Power March 1-10.

A stereo needle and sensor disc valued at \$150 were reported stolen from an apartment at Chatham Hills March 9-12.

Three new furnaces and two steel doors valued at \$1,700 were reported stolen from a construction site at Sierra Point Condos March 9-13. Stereo equipment, a calculator, a CD player and a speaker phone valued at \$420 were reported stolen from a house on Glenereek March 10.

Cash was stolen and counter shelves were ransacked during a break-in at Griggs Cleaners, 39257 10 Mile, March 10-11. It also appeared that the thief tried on some leather coats.

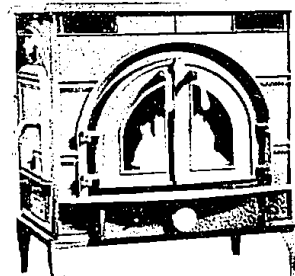
A truck bed toolbox valued at \$350 was reported stolen from a truck parked on Britany Hill in Farmington March 10-11.

A color TV and a wall bracket valued at \$380 were reported stolen from the American Legion Hall, 29500 Nine Mile, March 10-14. Cash, two rifles, two fishing poles, jewelry, tools, a color TV, a camera, a VCR and a pair of survivor's boots valued at \$5,450 were reported stolen from a house on Whittington March 12.

A weedwacker, a bicycle and a floor jack valued at \$325 were reported stolen from a garage on Flanders March 12-14.

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