

\$6,000 In Jewelry Reported Stolen In Leland Purse Theft

A woman told police that she had about \$6,000 worth of jewelry stolen from her purse while parked outside her son's trailer in Leland Sunday night, according to a crime report on file at the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Monday.

The 40-year-old woman, who lives on Route 4, Leland, told Deputy Matt Jesson that she left her car unlocked with the engine running when she went inside her son's home on Mose Court in Pickett Ridge at about 9:15 p.m.

She left about 15 minutes later and drove home. When she arrived, her son called and asked if she had lost her purse, the report said. He told her that a neighbor had found the purse by the side of the road.

The victim reportedly told Jesson "she was too upset to give a more detailed description of the stolen jewelry," which included seven gold and gemstone rings, nine gold bracelets and two gold charms.

When he arrived on the scene of the theft, Jesson said he saw 12 people searching along the road near the spot where the purse was recovered. Several items from inside the purse were found there.

"It appeared that the suspects threw the purse into the ditch at the end of Timber Lane," Jesson said.

An investigation is continuing into the theft.

In other crime reports:

■ A diamond and emerald ring valued at about \$1,000 was stolen from a woman who lives on Joy Avenue in the Cedar Landing area of Supply Saturday afternoon. The victim told Deputy Malcolm Long that her husband was packing to leave after a domestic dispute and removed a ring from her jewelry box in the process.

■ About \$370 worth of jewelry was stolen from a 20-year-old Leland woman who believes that the items might have been taken by a person to whom she gave a ride Saturday afternoon. She told Deputy

CRIME REPORT

Sheldon Caison that a necklace, a gold charm, a diamond-and-sapphire ring and a South Brunswick High School ring were in the front seat of her car when she picked up two people in Southport and gave them a lift to Long Beach. She noticed the jewelry missing a short time later. The woman told Caison the identity of her passengers and said one of them "would take anything."

■ A bride reported the theft of her wallet during her wedding at the Sharon United Methodist Church on Holden Beach Road last September. On Monday morning (April 11) she told Detective Lt. Donnell Marlowe that hers was one of several wallets stolen from the church during the ceremony. She said she lost about \$150 in the theft.

■ Someone stole a Browning auto-loading shotgun from the home of a man who lives on Benton Road, Bolivia, Wednesday. He told Detective Charlie Miller that shortly after he left the house at about 10 a.m., his brother noticed "an old black car" in the field near the victim's house. The man said he left the door to his home unlocked. Miller estimated the gun's value at \$800.

■ A color television, a microwave oven, a vacuum cleaner, a stereo system, six fishing rods, a tackle box, a floor sweeper and a shovel were stolen from a summer residence on Shell Point Road sometime in the past four months. The Montvale, Va., man who owns the home told Deputy Jeffrey Johnson that the thieves got in by forcing open the back door. The total value of stolen property was estimated to be \$1,400.

■ Police are unsure whether anything was stolen in a break-in reported at a summer home on Partridge Lane in Shell Point last week. A 70-year-old Hampton, Va., man was visiting his sister's mobile home and found two windows broken when he

arrived Friday morning. He told Deputy Johnson that he "could not elaborate on what was missing," the report said.

■ A Long Beach man said his car was stolen while he was drinking with friends at a mobile home park in Phoenix Thursday night. He told Deputy Rebekah McDonald that he heard someone start his car and leave at about 9 p.m., but was not alarmed because he "thought the suspects were joy riding and would bring the vehicle back." After catching a ride home that night, he said he "became concerned about the tags and insurance" and called the sheriff's department the next day to report the theft. The 1985 Nissan Sentra was valued at \$1,500.

■ About \$600 worth of car stereo equipment was stolen from a pickup truck parked at the Davis Landing boat ramp in Navassa Sunday afternoon. The Leland man who owns the truck told Deputy Robert Long that he and some friends left the truck unlocked while they went fishing between 1:00 and 3:30 p.m. When they returned, his radio tape player and equalizer were missing.

■ Damage was estimated at \$200, but nothing was reported missing, in a break-in that occurred at the guest house of a home on Ocean Sound Drive off Boones Neck Road recently. The Greensboro man who owns the house told Deputy McDonald that he was checking on the property Saturday morning when he found that someone had kicked open the guest house door, damaging the jam, lock and frame. Nothing was taken or disturbed there or at the main residence and storage building.

■ Someone forged a signature on a stolen unemployment check and cashed it at a supermarket in Southport recently. The store manager told

Deputy Sgt. Charles Wilson that the check came back from the bank with a notice that the \$72 check had been stolen and cashed illegally.

■ There was about \$150 damage caused by a thief or thieves who kicked in a door and stole two iron beds and a sewing machine from a home on Egypt Road, Leland, last week. Deputy Wilson estimated the value of stolen goods at \$325.

■ A dispute between neighbors may have led to the smashing of a car window at a trailer on Carolina Avenue in the Manchester Mobile Home Park Wednesday night. The owner told Deputy McDonald that he noticed the driver side window broken on his 1989 Ford Fiesta when he left for work at about 7:20 Thursday morning. He said that a recent dispute with a neighbor had resulted in threats being made against him. He also said he heard his dog barking at something outside the trailer at about 1:15 a.m. Damage was estimated at \$350.

■ An estimated 13 BBs were fired at the window of a mobile home on Timber Lane in Pickett Ridge, Leland, last week. Deputy Lt. Carl Pearson estimated the damage at about \$100.

■ Someone helped himself to a case of beer from a Belville convenience store early Friday morning, then lost half of it as he made his escape. A clerk told Deputy Caison that the man came into the store at about 2:04 a.m. and picked up two 12-packs of Budweiser Dry beer. When he got to the counter, the clerk told him he could not sell alcohol after hours. "The suspect took a couple steps toward the cooler and then turned around and ran out the door," the report said. "When he turned right, he dropped a half of a case as he was running to Belville."

One Injured, One Arrested In Phoenix Shooting Monday

One Leland man was arrested and another treated for gunshot wounds after an argument over a woman ended in violence on the streets of Phoenix early Monday morning, a Brunswick County Sheriff's detective said Tuesday.

The victim, Greg Ballard, was shot in the back of the legs with a shotgun loaded with bird shot as he attempted to run away from Ronald Robbins, 42, of Cedar Hill Road, Phoenix, according to Det. Steve Mason.

Ballard was treated and released from New Hanover Regional Medical Center after the shooting, which occurred at about 2:30 a.m. in the roadway between the Phoenix Mini-Mart and Ballard's Mobile Home Park, Mason said.

The altercation started after Robbins and a woman, Barbara Todd, got into an argument behind the store. Mason said Ballard "mouthed

off" at Robbins, who allegedly left and came back with a 12-gauge shotgun and shot Ballard as he was attempting to flee.

Robbins turned himself in to Det. Ken Messer the next day not far from the scene of the shooting. Mason said Robbins was already wanted for failing to appear in court on drug charges.

He allegedly assaulted Deputy Ricky Duvall and ran away with handcuffs dangling from one arm after the deputy attempted to arrest him in the Phoenix area Friday afternoon.

After his arrest, Robbins was charged with assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. He will also be charged with resisting arrest and assault on a law enforcement officer.

Robbins is being held in Brunswick County Jail in lieu of a \$101,250 bond on all charges.

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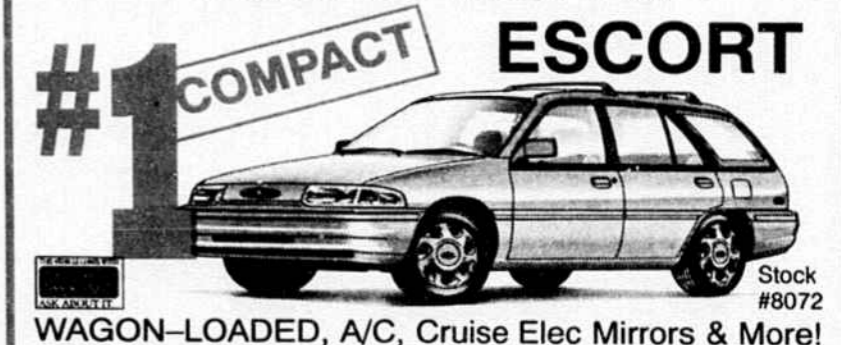


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