

IN SHALLOTTE ACCIDENTS

Two Drivers Charged, Pedestrian Struck

BY SUSAN USHER
Charges were filed in two of three accidents reported in Shallotte last week and investigation of the third continues, reports Police Chief Don Stovall.

Leonard Chandler Rourk, 22, of Village Road, Shallotte, was charged with driving while under the influence of alcohol and with driving left of the center line following a 12:12 a.m. accident Saturday at the intersection of U.S. 17 and N.C. 130 East (Holden Beach Road).

Patrolman Eddie Reynolds said Rourk turned right onto N.C. 130 at a speed too fast to turn safely. As it crossed the center line, his Nissan 30 X slid into a 1979 Ford operated by Margie Gore Williams, 29, of Route 2, Supply.

Rourk continued up N.C. 130 about 135 feet, turning into the parking lot of the Oasis Convenience Store, Reynolds said. Rourk, Mrs. Williams and three passengers in her auto complained of injuries and were taken to Brunswick Hospital in Supply.

Damages to Rourk's auto were estimated at \$4,600 and to Williams' car, \$3,900.

Later Saturday, at about 9:21 p.m., a pedestrian received minor injuries when he was struck by a vehicle traveling south on Smith Avenue.

Injured was Terry Robinson, 18, of Route 3, Shallotte, reported Auxiliary Patrol Officer Martha Britt. He

was transported to Brunswick Hospital in Supply by the Shallotte Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Robinson was standing in the middle of the road when struck by a 1980 Pontiac Sunbird, according to Britt's report. The driver was listed as Jeanne Lewis, 17, of Longwood. Miss Lewis told the officer she slammed on brakes, but couldn't stop in time to avoid striking the man.

The case is still under investigation.

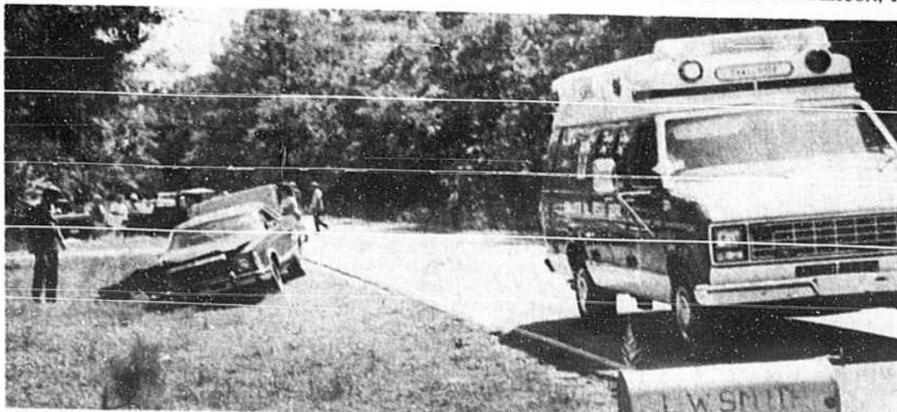
On Friday morning, a driver was charged by Officer Nellie Evans with following too close after a rear-end collision near the intersection of Wall Street, Shallotte Avenue and U.S. 17.

Tonya Bledsoe Clemmons, 20, of Route 3, Shallotte, had stopped at the light in a 1977 Ford pick-up truck when the truck was struck in the rear by a 1983 Mercury operated by Sam Holden Edwards, 41, of Shallotte.

Edwards told Officer Evans he failed to see the stopped truck in time to avoid striking it in the rear.

Damage to the truck was an estimated \$950, and to Edwards' car, \$1,500.

Also, two local drivers were charged on Sept. 4 with passing in the center lane of Main Street near Smith Avenue and one driver was charged on Sept. 6 with a stop sign violation at the intersection of Blake Street, U.S. 17 and N.C. 130, Chief of Police Don Stovall reported.



TWO PASSENGERS in a 1972 Jeep driven by a Shallotte man were injured last week after the vehicle in which they were riding collided with another car near Brick Landing.

Accidents Result in Injuries

Two Brunswick County automobile accidents during the past week resulted in injuries to three persons, according to N.C. Highway Patrol spokesman Ruby Oakley.

The first accident occurred last Thursday at 12:15 p.m. some 3.3 miles south of RPR 1143.

According to Mrs. Oakley, a 1975 Ford driven by Patty M. Dennis, 19, of Shallotte, was traveling west on RPR 1143 when a 1972 Jeep driven by James Mark Ray, 26, of Shallotte allegedly failed to yield the right of way and struck her vehicle.

The Ray vehicle entered the roadway from a side road leading to Brick Landing Plantation subdivision.

Oakley said at least one passenger in Ray's Jeep was thrown from the vehicle.

According to a report filed by Trooper D.A. Lewis, Robert Harpster, 27, and Gary Wayne Fisher, 30, both of Shallotte, were transported to Brunswick Hospital in Supply by the Shallotte Volunteer Rescue Squad with Class C injuries. Oakley said Class C injuries carry the definition of "no visible sign of injury, but complaint of pain or momentary unconsciousness."

Ray was charged by Trooper Lewis with failure to yield the right of way.

Another accident which took place Saturday at 2:55 p.m. resulted in serious injury to a Supply man.

According to a report filed by Trooper R.C. Murray, Gary Fullwood, 23, of Supply, was transported to Brunswick Hospital following a single-vehicle motorcycle accident on RPR 1115 about 10 miles north of Shallotte.

Oakley said Fullwood was headed north on RPR 1115 when his motorcycle ran off the right side of the road and into a stream.

Fullwood was transported to Brunswick Hospital with Class A injuries, or injuries resulting in massive loss of blood or in broken bones.

Trooper Murray charged Fullwood with driving with no operator's license.

Shallotte's Main Street On DOT Agenda Friday

Resurfacing U.S. 17 through downtown Shallotte is one of 11 local highway improvement proposals which will be considered at the September 13 meeting of the state Board of Transportation in Jacksonville.

According to N.C. Department of Transportation spokesman Bill Jones, the state board will consider awarding a single contract for the widening and resurfacing of about 26.8 miles of state primary and secondary highways in Brunswick and New Hanover counties.

The local projects comprise only a fragment of proposed state highway improvement contracts totaling more than \$33.5 million.

Jones told The Beacon Tuesday that one portion of improvements being considered for Brunswick County includes the resurfacing of 2.1 miles of U.S. 17 from the northern to southern city limits of Shallotte.

Should a contract be awarded this week, statements made last spring by state Board of Transportation member Tommy Pollard of Jacksonville will be realized.

Pollard told Brunswick officials at a news conference May 14 that after

the end of the summer tourist season the roadway through Shallotte would be completely resurfaced with funds included in the then-proposed 1985-86 DOT budget.

At that time, Pollard said a thin layer of asphalt, called a "skin patch," would be applied in late May or early June as a temporary remedy for rough grooves created along a three-fourths mile section of U.S. 17 when DOT crews ground the roadway in March. The patch was indeed in place before the summer tourist season began.

"This is not a permanent answer," Pollard said of the patch at the May 14 news conference, "but it will make the road ride a lot better."

Awarding a contract for the resurfacing project which includes U.S. 17 through Shallotte would offer a permanent solution.

According to Jones, other local primary and secondary roadway projects to be considered as part of the Brunswick-New Hanover widening and resurfacing contract include the following:

- Resurfacing SR 1257 from N.C. 179 to SR 1258, a distance of approximately one-half mile.
- Resurfacing SR 1258 for about .06

mile from SR 1257 to SR 1259.

- Resurfacing SR 1259 from N.C. 179 to SR 1258, about a half-mile.

- Resurfacing a 7.8-mile section of the westbound lane 2 mile east of SR 1494 to the Columbus County line.

- Resurfacing the eastbound lane 2.3 miles from SR 1425 to SR 1452.

- Resurfacing one mile of SR 1533 from SR 1529 to the end of the state system.

- Resurfacing 1.2 miles of SR 1437 from SR 1472 to .05 mile east of SR 1467.

- Resurfacing 1.1 miles of SR 1437 from .05 mile west of SR 1481 to SR 1438.

- Resurfacing 1.7 miles of SR 1428 from SR 1426 to SR 1426 (loop road).

- Resurfacing 1.3 miles of SR 1528 from SR 1540 to SR 1534.

State Secretary of Transportation James E. Harrington said the board is meeting in Jacksonville to give the citizens of southeastern North Carolina a chance to closely observe the state transportation process.

"Meeting away from Raleigh is an effective way to educate our new board members to the needs found across the state. It should help us to develop new and creative solutions to highway problems," he said.

CP&L Siren Test Is Set

A special siren test at CP&L's Brunswick nuclear plant will be conducted by officials of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Wednesday, Sept. 18 at approximately 6:15 and 6:25 p.m.

According to a news release issued by CP&L, the sirens will sound in the 10-mile area around the nuclear plant for about three minutes during each test. Residents should not be alarmed about the sirens, the release states,

"it is only a part of the special testing program of the public warning system for the Brunswick plant.

Following testing of the warning system, FEMA officials will also conduct a telephone survey of area residents to make sure the sirens have been heard and that residents know what the sirens mean.

Further information on the tests may be obtained from the Brunswick Plant Visitors Center, P.O. Box 10488, Southport, N.C. 28461.

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