

Kemper Fails At Suicide

By TOM HONIG
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Accused murderer Edmund Emil Kemper made an unsuccessful attempt to kill himself Monday by slashing one of his wrists with a ball point pen, his attorney revealed today.

Defense Attorney Jim Jackson said he was notified of the attempted suicide by Santa Cruz County Dist. Atty. Peter Chang.

Chang, although reluctant to talk about the suicide attempt because of a court-ordered news gag rule, confirmed the report and said Kemper was treated at General Hospital Monday before being returned to the county jail.

Sources close to the jail said Kemper made a second attempt to slash his wrist after being returned to the jail.

The 6-foot-9 Kemper, charged with killing eight women during the past year, was examined Monday by psychiatrist Dr. Ralph Allison after the suicide attempt.

It also was reported that Kemper will be moved to San Mateo County Jail, where he will pose less of a security problem due to that jail's more modern facilities. It was also reported that other prisoners in the local jail were unnerved by the presence of the 280-pound Kemper. He will be transported back to Santa Cruz from San Mateo County for each court appearance.

Kemper is scheduled to appear in Superior Court on Wednesday. It is not known if he will enter a plea at that time.