

Accused in drug probe

By JOHN HOEY
Gazette Staff Writer

The Massachusetts Board of Registration of Medicine has temporarily revoked the license of a Boston neurosurgeon who has offices in Taunton, claiming that he has practiced medicine while "impaired by drugs."

Dr. Thomas S. Schultz, a consulting physician at Morton Hospital for the past several years, was the subject of an investigation by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration and the state police which brought their findings to the board.

Schultz also lost his authority to prescribe medication for patients. He was licensed as a neurosurgeon in 1972.

The investigation centered on Schultz's offices at the Faulkner Hospital in Boston where he has been on the staff for the past six years. He also maintains an office in the GAR Medical Building on Washington Street, across the road from Morton Hospital.

The order to temporarily suspend was based on an order to show cause which accused Schultz of the following:

- Practicing medicine while his ability to do so was impaired by drugs;
- Keeping and dispensing controlled substances not for medicinal purposes, professional procedures, or the treatment of his patients;
- Failure to adhere to good practices of medicine;
- and gross misconduct.

The order to show cause was signed by Melinda Milberg, secretary of the Board of Registration of Medicine. Dr. Ralph Deterling, vice chairman of the board, signed the order to suspend Schultz's license.

Schultz may appeal his license revocation if he wishes. So far, no criminal charges have been leveled against him.

DEA investigator Edward M. Sullivan said he learned through an investigation of Schultz that the doctor had obtained more than 10,000 doses of the painkiller Tylenol-Codeine IV and 1,900 units

Short takes

Plan approved: The Taunton Planning Board has given approval to a preliminary subdivision plan for 33 house lots on property between Norton Avenue, Fremont Street, and Dunbar Street. The housing development would be called Nickerson Farms. The property would be developed by Alfred St. Pierre of 524 Berkley St., who was told by the Planning Board to work out several minor points on the plan before resubmitting a final one for approval.

Won't meet: The gov-

of the depressant Librium from a New York pharmaceutical distribution company over the past 20 months.

On Jan. 29 DEA and state police officers executed a search war-

rant for Schultz's offices in Faulkner Hospital, but turned up no traces of the drugs and no records showing the sale of them to patients, Sullivan said.

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Long wait is over for Arruda family

By KAREN CUBIE
Gazette Staff Writer

CAMBRIDGE — When the court officer ran out into the eighth floor hallway of Middlesex Superior Courthouse at 5:20 p.m. Wednesday, shouting, "Verdict! They've got a verdict!" ... everyone was shocked.

It was my first day covering the second trial of James M. Kater for the 1978 kidnapping and murder of Raynham teenager Mary Lou Arruda, but most of the other people hanging around the hallway had been waiting eight days for the jury to return with a verdict.

The jury had been deliberating for 42 hours, and we were beginning to doubt a verdict would ever be announced.

Mary Lou Arruda's family and friends sat in the District Attorney's office at the end of our hallway. Their wait seemed longer than ours. They had done this before.

We waited, and waited, ran downstairs for coffee, stared through the glass doors at the trial witnesses and the Arruda family, and then waited some more.

We placed bets on whether the verdict would come at 3 p.m., at 10 p.m., or at 11 a.m. the next day. Someone learned James Kater's birthday was in June, so we looked up his horoscope.

"By evening, you may have reason to celebrate," the column said. Everyone laughed uneasily.

We had no idea if the jury would recess and continue deliberation the next day, deliberate until midnight or whenever a decision was reached, or declare themselves a hung jury.

By 5 p.m., however, none of us expected the verdict to come that night.

"This is it!" someone shouted incredulously when the court room doors flew open. I hopped up from where I was sprawled on the floor, and got into line to be frisked.

This was the first trial I had ever covered — the first trial I had ever witnessed — and I was terrified I'd miss something important.

I sat down on the bench behind the Arruda family and looked around. The room was packed. Camera's lined the right side of the room, and press people sat everywhere with notebooks shaking in their hands.

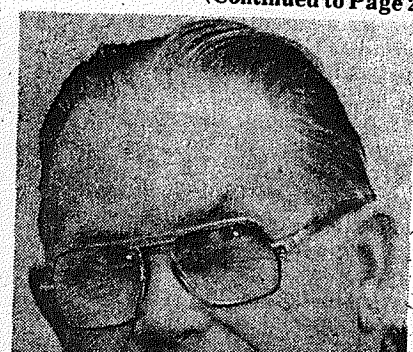
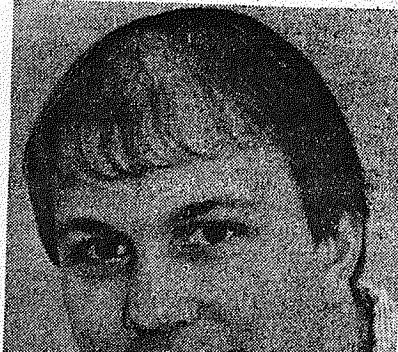
Mrs. Arruda sat between her son, Antone, and her husband, Adrian, trembling violently. Tears streamed from her eyes, and she gnawed furiously on her fingernails.

Antone rubbed her back, gently at first, but when Kater was escorted to his seat before the judge, he and his father embraced her tightly. They looked more like they were trying to restrain her than like they were comforting her.

She sat there grimacing at Kater's back, her face contorting with hatred. She looked like she was trying to wind all the hate inside her tiny body into a bullet and hurl it at him through her eyes.

When I saw Kater, I was shocked. He didn't look like the villain I pictured.

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Hatred of Kater visible on face of Mary Lou's mother

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I expected him to be younger, stronger, more virile.

Instead, I saw a rather small, gawky, slightly balding man with stringy hair and glasses. He reminded me of many harmless social misfits I have known.

When I looked at him I felt pity.

Hate and pity

But then I looked at the Arrudas. There I saw nothing but hate for him, and I saw how long years of hurt over a daughter's lonely death had intensified that hate.

When I looked at the Arrudas, I could hate him too.

I wavered back and forth between hate and pity for the man until jury foreman, Linda J. Gunn, announced the guilty verdict while all jury members firmly clasped each other's hands.

"They're taking my life because I own a green car!" Kater cried out. He sank, moaning, into his chair, and covered his face with his hands.

I felt as if I was watching a wounded animal, and once again I pitied him.

I wondered if he really had murdered Mary Lou. But then I

remembered his previous convictions.

He had already served time for the kidnapping and attempted murder of a 13-year-old Boxford girl, and the kidnapping and assault of a New Hampshire woman. The Boxford girl was also allegedly tied to a tree.

I felt if he had done it before, he shouldn't be out on the streets again now.

This isn't a trial of his previous crimes, I thought; but if he killed Mary Lou, he showed her no mercy. He didn't show the more fortunate Boxford girl mercy, either.

That made his pleading for life even more pitiful.

"He did what I wanted. He begged for his life," Mrs. Arruda told the press after court. "My life's gone!" he said. No! Her life's gone! We'll never even up the score."

Consuming hate

The hate I saw in Mrs. Arruda's eyes was a consuming hate. It wasn't healthy, and it won't bring Mary Lou back.

"I'm not fighting for Mary Lou, she's gone," Mrs. Arruda told me Wednesday morning. "I'm fighting for all the other children.

"I have no peace," she said. "But it should give a lot of people peace he's still locked up."

She's done what she can for the children.

Kater received a sentence to mandatory life in prison for first-degree murder, and a concurrent nine to 10 years in prison for kidnapping.

"Mary Lou's resting in peace," were Mrs. Arruda's first words after the verdict was read.

I hope Mrs. Arruda can find rest and peace, too, now that the trial's over.

ues statement interference

Marcos said. "Filipinos have many times before paid with their blood, their lives and their honor to preserve their freedom and national integrity and so will they again."

In a separate announcement, Marcos said he was sending high-level special missions to Washington, Europe, the Vatican and

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