

# Woman Reports Robbery, Attempted Rape By Man Who Offered Ride

A Wilmington woman told police she was robbed at gunpoint by a man who tried to rape her after offering her a ride Friday night, according to a crime report on file at the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Monday.

The 29-year-old woman told Detective Tom Hunter that the incident occurred at about 10:30 p.m. when she was offered assistance after her car broke down in Wilmington. The man "was supposedly giving her a ride to his brother, who owned a wrecker," the report said.

Instead, she said the man turned off the highway onto a dirt road near Maco, pulled out a stainless-steel semi-automatic pistol and attempted to disrobe her, tearing the zipper of her pants in the process, according to the report.

As she tried to talk him out of hurting her, the woman said the man took \$390 away from her. "While he was counting her money, she jumped from the truck and ran," the report said. When the man chased her, the woman told Hunter that she kicked him in the groin and managed to escape.

The woman described her assailant as a black male about 35 to 40 years old, about 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighing about 250 pounds with a stocky build, the report said. He was driving a maroon pickup truck.

Detective Ken Messer is investigating the case and interviewed the victim after the incident. Judging from the bruises on her body, "she appeared to have been assaulted," Messer said. A kidnapping charge could be lodged against the attacker if he is arrested.

"Apparently he told her he was taking her to get her car fixed and instead he took her for a ride," Messer said.

In other crime reports on file at the sheriff's office Monday:

■Someone stole a 9mm semi-automatic handgun from a pawn shop on N.C. 130 just outside Shallotte Thursday afternoon. The shop owner told Deputy Malcolm Long that she was waiting on a customer when she noticed a man come into the store and look at the guns in a display case. She said that while still helping the other customer, the other man left without being waited on. She noticed the gun missing a short time later. The thief apparently reached over the counter, slid the glass door open and removed a 15-shot Tokarev pistol valued at \$225.

■An Chinese SKS assault rifle and an antique Spanish 12-gauge shotgun were stolen from a home on Fox Run Trail, off Mill Creek Road in Winnabow recently. The owner told Jesson he returned to the home at about 7 a.m. Thursday to find that someone had tried to steal his television and videocassette recorder. "It appears they were scared off," the report said. In a search of the house, the owner discovered that the two weapons had been stolen.

■A .22-caliber magnum pistol was stolen from an Ash man who stopped his pickup truck to talk to friends along Project Road Friday night. The man told Deputy R.W. Long II he believes someone took the gun off the seat of the truck "while he was socializing with the suspect's two buddies on the passenger side of the vehicle." Long estimated the gun's value at \$300.

■Someone threw a rock at an off-duty sheriff's deputy pumping gasoline at the Leland Grocery store Sunday night. Deputy Matthew Jesson's report said Deputy Ricky Duvall was not injured when someone in a "red, mid-sized vehicle" threw the rock, which caused an estimated \$300 damage to the windshield of his 1976 Chevrolet. The incident occurred shortly after 11 o'clock.

■More than \$4,000 worth of stereo equipment, jewelry and other items were stolen from a van that broke down outside Calabash early Monday morning. The victim told Deputy Keithan Horne that his 1986 Chevrolet mini-van stopped running on Old Georgetown Road at about 12:30 a.m. After catching a ride to his mother's home in Calabash, the man returned to find that someone had broken out the passenger window and removed a stereo amplifier, a compact disc player, six speakers, a radar detector, a cellular telephone, a gold chain, a Gucci watch and an onyx and diamond ring. Horne found the wires to the equipment "were neatly cut with some type of shear" and the interior light bulb was removed. Damage was estimated at about \$200.

■An estimated \$3,650 worth of tools and other items were stolen from a vehicle parked at the Atlantic Telephone Co. offices on N.C. 130 last Monday night (Sept. 27). Deputy Phil Bryant talked to an employee who said he arrived at work Tuesday at about 8 a.m. and found the materials missing from the bed of a truck. There was no sign of forced entry. Missing were four wrenches, seven wooden posts, two hammers, a brace and bit, two chain

## CRIME REPORT

binders, 100 feet of cable and 90 feet of chain.

■After trying unsuccessfully to steal the batteries from four vehicles, a thief finally removed one from a fifth, then used it to start another car and drive off. A Bolivia man told Deputy Cathy Hamilton that the stolen vehicle was parked with the others in front of his home on Old Ocean Highway. He said the missing 1985 Dodge Omni belonged to his employer and had a "for sale" sign on it. Hamilton estimated its value at about \$2,300.

■A woman who was babysitting for her sister's child in Leland Saturday night woke up the next morning to find that someone had stolen her car. Deputy Mark Snowden was told that the woman had parked her gray 1985 Ford Mustang outside her sister's home on Winston Avenue in Parkwood Estates and went to sleep at about 9 p.m. When she went outside at about 5:15, the car was gone. It was later found at the corner of Salem Drive and Echo Drive with "massive front end damage." The car was valued at about \$3,200.

■About \$900 worth of light fixtures were reported stolen from a house under construction on Sassen Drive in the Holly Acres subdivi-

vision near Shallotte last week. A Myrtle Beach, S.C., building contractor told Bryant that he returned to the job site Sept. 27 to find that five fixtures had been removed.

■A color television and a stereo cassette player valued at about \$700 were reported stolen from a house on Lula Trail, off Kirby Road, Shallotte, Sunday. A man at the house told Deputy J.D. Gray that he and a female friend had gone out at about 10 a.m. and returned about nine hours later to discover the theft.

■Someone pried open the front living room door of a mobile home used as a summer residence on Elkin Street in the Coastal Retreat subdivision of Supply some time in the past two weeks. A Fayetteville woman told Deputy J.R. Earp Jr. she discovered the break-in at her uncle's trailer Friday night. Found missing were a color television and a grass trimmer valued at a total of \$400. There was about \$50 damage to the trailer door.

■In another trailer break-in at Coastal Retreat, a thief or thieves forced open a rear window and stole a color television valued at about \$250. The owner, a Lumberton man, told Deputy Malcolm Long the theft occurred between Sept. 19 and Oct. 1.

■Long also took a report from a Concord retiree who said that some-

one had torn out the screens to his garage and broken a swing in the front yard of his home on Cockleshell Drive, off Stanley Road in Supply. An estimated \$220 damage was caused in the vandalism, which is believed to have occurred between July 6 and Oct. 1.

■A rock was apparently thrown at a 1978 Chevrolet Malibu station wagon parked in front of a Longwood seafood dealer Saturday night. Deputy R.W. Long estimated damage to the car's windshield at about \$200.

■About \$600 worth of baseball and comic cards were stolen, along with an undetermined amount of cash, from a card shop on Long Beach Road, Southport Friday night. Gray reported finding fresh footprints and tire tracks outside the shop, which was believed to have been broken into about 11:30 p.m.

■Gray also investigated the theft of a red wheelbarrow from a tool rental business on Long Beach Road that occurred sometime between Sept. 25 and 29. The deputy estimated the item's value at \$105.

■A "pig tail" electrical connector was reported stolen from a dock at Marsh Harbor Marina in Calabash Sunday evening. The owner told Deputy R.W. Long that the theft occurred at about 8 p.m. The connector's value was estimated to be about \$140.

■A Bolivia woman was not aware that her 26-inch bicycle had been stolen until Deputy William Hewett called to report that it had been recovered and the suspect arrested. The theft was believed to have occurred sometime between Sept. 29 and Oct. 3. Hewett reported that the suspect told him he had stolen the bicycle "to buy drugs." It was valued at about \$104.

■Deputy Cathy Hamilton investigated a case of vandalism that occurred at Kirby's Food Center at the intersection of U.S. 17 and N.C. 211, Supply, Saturday night. The man who reported the incident suspected a shotgun had been fired through a plate glass window, but Hamilton was unable to locate any pellet holes in the interior walls.

■Someone cut the strings on a large quantity of hay bales stored in

a barn on Lanvale Road Leland, Friday evening. The owner told Deputy Brian Sanders that she came home from work at about 7:30 p.m. and noticed that someone had been inside her barn. "The suspects ransacked the entire barn, throwing hay everywhere," Sanders reported. They also spray painted portions of the barn and stole a machete, the report said. The woman told the deputy she believes the crime may have been committed by "a troublemaker who lives nearby."

■A turkey breast, a bag of homemade chocolate-chip cookies and a half-gallon of Breyers ice cream were stolen from a freezer on the back patio of a home on Town Creek Road last week. Deputy Richard Long estimated the value of stolen food at \$11. The flavor of ice cream was not listed on the report.

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