

Youth Charged In Death

A 16-year-old Kings Mountain youth has been charged with murder following the shooting death of his step-father Sunday.

Paul Degree, 57, of Route 5, was shot at his home at 11:22 a.m., with a .22-calibre handgun, according to the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department. He was taken to Kings Mountain Hospital by his wife, Evelyn Degree, where he died after four hours of surgery.

Arrested and charged with murder was Roderick Lamar Turner. According to Detective Raymond Hamrick of the Sheriff's Department, Turner led Deputy Don Allen, who arrived first at the scene, to the gun in his bedroom.

Turner is being held on a \$15,000 bond.

Hamrick said he believed Turner and his step-father had been arguing over Turner's use of the telephone.

Degree was employed as a truck driver for Barrett Textiles. He was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church of Waco, where funeral services will be conducted Thursday at 4 p.m. by the Rev. James Montgomery.

He was the son of the late Paul Degree Sr. and May Bell Woods Degree.

He is survived by his wife, Evelyn Webb Degree; five sons, Paul Degree of Massachusetts, Charles Degree of Baltimore, Lewis Degree of Virginia, Clinton E. Degree and Walter Degree, both of Shelby; one daughter, Shirley Degree of Washington; four stepsons, Roy, Robert, Ronnie and Roderick Turner, all of the home; four brothers, Roscoe Degree of Hickory, Vergie Degree of Shelby, Theodore Degree of Fallston, and R.V. Degree of Kings Mountain; and three sisters, Mrs. Nancy Sloan and Mrs. Josie Degree of Shelby and Mrs. Roseetta Charles of Cherryville.

Bloodmobile Here Monday

The Cleveland County Bloodmobile will visit Kings Mountain High School Monday.

Donors will be processed from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. in B.N. Barnes Auditorium. The goal is 175 pints.

All eligible donors are urged to participate. Donors are urged to call the office at KMHS and make an appointment if at all possible.



Wet Christmas Parade

Thousands of Kings Mountain area citizens braved the cold and rain to attend the annual Kings Mountain Fire Department Christmas Parade Sunday afternoon.

Although some of the units scheduled failed to appear because of the weather, some late additions gave the parade over 100 entries, one of the largest ever.

The "ET Comes Home For Christmas" float, constructed by the R&R Connection Puppet Team, was judged the best float and was awarded a plaque by the fire department. The puppet float won the award for the third time in four years.

Lynne Bradley, WBTB-Channel Three's weather girl who had promised Kings Mountain good weather for the parade, was the grand marshal and managed to keep her usual wide smile despite the rain.

The star of the show, however, was Santa Claus, and the jolly old fat man from the North Pole made his appearance surrounded by a cast of beautiful models from Joan Baker's Modeling School.

Several youngsters along the parade route yelled out some requests as Santa rode by. As he pointed his sleigh back North, he told his candy man Roy Pearson that he heard them all and will be back in about four weeks.

More parade photos are on page 1-B.

KM Woman, Son Killed In Wreck

A Kings Mountain woman and her 15-year-old son were killed Thanksgiving night in an automobile accident near Chester, S.C.

Ellen Virginia Yarbrough Wilson, 50, of the Oak Grove Community, was pronounced dead on the scene. Her son, Michael Ray Wilson, 15, was pinned in the wreckage for about 30 minutes and died later at a Chester hospital.

A third passenger, 10-month-old Amy Elizabeth Wilson of Gastonia, sustained head injuries and is in the intensive care unit of Charlotte Memorial Hospital.

According to the South Carolina Highway Patrol, Mrs. Wilson's station wagon pulled into the path of a four-wheel drive vehicle operated by Willie Pendergrass, 29, of Chester at about 10:05 p.m. Thursday at the intersection of Highway 321

and 321-bypass about 1.3 miles north of Chester.

Funeral services for the Wilsons were conducted Sunday at 3 p.m. at Oak Grove Baptist Church by the Rev. Leroy Cox. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Wilson was the daughter of the late William Alexander and Anna Bell Ruth Yarbrough and was employed as a newspaper carrier. Her husband

was the late Melvin Ray Wilson.

She is survived by two sons, William Steven Wilson of Shelby and Ray Anthony Wilson of Kings Mountain; a daughter, Donna Ellen Wilson of Florida; three brothers, Edward Yarbrough and Harold E. Yarbrough, both of Chester, S.C., and Willard H. Yarbrough of Dallas, Texas; a half-brother, Tommy Roof of Chester, S.C., Sara Rope of Great Falls, S.C.,

and Louise Carpenter and Sadie Collard, both of Dallas, Texas; and three grandchildren.

Michael Ray Wilson was a student at Kings Mountain Junior High School and a member of the Cleveland County Boys Club.

He is survived by two brothers, William Steven Wilson of Shelby and Ray Anthony Wilson of Kings Mountain; and a sister, Donna Wilson of Florida.

KMSHS To Present 'The Wizard Of Oz'

The 1982-83 drama season for Kings Mountain Senior High begins this week at Barnes Auditorium with the presentation of the "The Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum.

The Creative Drama Class and the Drama Club will present this classic story December 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. and December 4 at a 2:30 p.m. matinee and a night production at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$2 for adults and \$1 for students and children.

Mrs. Steve Wells is the director and she is excited about bringing drama of literary merit to the senior high stage. This production will utilize techniques in drama never seen before on the KMSH stage. Also, the music from the Walt Disney production of "The Wizard of Oz" will highlight the shifts in scenes. Also, the Scarecrow (Dale Chambers) will sing "If I Had A Brain" and Dorothy (Angela Lyon) will dance to the theme of the play. Unusual aspects of staging and lighting will be used throughout each performance.

The play is divided into two acts and the plot features the ageless story of a young girl named Dorothy from Kansas who

dreams she is in a beautiful city of Oz. She meets her loyal friends, the brainless Scarecrow, the heartless Tin Woodsman (David Bradley) and the cowardly Lion (Jerry Laws). Their excursions take them to Emerald City where they meet the all-powerful Wizard of Oz (Clayton Ollis).

But the good witch Melinda (Traci Dixon) points Dorothy in the right direction. Belinda (Daune Brazzell), who is the Wicked Witch of the West, is there with her spectacular demise.

And, last but not least, an actual dog will be playing the part of Toto.

The musical selections will include "Merry Old Land of Oz", "Over the Rainbow", "If I Only Had a Brain", "Theme from Wizard of Oz", "Ding Dong the Witch is Dead", "Follow the Yellow Brick Road", "Just Call Smarmy" and "The Oz-phabet."

Other members of the cast include George Carpenter, Verdo; Sonia Ross, Jade; Lori Thrift, Cathy Clore, Linda Boheler, Kathy Williams and Dela



Photo by Gary Stewart

WIZARD OF OZ—Some of the members of the cast of The Wizard of Oz practice a scene in preparation for Thursday's opening night performance at B.N. Barnes Auditorium. Left to

right are David Bradley, Clayton Ollis, Angela Lyon, Dale Chambers, Jerry Laws, George Carpenter and Sonia Ross. The play is under the direction of Mrs. Betsy Wells.