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Father's death causes family to commit suicide

United Press International
From oldest to youngest, the seven children of Immanuel David, age 5 to 14, climbed a stack of chairs on an 11th-floor hotel balcony in Salt Lake City, Utah, Thursday and allowed their mother to give them a loving push.

The woman, distraught over the suicide of her husband two days earlier, followed them, stoically plunging to the concrete roof of the International Dunes Inn coffee shop nine floors down.

A policeman said he thought roofers had tossed a sack of debris off the downtown hotel.

"As it approached the sidewalk I realized it was a body," said Officer Leonard Todd. "Several seconds

later another body came falling down."

In four minutes it was over. Before anyone could react, Rachel David, 38, and six of her children lay dead or dying. A seventh child, Elizabeth, 13, was critically injured and underwent almost 10 hours of surgery.

Police said they believe the woman coaxed her family into mass suicide because she did not know how to exist without her husband — a religious fanatic who kept his family sheltered from the world in \$95-per-day hotel suites. He was being investigated by the FBI for fraud.

David, 39, whose real name was Bruce Longo, a native of Yonkers,

N.Y., was found dead of carbon monoxide poisoning Tuesday, the day after FBI agents had sought to question him. He parked in a borrowed pickup truck in a canyon east of Salt Lake City and ran a hose from the exhaust pipe to the window.

"To them it (the jump) would have been a trip to meet their father again and that's all," said Salt Lake City Police Detective Brent Davis. "He was the center of the universe for that family. Without him there was nothing."

"Witnesses said there were no screams and no cries," the detective said. "The children went quietly. Only the youngest clutched at the balcony railing and that appeared to be a reflex action."

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what's up

Tuesday

DANCE: The Social Dance Club will meet at 7 p.m. in the MSC 212.

FOLKDANCE: The Texas A&M Folkdancers will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the MSC 228.

GROVE: "They Might Be Giants." George C. Scott and a cast of loonies take to the streets in this comedy. Movie begins at 8:45 p.m.

Wednesday

FRISBEE: "The Aces", a professional frisbee team will give a demonstration on the drill field at 11:15 a.m. Their main show will be held at 7:30 p.m. in DeWare Fieldhouse. The MSC Summer Programming Committee is sponsoring this activity.

CAR CLUB: The TAMU Sports Car Club will have a meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Rudder Tower 704.

GROVE: "Prime Cut." Lee Marvin stars in this 1972 movie that features a scene where a Cadillac is totally destroyed by a wheat combine.

Thursday

BAHA'I CLUB: The Baha'i Club will hold a public meeting at 7 p.m. in the MSC 141.

GROVE: "The Stepford Wives." Katherine Ross stars in suspense thriller about a group of men who make their wives perfect...literally. Movie begins at 8:45 p.m.

Elderly Ohio man third-time hobo king

United Press International
BRITT, Iowa — It appeared all "Steamtrain" Maury Graham had to do was raise his cane and grin to win the "King of the Hobos" crown again this year.

Graham, dressed in an old suit and hat with a jacket covered with multicolored railroad patches, competed with 14 other candidates for the honor during the 45th annual National Hobo Convention during the weekend.

There were three fewer hobos in competition than in 1977, but the crowd didn't care.

Graham, who said he is based in Toledo, Ohio, was elected to his third term as the hobo king. He did not give his age. However, officials estimated he was close to 60.

Viewers in the large crowd said Graham was well known by other hobos for his visits to hospitals and children's homes and efforts to try to organize a retirement area in the South for elderly men with no place else to go.

So, although he had to give a

short speech before the select audience applause, Graham was crowd's favorite from the start.

Last year's winner, Sparky, came to the convention, but did not to compete.

Long Looker Mick of Rock City, was re-elected queen of hobos, taking the honor from other hopefuls.

Long Looker, who said she has been attending the convention 10 years, served as queen for first time in 1970 and has been elected several times in the following years.

She told the crowd they should be more concerned about brotherhood. "Don't be suspicious of people," she said, encouraging them to get to know each other like neighbors and friends.

The northern Iowa town of Britt hosted more than 25,000 during festivities, which this year marked Britt's centennial.

The crowd quickly dispersed to traditional mulligan stew Saturday, downing 450 gallons less than 30 minutes.



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