



DEMOLISHED--This late-model Corvair is the car in which a young Raeford family of three met death late Saturday afternoon when the vehicle swerved directly into the path of a northbound tractor-trailer two miles south of town on Highway 401. Driver of the heavy rig was thrown from the vehicle and killed. The four deaths pushed Hoke County's total for the year to seven.

TRUCKER ALSO KILLED

Young Family Of Three Wiped Out By Collision

Death wiped out a young Raeford family of three near here late Saturday afternoon when a drive into the country ended in the county's worst accident of the year two miles south of Raeford on Highway 401.

Also killed in the crash of the family's compact car and a northbound tractor-trailer was the truck driver. The four fatalities pushed the Hoke total for the year to seven.

The wreck took the lives of Daniel David Russell, 22; his wife, Sharon Russell, 17; their infant daughter, Phyllis Diane Russell, 1, and Gordon Forest Autry, 38, of Tavares, Fla. State Highway Patrolman J.D. Robinson said his investigation indicated the Russell car, apparently driven by Mrs. Russell,

swerved across the center-line directly into the path of the tractor-trailer at about 5:40 p.m.

The late-model Corvair was knocked some 60 feet by the impact and came to rest on a median in front of Bullock's Service Station, Robinson said.

Russell was thrown from the demolished vehicle, but was not instantly killed. He died after reaching Scotland Memorial Hospital in Laurinburg. The infant died en route to the hospital, Robinson said, and Autry was killed at the scene when thrown from the tractor cab and pinned under the wreckage.

Mrs. Russell died Monday afternoon at Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville, about an hour after her husband and

daughter had been buried in double funeral rites here.

There was no indication that Mrs. Russell realized the fate of her husband and daughter, Robinson said, although she did not lose consciousness until the day of her death.

"It was the worst accident I have ever investigated," the young patrolman said. Purely by coincidence, he has investigated all seven of the county's fatalities this year, although two other patrolmen are assigned to the county.

Robinson said two other trucks -- one a pickup -- were immediately behind the tractor-trailer when the accident occurred.

"The driver of the pickup truck told me he saw the car

swerve into the wrong lane and hit the tractor-trailer head-on," Robinson said. "He said the three trucks were moving at between 40 and 50 miles per hour."

The tractor-trailer was loaded with corn and lettuce, apparently being transported from Florida to northern markets. It was owned by the J. M. Booth Company of Tavares, Fla.

The heavy rig skidded some 200 feet after the crash and overturned on the pavement, Robinson said. Autry apparently was thrown through the windshield, because both doors to the cab remained closed, Robinson said.

"It is my opinion that he wouldn't have been seriously injured if he had been wearing

a seat belt," Robinson said. "The cab was damaged on the outside, but showed very little damage inside."

Members of Hoke Rescue Squad were at the scene about five minutes after the wreck, Robinson said. They helped recover Autry's body from under the truck and used their ambulance to take Russell and the infant to Laurinburg.

Robinson said the men in the following trucks removed Mrs. Russell and the child from the wreckage.

Autry remained under the truck some 15 minutes until a Raeford wrecker arrived to lift the heavy cab, Robinson said.

The cab and van blocked all but about two feet of the roadway and was not cleared until 10 p.m. after two heavy wreckers were summoned from Fayetteville.

"The trailer then had to be unloaded before they could move it," Robinson said.

The Corvair was demolished its front end smashed beyond recognition. Only the rear seat and canopy resembled their original shape.

In terms of the number killed, it was the worst wreck in Hoke County since December, 1965, when five persons were killed in a car-truck collision east of Raeford near the intersection of Old 401 and 401 Bypass.

Reports indicated that the Russells were en route to a relative's home between the scene of the accident and Wagram when the tragedy occurred.

"I did not talk to Mrs. Russell at the hospital," Robinson said, "but her people told me she said she was driving at the time the accident occurred."

Funeral services for Russell and the daughter were held Monday afternoon at First Baptist Church, with the Rev. John M. Glenn and the Rev. Paul Morrow officiating.

Mrs. Russell's funeral was held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Second Baptist Church by the Rev. Mr. Morrow and the Rev. Mr. Glenn.

Burial in both instances was in Raeford Cemetery.

Russell is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Russell, and two sisters, Mrs. Charles Baker and Miss Carol Russell, both of Raeford.

Mrs. Russell is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H.M. Crumpler of Raeford; three brothers, Charles Barton of the home and David and Daniel Barton, both of Atlanta, Ga., and two sisters, Mrs. Elbert Cole of Anniston, Ala., and Miss Sue Barton of Atlanta, Ga.

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Presbytery Meet Here Tuesday

The Presbytery of Fayetteville will open its 353rd stated meeting Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary of Raeford Presbyterian Church. Nearly 200 ministers and ruling elders from the 100 Presbyterian churches in this area are expected to attend, according to the Rev. Cortez A. Cooper, Jr., pastor of the Raeford church.

Retiring moderator Dr. Leslie Bullock will call the meeting to order and preside over the election of the new moderator. The moderator-nominee is the Rev. Robert Massey, pastor of College Heights Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville.

One of the highlights of the session will be the report from the special committee on creeds and confessions, Dr. Cheves Ligon, chairman. In connection with this report, Dr. Marshall Dandy of Richmond, Va., executive secretary of the Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church, U.S., will address the presbytery.

A number of other major committees will be heard from, among them the committee on the care of ministerial candidates, the Rev. Mr. Cooper chairman.

The Women of the Raeford church, under the leadership of their president, Mrs. H. R. McLean, will serve lunch for the Presbytery. Heading various committees in this regard will be Mesdames J. L. McNeill, J. H. Blue, Truman Austin, Raymond Maxwell, and Carson Clippard.

Ruling Elder Fred Clubb is chairman of the reception committee composed of elders and deacons of the local church. This committee will welcome Fayetteville Presbytery to its first meeting in Raeford in a number of years. Representing the Raeford session as voting members of Presbytery will be Ruling Elder Raymond Maxwell and the Rev. Mr. Cooper.



Harry Epstein Views Broken Plate Glass At His Store

Mayor Declares War On 'Unsightly Litter'

Mayor H. R. McLean has designated May as "Litter Clean-Up Month" in Raeford and warned that if property owners don't spruce up their premises voluntarily, the town may do it and charge them for it.

"We have some property--particularly vacant lots--that is shamefully unkempt," Mayor McLean said. "I am thinking of asking the town board to pass an ordinance permitting the town to clean up these eyesores and adding the cost to the property owner's tax bill," he said.

"Outsiders, including industrial prospects, judge our town not by the fine people and other advantages we have, but by the visual impression they get when they look over the town," Mayor McLean said. "Every one of these unsightly lots detract from the favorable impression they get when viewing the well-kept property of most of our citizens."

The mayor's proclamation--passed as a companion proclamation to one issue by Gov. Dan K. Moore for the entire state--

See WAR, Page 9

Burglar Is Foiled By Officer

A rash of break-ins and attempted break-ins has aggravated Raeford policemen this week, but losses to property owners have been practically nil.

Someone smashed the front door glass at Harry's 5 & 10 soon after midnight Monday and had Policeman Sam Motley happen by checking doorways, a major haul might have been made.

Police Chief L.W. Stanton said Motley discovered the broken door and encountered a woman cowering in a nearby alley. He arrested the woman, who gave her name as Darling Tonia Gazette, 20, Negro, and said she lives at Fort Bragg.

Chief Stanton said the woman denied breaking the glass at the store and told officers she had come to Raeford with two Negro males, who let her out of the car and left.

Officer Motley earlier had encountered two men in a car cruising around town after midnight and advised them to get out of town, Chief Stanton said.

The woman was lodged in Hoke County jail to await trial on charges of damage to property and resisting arrest. Chief Stanton said she jumped from the patrol car and ran after being taken into custody. She was recaptured a short distance away.

Meanwhile, Officer J.C. Barrington gave chase to a 14-year-old Negro youth Tuesday afternoon, suspecting he was the youngster encountered by Mrs. Julian Wright when she entered her home about 6 p.m. The

See BURGLAR, Page 9

McCoy Gets Life On Plea Of Guilty To Murder Count

Malcolm McCoy, 17-year-old Hoke County Negro, was sentenced to life imprisonment Wednesday after he entered a plea of guilty to first degree murder in the December slaying of Neill Archie McCormick, 77.

McCoy was one of four young Negroes charged with the robbery-slaying, which took place December 18 at McCormick's home in the Duffie's Station community. All four defendants live in the same vicinity.

Judge Clarence W. Hall of Raleigh pronounced sentence during the second day of the April term of Hoke Superior Court, which got under way a day late on Tuesday after Judge Hall remained in Cumberland Superior Court to finish a case on Monday.

Solicitor Doran J. Berry accepted the guilty plea on behalf of the state. McCoy entered the plea through his court-appointed counsel, Joe McLeod of Fayetteville.

Still to face trial during a special term of Hoke Superior Court beginning May 8 are Landon Johnson, 19, King David Purcell, 17, and Robert Lee Hollingsworth, 23.

The elderly victim's badly battered body was found in his home, in which he lived alone, by his son, Fred McCormick, who passed the house the day following the slaying, saw no lights burning, and stopped to investigate. The four suspects were rounded up by Sheriff Dave Barrington and SBI Agent Gary Griffith in less than 24 hours. Deputies Harvey Young and James Adams assisted.

Meanwhile, the second-degree murder trial of James Curtis McNair, alias J.C. McCadyen, got under way just before noon Wednesday.

McNair is accused of slaying

Arthur McPhaul, with a single blast from a 12 gauge shotgun on the early morning of March 11. The victim was McNair's wife's uncle.

Sheriff Barrington testified that McNair came to his home at about 7:30 a.m. on the morning of the slaying, told him that he had shot someone, and asked him to investigate.

Sheriff Barrington said he found McPhaul's body at the home of Annie Peguese. He apparently had died from loss of blood from the wound, which was in the upper legs near the groin.

Berry indicated that the trial

of Charles Elmore Newton, charged with manslaughter as a result of a wreck in November in which three persons were killed, will be continued until a future term of court.

Newton allegedly was driver of a car in which Jerry Allen West, 19, and Larry Pittman, 17, were riding when they were killed in a collision with another vehicle. Roosevelt Malloy, 33, whose wife allegedly was driving the other car, also died as a result of injuries received in the wreck.

Only one other case had been heard at noon Wednesday. John Howard Graves was found not guilty of a charge of drunk driving.



JUMPER--Action such as this stringing jump in last year's Raeford Woman's Club Horse Show will be seen Friday and Saturday when the show is held for the third year at Jimmy Norris Stables on Highway 401 Bypass here.

Annual Chamber Meeting Will Be Staged May 16

Raeford Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual meeting Tuesday night, May 16, at Hoke High School.

Members of the chamber are being informed by mail of ticket information for the dinner meeting, which is a high spot in the chamber year.

Principal speaker for the affair will be J. Frank Melton, district manager, Chamber of Commerce of the United States Atlanta, Ga.

Melton, a native of Texas, is an attorney who turned to another field. He has served on the staff of the governor of Texas, been a legislative analyst and lobbyist for the Texas Man-

ufacturers Association and once served as a city councilman.

For the past eight and one-half years, he had been district manager for the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, serving business leaders and chamber executives in some 60 communities varying in size from Baltimore to Monroe. His present district includes all of North Carolina and South Carolina.

"As the representative of the largest business organization in the world, my primary responsibility is to explain specific aids and/or tools to chamber leaders and executives and to:

"... Explain our free enterprise system of economics.

"... Help preserve and perpetuate our free enterprise concept of government in America.

"... Encourage the use of these tools by local chambers of commerce, business and industry."

James Fout, manager of the local chambers of commerce, said it is hoped all local members of the chamber will plan to attend the dinner meeting and to bring their wives.

"We hope to have a large turnout for the occasion, which has been well received in the past," Fout said.

Four Performances Of Horse Show Will Be Held Friday And Saturday

The stage was set today for the third annual Raeford Woman's Club Horse Show, scheduled for four performances Friday and Saturday.

Some \$2,400 in prize money, plus trophies and ribbons, are being offered to exhibitors from several states in 114 classes.

More important to the public are improved facilities at Jimmy Norris Stables on Highway 401 Bypass, where the first

performance of the show will be reeled off tomorrow night at 7:30 o'clock. Other performances will be Saturday morning at 10 o'clock in Ring 1 and 2, Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock in Ring 1 and 2, and Saturday night at 8 o'clock in Ring 1 for the majority of the stakes.

Mrs. H. H. McLean is chairman of this year's show and Col. R. E. Barrett Jr. of Beaufort, Va., is again

ager. Mrs. Charles Hostetler, chairman of the publicity committee, said earlier this week that bleachers have been rented in Fayetteville and will be set up at the show ring. Patrons also may rent parking space along the rail for their cars and view the show a la "drive-in."

The Woman's Club will offer a chicken supper for benefit of

the public, exhibitors and others connected with the show. It will be at McLaughlin Elementary School cafeteria from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday. Prizes may be ordered at the show grounds and will be delivered there.

A brand new concession stand has been built at the show ring and sandwiches, soft drinks, and other refreshments will be available. See HORSE SHOW, Page 9