

Weather

Cape Girardeau - Cloudy tonight and warmer, high in the 70s. Chance of showers Wednesday, high in mid 70s.

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12 Pages

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1976

Courtesy of the Missouri

Auto chase kills innocent victims

A high-speed pursuit by Cape Girardeau police of a 15-year-old youth, who had not paid for a tank of gasoline, resulted in the deaths of two young Jackson women on North Kingshighway Monday night. Killed were Peggy Jo O'Neil, and Cayla Jean Mosser, both 20 years old.

The youth, William Dale Jones of Jefferson City, was driving a stolen vehicle belonging to Robert Koenigsfeld, Bonanza Mall. Police Chief Henry H. Gerrecke, however, said police did not know the car was stolen at the onset of the chase. Jones is listed in criminal conviction at St. Francis

hospital. He suffered a broken arm and leg and internal injuries.

The girls were killed when the car driven by Jones went out of control and struck the southbound car, driven by Miss Mosser, head on near the northern terminus of Boulder Crest drive on North Kingshighway.

Police were notified by the gas station attendant, David Gregory at 9:30 p.m. that Jones had purchased gasoline but left the Town Plaza Standard Station without paying.

Cpl. Kenneth Grayum and Recruit Plm. Donna Matkin were in North street after they received a call from Cape Girardeau informing the vehicle driven by Jones was driving west on North street.

Cpl. Grayum reported that he saw the car at Pacific and North street and turned on the car's flashing red light. At that point, he said, Jones speeded up and turned west onto Bellevue.

He was made to set up roadblocks at Perry and Broadway and at Kingshighway and Broadway but police were unable to reach the two points in time.

The Jones' car turned north onto Kingshighway from Broadway, narrowly avoiding numerous accidents, police said.

At about a tenth of a mile from Boulder Crest drive the car ran off the roadway onto the shoulder. Jones lost control and his car veered across the highway, striking head on the car being driven by Miss Mosser.

A few minutes before the fatal accident, Chief Gerrecke said, Cpl. Grayum called the station and said he was ready to give up on the chase and to notify county and state authorities.



Miss Cayla Mosser



Miss Peggy Jo O'Neil

or Contents. Ask me anything.

Miss Gayle Joan Mouser

Service for Miss Mouser will be held Friday afternoon at 3 at McKendree United Methodist Church in Jackson. Rev. Donald L. Slower, of New McKendree Methodist Church, will be assisted by the Rev. E. Baker, pastor of First Baptist Church in Jackson, and the Rev. W. R. L., a retired minister of

It will be in the Dexter cemetery.

body is at the McCombs home in Jackson and taken to the church at 1 Wednesday. Friends all at the funeral home tonight.

Mouser of Jackson, 30, was fatally injured in automobile accident Friday night in Cape Fear.

was born July 19, 1936, in

Miss Peggy Jo O'Neil

SON — Service for Miss Jo O'Neil, who was injured in an automobile accident Monday night in Girardeau, will be Tuesday afternoon at 2 at

Normandy. Miss Mouser attended Jackson Elementary Schools and graduated from Jackson High School in 1974. For the past two years she had been employed at Southeast Missouri Hospital in Cape Girardeau as a ward secretary. Miss Mouser was a member of New McKendree United Methodist Church, its Saints and Sinners Choir, and also worked with the senior high youth group of the church. She was a member of the Jackson Chiefs band while in high school and was a leader of Girl Scout Troop No. 53.

Surviving: her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Mouser, Jackson; brother, Randy Mouser, of the family home; her maternal grandfather, W. W. Snider, Essex, and paternal grandmother, Mrs. Hobart Mouser, Lutesville Route 3. Her paternal grandfather died this morning.

economic and marketing consideration and environmental assessment and the second would be a

FATAL CHASE

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with two counts of investigation of manslaughter and investigation of auto theft.

Chief Gerecke said a problem the police face is whether a high-speed chase is justified.

"The officers didn't know who was in that other car. They couldn't tell if it was a juvenile or an adult," he said.

Early Saturday morning police had been involved in another high-speed chase.

QUESTIONING

Police have not questioned Jones. According to Missouri law a juvenile can only be questioned by police with a juvenile officer, a parent and lawyer present.

Chief Gerecke said the youth's mother reportedly left for Cape Girardeau after she was informed of the accident.

Juvenile officers, however, would not say if the mother was in town or whether they had spoken with the boy.

County Coroner Chesler A. McCain said it is uncertain

The economic evaluation, and part authority organization and implementation. Delta's two-phase proposal

whether an inquest will be held "because a juvenile is involved in this case."

He added that a coroner's jury was called Monday night in the event an inquest is held.

Prosecuting Attorney A. J. Seier today said he will conduct his own investigation of the accident with the view that the youth will be certified as an adult, so that he may be tried as an adult.

Lacking authority from Circuit Court, police were unable under Missouri's juvenile law to release Jones' name. The Missourian obtained it from other sources.

The grandfather of Miss Mouser, Hobart Mouser of Lutesville, died at 7 a. m. today.

Not only some birds and mammals but butterflies, fish, plants, reptiles, amphibians and shellfish are considered endangered or threatened species.

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