

# Kentucky Mother Of Three Drowns

Special to The Courier

Madisonville, Ky.—A 32-year-old mother of three, who with her husband worked a magician's act throughout the area, was drowned about 5:30 p.m. Wednesday while water-skiing in an abandoned stripper pit near Madisonville.

Hopkins County Coroner Hubert Reid said the death of Mrs. Thelma Smith of Earlington apparently was accidental.

**MRS. SMITH** was the wife of Edward Smith Jr., night policeman at Earlington who is known professionally as "Zandini" the magician. Mrs. Smith was his assistant and they had presented their act for nearly 15 years at various area functions, particularly at charity affairs.

The drowning occurred in Century Cuts, abandoned stripper pits located on Lafoon Trail about five miles west of Madisonville.

Mrs. Smith was skiing and her husband was in the boat. He told Reid he had glanced back and she appeared all right. A curve in the stripper pit drew his attention to handling the boat and when he glanced around again, his wife was gone.

**SMITH WENT** back and found her skis, then went after help. Several persons aided in the search, including a rescue crew

from Madisonville which located the woman's body about 10 p.m. in dragging operations.

The Smiths normally took their three children—Zandra, 9; Angela, 7, and Rocky Edward, 5—with them on boating excursions, but had gone alone Wednesday night to the stripper pit, Reid said.

Mrs. Smith was a member of First Baptist Church at Earlington.

Also surviving are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Scott, and a sister, Mrs. Nelson Graham, all of Madisonville.

The body has been taken to Reid Funeral Home in Earlington. Reid said no inquest is planned at this time.



1962 Jun Thelma Smith drowns at quarry  
KY

Clipped By:  
usmra\_rob  
Dec 7, 2024