

Car Stolen From Shallotte Business Found In River

A car belonging to the owner of a Shallotte video rental business was stolen from the store's parking lot Thursday night and later found submerged in the Shallotte River, according to a crime report on file at the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Monday.

The car's owner told Deputy Michael Smith that she left her 1990 Dodge Shadow parked at about 9 p.m. Thursday and discovered it missing the next day at 1 p.m.

Later that day a couple staying at a home off Goose Lane, Shallotte, called police to report finding a car of that description sunk in the river nearby. Upon further investigation, Smith found that the car's driver-side window had been broken out and the right front tire was flat.

He estimated the car's value at about \$8,000.

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

■A .45-caliber semi-automatic handgun was stolen from a car parked near Hickman's Crossroads Saturday afternoon. Deputy Keithan Horne said the owner told him he gave two men a ride to a home near Hickman's Crossroads at about 3 p.m. The man said he went inside to visit and came out about half hour later to find the gun gone and the two men still sitting in his car. "When confronted, they said they did not take same," Horne reported.

■Someone stole a 12-gauge shotgun from a pickup truck parked on Long Leaf Hills Drive in Bolivia last weekend. The owner said someone

CRIME REPORT

broke in through the truck's sliding-glass rear window and stole the shotgun and case, which Deputy Mark Snowden estimated to be worth about \$200.

■Hunters found the "completely burnt" remains of a stolen 1989 Ford Thunderbird in the woods near Bolivia Friday afternoon. Deputy Anthony Key determined that the car was one that had been stolen from a home on Huron Lane, off Danford Road, Bolivia, Oct. 23. Three of the car's brand-new tires were missing along with its engine. At the time of the theft, the car was valued at about \$7,400.

■A woman reported her car stolen from the Holden Beach area Friday afternoon, apparently by a female friend of her husband. The victim told Deputy Matthew Jesson that she went to her mother's home on Seashore Road at about 12:45. While inside, she said she heard a vehicle leaving. She looked outside and saw a woman driving off with her car. The report said, "Later that day, she saw her vehicle with her soon-to-be-ex-husband and a woman driving it." The owner of the 1986 Chevrolet Caprice said she saw it later that day at his brother's house in Lumberton. Jesson estimated the car's value at \$2,120.

■After leaving his 1987 Ford Escort at a repair shop on King Road for seven months, the Wilmington man who owns the car re-

turned to retrieve it and discovered that someone had stolen a stereo amplifier and radar detector valued at \$220. Snowden found no sign of forced entry; the business owner said the car was kept locked.

■Snowden also investigated a reported break-in that occurred at a home on Jacobs Way in Leland

sometime last weekend. The woman who owns the home told him that someone took the screen off a front porch and threw a chunk of 4-inch-by-4-inch lumber through the window. Nothing was found missing, but the woman said a chair in the house had been moved by the intruder. There was no damage esti-

mate listed on the report.

■The mother of a man who lives with her on Funston Road, Winnabow, told Deputy J.D. Gray Saturday that she had discovered what she believed to be stolen property in his room. She said she found a yellow gold ring with a glass stone "in his waterbed." She also turned in a

set of four hubcaps believed to have been taken from a stolen van, the report said. The alleged stolen property was valued at \$175.

■A man living in a Belville rooming house told police that someone poured sugar "or a similar substance" into the gas tank of his 1986 Chevrolet pickup truck Sunday night. The man blamed the vandalism on a woman he claimed had previously threatened to slash his tires if he didn't come up with some money he allegedly owed her. There was no damage estimate.

■Someone stole the license tag off a 1983 Subaru parked in the yard of a home on Green Loop Road in Leland sometime in the past two weeks. The plate bears the number EVP-7490, according to Deputy Brian Sanders' report.

Leland VRS Raising Funds

The Leland Volunteer Rescue Squad will conduct its annual family portrait fund drive for the next several weeks in cooperation with Community Support Services of Goldsboro.

Families served by the squad will be contacted and asked to make a pledge. Each family pledging will receive a 10-by-13-inch Kodak family portrait.

Proceeds raised during the fund drive will be used for new equipment.



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

Crime Prevention Award

Shallotte Police Chief Rodney Gause (left) and Crime Prevention Officer Keith Croom received this plaque last week at the North Carolina Crime Prevention Officers' Association banquet in Raleigh. Shallotte was one of five departments in the state to receive the award, given for superior achievement in crime prevention. The department works with students, civic groups and businesses as part of its crime prevention efforts.

October, With 8.29 Inches Rain, 4th Wettest On Record

Rainfall for October totaled 8.29 inches, or 5.6 inches above normal, making this the fourth wettest October since record-keeping began in 1871, according to the monthly climatological report of the National Weather Service Wilmington office.

The greatest rainfall in a 24-hour period for the month was 3.65 inches on the 26th, which also broke the daily record rainfall of 2.11 inches last recorded in 1977. There were 11 days of measurable rainfall and six days of one-half inch or more.

The monthly average temperature was 66.5 degrees, 1.2 degrees above normal. The warmest temperature was 87 degrees recorded on the 4th and 5th.

A temperature of 85 degrees on the 21st broke the old daily record of 84 degrees last recorded in 1984. The coolest temperature for the month was 41 degrees on the 31st. A low of 45 degrees on the 1st broke the old daily record of 46 degrees last recorded in 1992.

There were nine clear days, eight partly cloudy days and 14 cloudy days. The sunshine percentage was 51 percent of the possible for the month.

There were two days with thunder reported, which is near normal.

Heavy fog occurred on one day. The normal is three days.

The fastest one-minute wind gust was 29 mph from the southwest on the 30th. The highest wind gust was 41 mph from the southwest, also on the 30th.

The highest sea level pressure for the month was 30.41 on the 6th and the lowest was 29.47 inches on the 30th.

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Figures are based on a 2000 sq. ft. home. Natural gas costs include basic customer charge.

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