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Tuesday, Aug 2, 2005,
4:24 AM EDT

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Love triangle turns deadly

BY DARYL KHAN
STAFF WRITER

August 2, 2005

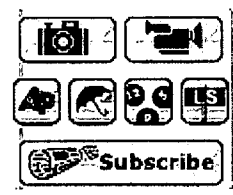
It all began Monday morning at a rollerskating rink in the Bronx with the promise of a late night dinner and a reconciliation. Eleven bullets and a few hours later it ended in Brooklyn with one man dead and his killer wishing he could join him.

A love triangle had devolved into a killing, a brief hostage situation, a police shooting and an attempted suicide, police said.

Here is what happened, according to police sources:

Just before 1 a.m. at the Skate Key Skate and Dance Family Center in the Bronx, Shabazz Muhammad, 27, and his girlfriend Timecca Lee had a chance encounter with Jermaine

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Barrett, 33, Lee's ex-boyfriend.

Barrett, who still had feelings for Lee, was angry and the three quickly became embroiled in a heated argument. They agreed to sit down and hash out their differences over dinner at Junior's, the Brooklyn diner.

Lee and Muhammad drove in their Lincoln Navigator, and Barrett climbed on to his motorcycle with the intention of meeting at the restaurant.

On the way, Barrett called and suggested they meet at Washington Avenue and Lefferts Boulevard in Flatbush.

When they got there, Barrett pulled out a .357 Magnum and unloaded it into Muhammad. He turned the empty gun at Lee and pulled the trigger a couple more times. He then walked back to his cycle and pulled out a 9 mm handgun. He walked over to Muhammad, who was on the ground, and fired a shot in his left eye. He was dead at the scene.

When police arrived, Barrett had Lee in a headlock with the gun pointed at her head, screaming that he was going to shoot her. He then shoved the woman at a cop, who was unable to fire. The others did, three times, striking Barrett in the right knee and left side.

After he was shot Barrett pointed the gun at his chest and fired. On the way to King's County Hospital Center Barrett expressed regret that he didn't shoot himself in the head.

Charges are pending against Barrett, who was listed in serious but stable condition last.

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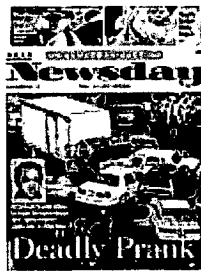
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