

## Woman Drives Cadillac Into Intracoastal Waterway

A woman from Augusta, Ga., drove her Cadillac into the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway last week, while a local man was seriously injured when his motorcycle struck a mound of dirt in a road construction area closed to traffic.

These were just two of the single-vehicle and other accidents that kept N.C. Highway Patrol officers busy in Brunswick County last week, reported Trooper T. L. Pearce of the Wilmington Highway Patrol office.

Last Friday, Dec. 3, at approximately 9:30 p.m., Betty Inglett, 62, of Augusta, Ga., was traveling east on Seaside Road (S.R. 1162) east of Sunset Beach when the road came to an abrupt end at the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. Inglett's 1992 Cadillac continued, striking a pier and coming to rest submerged in the waterway.

Inglett and a passenger were both injured, but neither was transported or treated at the scene.

Damages to the Cadillac were an estimated \$15,000.

Trooper W.H. Thompson, investigating officer, filed no charges.

No charges were filed in four other single-vehicle accidents last week.

Thompson also investigated a single-vehicle accident that happened at about 7:50 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, in a road construction area on U.S. 17 south of Shallotte closed to the public.

William Dale Whiddon, 20, of Supply, received serious, incapacitating injuries when his 1972 Honda motorcycle struck a mound of dirt and he was thrown from the cycle.

Whiddon was taken to The Brunswick Hospital at Supply. Damage to the bike was an estimated \$250.

A Route 1, Nakina, man was seriously injured in another one-vehicle accident that happened Sunday at approximately 3:45 p.m. west

of Shallotte on the Ash-Little River Road (S.R. 1300).

Anthony Delmore Gore, 33, of Route 1, Nakina, was traveling north on Ash-Little River Road when his 1990 Chevrolet ran off the road on the left side, crossed a ditch and struck a large pine tree.

He was taken to Columbus County Hospital in Whiteville with serious, non-incapacitating injuries.

Trooper R.L. Murray investigated.

A Calabash man was injured in a one-vehicle accident that happened Saturday, Dec. 4, two miles north of Calabash on Old Georgetown Road (S.R. 1163).

Gregory Faulk, 31, of Calabash was traveling south on Old Georgetown Road in a 1986 Ford when he ran off the road on the left side and struck a tree, reported Trooper D.H. Harvell.

Faulk was taken to The Brunswick Hospital with serious, non-incapacitating injuries.

Damage to the Ford was estimated at \$5,000.

Robert Blackwell, 38, of Supply was injured Thursday, Dec. 2, in a single-vehicle accident on Sabbath Home Road (S.R. 1120) 1.5 miles north of Holden Beach.

Blackwell was traveling north on Sabbath Home Road when his 1989 Ford van ran off the right side of the road, struck a culvert and rolled over on its side, reported Trooper B.L. Wilkes.

Damage to the vehicle was estimated at \$5,000.

Blackwell was taken to The Brunswick Hospital with serious, non-incapacitating injuries.

Two drivers and three passengers were treated on the scene for injuries that resulted from a two-vehicle accident that happened at approximately 9:50 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, three miles north of Leland on Mt. Misery Road (S.R.

1426).

Monica Thomas, 21, of Leland, was northbound on Mt. Misery Road in a 1979 Ford passenger vehicle when she stopped, preparing to make a left turn into a private drive.

Frances James, 33, of Winnabow, was traveling behind Thomas in a 1991 Oldsmobile. When pulled out and started to pass Thomas, pulled back into the northbound lane and struck Thomas' vehicle in the rear.

Investigating officer Trooper T.W. Caulder charged James with failure to reduce speed.

Damage to Thomas' vehicle was estimated at \$900, and damage to the James vehicle, \$4,500.

Thomas and two passengers in her vehicle, and James and her passenger were injured, but were not transported to the hospital.

It was a case of double jeopardy Friday for a 1987 Oldsmobile owned by Hilton Robinson of Supply.

Disabled in an highway accident that had occurred earlier, the Oldsmobile was stationary in the northbound lane of U.S. 17 nine miles south of Bolivia, facing south, with no lights on.

Audrey Mosley, 17, of Bolivia, was driving north on U.S. 17 at approximately 7:45 p.m. She didn't see the disabled vehicle in the roadway and struck it head on.

Mosley and two passengers in her vehicle were transported to The Brunswick Hospital for treatment of injuries.

Trooper C.E. Ward investigated the accident, filing no charges.

Damages were estimated at \$1,100 to Mosley's van and \$1,900 to the Robinson vehicle from this wreck.

Data on the earlier accident was not available Tuesday.

## Three Arrested After Stabbing

One man was injured and three have been arrested on charges of attempted murder after a stabbing near Southport early Thursday morning, according to an incident report on file at the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Monday.

The victim, Ricky Varnum, 32, of Sea Pines subdivision, Southport, was treated and released from Doshier Hospital for a puncture wound to his lower left back, Deputy Jimmy Davis reported.

Varnum told police he was spending the night at a friend's mobile home on N.C. 211 when three men came to the trailer shortly after midnight. One of the men was armed with a knife, while another had a baseball bat.

They "started an argument with him over some recent trouble that had occurred due to a fight the complainant was involved in," the report said. Varnum allegedly tried to run a way and was stabbed in the back.

The report said he made his way to the highway and flagged down a passing motorist, who took him to the hospital. There, Varnum gave an 8-inch lock-blade knife to a security officer.

Arrested after the incident were James Joseph McNelis, 17, of Harborside Motel, Southport; Kid Earl Caison, 21, of Route 1, Bolivia; and Timmy Thomas, age unavailable, of Sea Pines subdivision. All three are charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill,

inflicting serious injury, according to the arrest warrants.

The warrants name McNelis as the one who assaulted Varnum, while Caison and Thomas are accused of "aiding and abetting" the assault.

## Autumn Care Pick

Claretha John was recently chosen November Employee of the Month by the administrative staff of Autumn Care of Shallotte.

John is a member of the dietary department. She has worked at Autumn Care since Aug. 30, 1989. She was recognized for "hard work and dedication to the staff, residents and dietary department," according to Dietary Manager Cassandra King.



JOHN

## Brunswick Department Head Appeals Driving While Impaired Conviction

Brunswick County Finance Director Lithia Hahn was found guilty Monday of driving while impaired by alcohol. She has appealed the conviction to superior court, according to the Brunswick County Clerk of Court's office.

Hahn, 42, was pulled over by a Holden Beach Police officer at 4:48 a.m., April 3, in the 500 block of Ocean Boulevard West. An intoxilyzer breath test administered about a half hour later indicated that Hahn had a blood alcohol content of .12%. She was charged with DWI under the state's previous designation of .10 as the level of blood alcohol at which a driver is considered impaired. That threshold level has been lowered to .08.

Hahn told arresting Officer Mic-

hael Hamilton that she was on her way home from Myrtle Beach, where she drank "four beers" between 10 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. that night.

In Brunswick County District Court Monday, Judge David Wall sentenced Hahn to 30 days in jail,

suspended for two years on the condition that she pay a \$100 fine and court costs. Although she was ordered to surrender her license Monday, she will retain her privilege to drive until her case is settled in superior court.

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