

Chicken restaurant killings unanswered

United Press International
KILGORE — Authorities agree the slayings of five area residents abducted from a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant last month was one of the worst tragedies ever to hit east Texas.

Donald Maxwell, the father of 20-year-old victim David Maxwell, struggles along with the others to comprehend why anyone would want to kill five people.

He said his only relief would come with an arrest, so he devotes a few hours each day to assist police in solving the mystery.

"The type of investigation I've been running is not going to uncover anything," Maxwell told the Tyler Morning Telegraph. "It's more out of desperation than anything else."

Maxwell said he believed his son and Joey Johnson, a friend of David's and a restaurant employee, knew their killers. The killers acted on a pre-meditated plan, Maxwell theorized, and did not shoot the five to prevent being identified as robbers.

"That doesn't make sense," he said. "The way the system is today, if they had gotten caught, they would have gotten their

hands slapped and they would have been put back out on the street.

"They were either very lucky or very smart. I don't know which."

Kilgore police, Texas Rangers and area sheriffs' departments continue to seek clues in connection with the Sept. 23 slayings and robbery in which \$2,000 was stolen.

The bodies of Mary Tyler, 37; Opie Ann Hughes, 39; Maxwell, Johnson, and Monte Landers, all 20, were found on a rural road about 18 miles south of Kilgore. Each had been shot in the head.

About \$50,000 in reward money is being offered by Kilgore merchants and Kentucky Fried Chicken for information leading to the arrests of any suspects in the case, but area lawmen appear to be stumped in their efforts to solve the case.

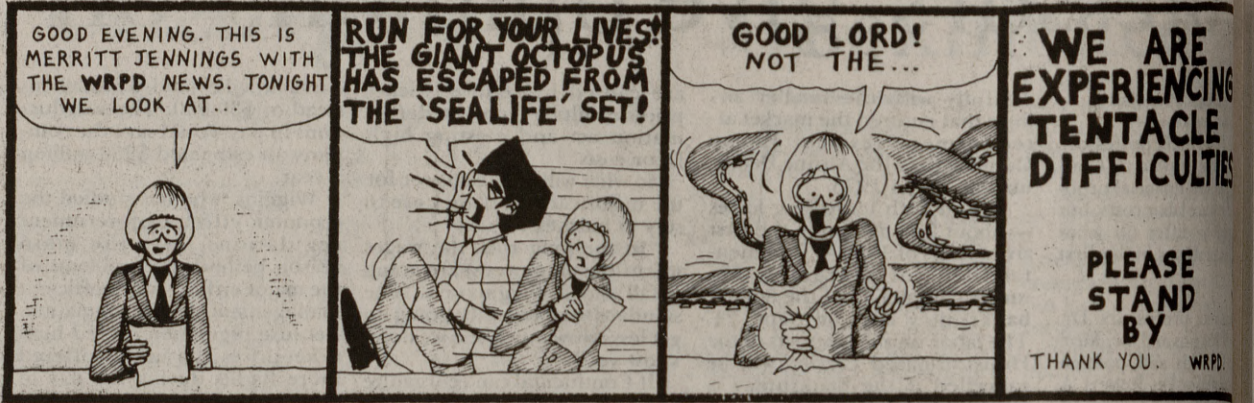
No leads or likely suspects have emerged in more than two weeks of investigation during which time more than 100 people have been interviewed.

Maxwell has helped police look for the personal effects of the victims, who were stripped of identification and jewelry.

"It's extremely frustrating," he said. "You want to do something but you don't know what to do."

Warped

by Scott McCulla



Vitamin overdose dangerous

Victim considers lawsuits

United Press International
DALLAS — A woman flooded by telephone calls about her recovery from a vitamin B-6 overdose that left her helpless said she believes vitamin poisoning is widespread and requires immediate government attention.

"Just on Thursday and Friday, I had about 800 phone calls from people nationwide who've been suffering the same way I did," Diane Caldwell, a Dallas businesswoman, said in a weekend interview.

She said she was about 75 percent recovered from a loss of sensory and motor response that left her unable to care for herself. The condition was caused by massive daily doses of B-6.

Doug Dillon, a Dallas investigator for the Food and Drug Administration confirmed the case. "We certainly are investigating, but I can't say what has

transpired," he said. Dr. Richard Tindall, a neurologist with the University of Texas Health Science Center in Dallas, said Caldwell's case confirmed a report in the New England Journal of Medicine in August connecting huge doses of Vitamin B-6 with losses of feeling, and also indicated the high doses could cause loss of motor function.

"I suspect the problems caused by overdose of B-6 are probably widespread, based on the calls Diane and I have received," Tindall said. He also warned that abuse of the vitamin as a way to rid the body of excess water is potentially dangerous.

"I had a phone call from a woman Thursday who had been taking B-6 to get rid of water during pregnancy," he said. "She asked what damage might be caused to a fetus, if high dos-

ages are responsible for such debilitating effects in adults. I couldn't answer her, but it's a frightening question."

Linda Ohlandt, 38, of Napa, Calif., called Caldwell Saturday after reading about her recovery.

"I've been taking a protein supplement loaded with B-6 for about two months, and I started feeling so bad I had to quit my job," she said. "I've been praying about this, and when I read the article, I felt like it was an answer to my prayers."

She said she discontinued using the supplement after her phone call to Dallas and planned to send the label to Caldwell, who plans to catalogue calls about the vitamin.

Tindall said he did not favor taking B-6 tablets off store shelves, because they are useful in proper dosages.

"You need 1 to 2 milligrams a day of B-6. But health stores are selling it in 1-gram tablets, and the labels on the bottle recommend taking up to three tablets a day. Three tablets is a dose at least 3,000 times what the body needs," he said.

Caldwell said at a physician's recommendation, she began to take up to 15 of the 1-gram tablets a day last spring as a diuretic, and then began to lose feeling in her feet. She said her condition deteriorated to the point where

she could not pick up a pen. "I lost one business day through hell," she said. "I died. I just wish someone been there to tell me what was doing wrong."

She said she was on the last week by the Dallas office of the FDA and expected the agency to issue a warning about dangers of high B-6 doses.

Caldwell said she had been considering lawsuits but met with an attorney, declined to say who the target.

"If the FDA doesn't do anything, I'll be filing a suit against them," she said.

Caldwell said as her condition worsened, she increased dosages of vitamin B-6 until it might help her.

"It's unbelievable the way I went through because of a vitamin that claims it's healthy," she said.

Caldwell said she had been taking the vitamin for many other medications she decided to take only what was prescribed.

She was improving when she learned Dr. Richard Schaumburg, of the School of Medicine in New York, had reported that the feeling was caused by B-6.

"Diane's case confirms Dr. Schaumburg had reported and it raises two public concerns," Tindall said. "I no longer assume that B-6 in large doses. And what happens with B-6 calls into question the assumption that any water-soluble B vitamin is safe in large doses."

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MANDATORY ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
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 Room 225 MSC



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Police Beat

The following incidents reported to the University Department on Friday:

ARREST:
 • A person was arrested on Coke Street for driving with a suspended license. The person was discovered that the person wanted by the Department of Public Safety for three tickets. He was taken to County Jail.

TRESPASSING:
 • Two students were trespassing in the Wofford Hall complex. University Police escorted them from the area.

RECOVERY:
 • University Police recovered a 1963 Buick, parked on Main Drive. The vehicle was reported stolen on Tuesday.