

# Wichita Falls Life Slowly Normalizes; 6,359 Ask Storm Aid

By Judy Fessett

WICHITA FALLS, Texas — Disaster officials say life is getting back to normal here although blocks and blocks of wrecked homes still serve as a constant reminder of the giant disaster that roared through Wichita Falls on April 10 and left 41 persons dead in its wake.

Two centers established by the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration a week ago to determine the extent of the damage here have received 6,359 applications for help through Thursday. FEMA spokes-

man Neils Petrick said Friday. The 6,359 applications represent approximately 10,000 persons left homeless by the tornado which obliterated or caused major damage to 4,500 homes, he said.

The FEMA office in nearby Vernon has received 291 applications for assistance from victims of the tornado that struck there, also on April 10.

Mr. Petrick said 2,621 applications in Wichita Falls, whose families are now living with relatives, friends or in motels, have asked for temporary housing. She said the Don Bricker family was the first to be moved into mobile homes being brought into Wichita Falls to provide housing for up to a year for the tornado victims.

She said 500 more mobile homes have been ordered and more will be moved to Wichita Falls as the hundreds of applications are processed.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has responsibility for debris removal, is to award a contract this week to a private contractor for clearing entire neighborhoods of destroyed homes and businesses.

The Corps has estimated the cost of removing the debris at \$10 million.

Meanwhile, storm victims have continued the frustrating job of picking through the rubble of their homes for any belongings saved by the winds of more than 200 mph.

Mr. Petrick said the insurance industry, which first estimated the total damage set at \$2.4 billion of insured loss, now says that figure may be low because as many as 50 percent of the homes were underinsured.

Officials at Southwestern University, which narrowly missed the full force of the storm's fury, have set the figure there at \$700,000.

Now returned to its pre-tornado condition are telephone service which were restored, but when the twister struck.

Among the disaster workers who have returned to Wichita Falls to offer their agencies' assistance is a team from the Center for Disaster Control in Atlanta looking for ways to avoid being killed when a tornado strikes.

Dr. Roger Glass and Dr. Robert Craven and a senior medical student are interviewing all those injured in the storm as well as all those who escaped unhurt to see how they managed to protect themselves.

The team has already interviewed survivors of the Xenia, Ohio, tornado which had several years ago, and will complete its findings.



Friendly conversation is a favorite hour of Gen. Fox before the start of the annual 'Dinn-Out' gala Friday at Trimer Air Force Base. He is accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Fox, and other guests. (Inset photo) Maj. Gen. Cecil E. Fox, Trimer Air Logistics commander, is seen with other guests at the gala.

## DECAPITATED WOMAN STILL UNIDENTIFIED

Police found a severed head and a bloody shoe Friday during their search for clues in the decapitation killing of an unidentified woman.

The head and shoe were found near the 900 block of N. Central, where police issued a woman's head Thursday night.

Police said they also found blood in the street near 2900 N. Walnut, blocks away from where the head was found. They said they had not positively connected the blood with the head.

Police said they found a shoe which had been tossed in weeds close to the spot where the head was discovered.

In their search for the victim's identity Friday, police began checking missing persons reports and posted new photographs of the head at the booking desk of the Oklahoma City jail.

Police have been unable to determine the exact age of the young woman, who had a light complexion and dark hair, they said.

Using a police helicopter and tracking dogs, about 25 officers searched for the woman's body two hours Thursday night.

Authorities began the search again a daybreak Friday and continued through the day, checking several vacant houses.

The medical examiner is expected to perform tests to give police further information about the woman's identity and death.

Sen. Mike Heath said police arrested a man as a possible material witness to the killing, but did not comment on who the man was.

Sen. Heath said, "I do not want to see any man arrested for a crime he did not commit."

Police speculated the killing occurred shortly before the head was discovered.

"Two children playing basketball discovered the head Thursday.

They persuaded an area witness to call police after one of the boy's grandmother didn't notice her shoe, police said.

Ten-year-old Charles Johnson said he saw a man playing with what he thought at first was a large bear.

Communications officer Tom Vernon said the children called police every few minutes to ask where police were, apparently confused, police thought the story was a hoax.

However, Vernon said the report was a bona fide case, and police were dispatched as quickly as possible.

# Holdup Admitted; Fatal Shots Denied

By Robert B. Allen

CLAREMORE — David Gordon Smith admitted Friday he took part in a 1976 holdup of a Clanton man from the office, but said he didn't know who shot him and he feared he would be killed if he didn't surrender.

Advised by his Tulsa lawyer, E. Terrill Carley, Jr., Smith said he was arrested by Tulsa police on the day of the holdup.

"Did you fire any shots during the holdup?" the lawyer asked. "No, I didn't shoot anyone," Smith said.

The 25-year-old former Oklahoma State University student spent nearly three hours on the witness stand before the defense rested its case. District Judge Byron E. Williams recessed court until 10 a.m. Friday for his trial in the shooting death of Henry Young.

The defendant's lawyer, E. Terrill Carley, Jr., said Smith was a lengthy testimony, the defendant sought to shift the blame for the Sept. 1, 1976, robbery and shooting to a friend, Jack Young, who police say committed suicide at the scene.

The age of George McFar, who was called as a witness, attempted to impeach Smith's claim, saying in her opinion the defendant was the one in charge during the early morning robbery in which the tag agency and its employee were bound with tape and forced to lie on the floor.

Smith said he was repeatedly attempted to talk the tag agency driver, Young, out of the car when he said he began about 1:30 a.m. when he agreed to drive Young's car to an auto body shop to pick up a second vehicle owned by his friend. But on the way, Smith said Young said they were doing the Clanton tag agency in order to rob it.

"I thought he would shoot me any second," Smith said.

The defendant, speaking calmly and deliberately, said he was not involved in the holdup.

"I'm not having anything to do with this," Smith said before repeatedly attempted to talk the tag agency driver, Young, out of the car when he said he began about 1:30 a.m. when he agreed to drive Young's car to an auto body shop to pick up a second vehicle owned by his friend. But on the way, Smith said Young said they were doing the Clanton tag agency in order to rob it.

"I thought he would shoot me any second," Smith said.

Smith said Young told him he planned to rob the agency of blank rifle shells and a second license plate machine. The defendant also said Young said he had hidden a revolver in the trunk of the car and forced him to get out of the car.

"I kept saying 'I was ridiculous and we couldn't get away with it,'" Smith said. "But he told me if I moved out of the car he would shoot me on the spot and then shoot himself."

Smith said he was a music major at the Clanton tag agency he was forced to take a gun and the other agency fire. He admitted shooting two women and shooting blank car shells into a bag. He said he had a gun and was forced to take it to a nearby house.

Smith said he saw a man enter the office and he heard a shot ring out. Earlier testimony disclosed Young had been called to the agency by one of the women before the robber forced her to get down the phone and jerked the telephone wires from the wall.

The defendant said he dropped in a fratched position behind a desk and saw his friend, Young, get his hands alone.

He held the rear of the police chief stepped about three feet in front of him, but "I was shot while holding my hands up," Smith said the shot penetrated his left hand and also pierced his right thigh.

"It didn't hurt that much, but I thought I was dead," the witness testified.

The defendant also said he saw Young walk in from the front of the office. He said he saw Smith said Young came back by him and "I cried. That don't show me again."

# Police Shoot Ex-Convict Bound Over for Trial In Slayings of Muskogee Couple

By Jim Eiler

MUSKOGEE — Charles Troy Coleman was ordered Friday to stand trial on charges he murdered a Muskogee area couple who police say surprised him while he was burglarizing a rural home.

Coleman, 25, a California ex-convict, was bound over for trial on two charges of first-degree murder by Muskogee County District Judge J. B. Smith. His district court arraignment was set for May 18. He is charged with the slaying of a woman and a child in the preliminary hearing.

Coleman, a native of Muskogee, has a record of about 12 previous criminal convictions in California, investigators said. He was once charged in that state in connection with the slaying of his father, but was acquitted, the investigators said.

District Attorney Mike Targen said he plans to seek the death penalty for Coleman.

The night of the slaying, a 28-gauge, is believed to be the death weapon, said Assistant District Attorney David Edmondson.

Jeannette Ellen Coleman, 21, Coleman's girlfriend and former step-daughter by a common-law marriage, was initially charged with murder in connection with the slaying. She is now charged only as a material witness and is free on her own recognizance. She is charged with the slaying of a woman and a child in the preliminary hearing.

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# Denture Ads Ruling Holds

By Ed Montgomery

A conviction for which says a dental advertising of dental laboratory technician and probers and services was announced Friday by a federal judge in the Oklahoma City federal court.

The court's ruling is a 2-6 opinion written by Judge Tom Brett, Jr. in the opinion of the defendant would imply that persons could do dental services directly to the general public.

The ruling left a \$100 fine against Adams in effect.

Adams was charged in Tulsa County District Court after an indictment returned by the Tulsa County District Attorney. Adams was charged with advertising dental services in Tulsa County District Court after an indictment returned by the Tulsa County District Attorney.

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# Women Firefighters Gain

County law.

Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Phillips are probably the only women firefighters on municipal fire departments, officials said.

Mrs. Miller's name was at the bottom of the list of 17 firefighters in the Tulsa fire department, which includes paid and volunteer firefighters.

Mrs. Miller described the appointment as "a woman firefighter" and said she was one of the few women firefighters in the Tulsa fire department.

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# Bus Circuit Set Up

Downtown workers will use the downtown area to mark by green and yellow ribbons.

The routes will form a loop beginning at Civic Center Park and ending at the downtown area.

A new newspaper, the Tulsa Daily World, will be published in downtown Tulsa, Okla., on Monday, April 23, 1979.

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# Carter Plans Western Trip

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Carter will take a week-long trip to Iowa and California next week, a White House spokesman said Friday.

In Iowa, Carter will address a town meeting in Des Moines and answer questions at a regional news conference.

He will fly to Los Angeles late Friday.