

# Prosecution Continues Battle Against Caril's Claim She Was Held Hostage

By Del Harding  
The prosecution kept nibbling away at Carl Fugate's "hostage" claim as it paraded 19 witnesses to the stand Tuesday at her murder trial in Lancaster District Court.

County Atty. Elmer Scheele apparently is going all out to prove that the 15-year-old girl had various opportunities to escape or to warn persons with whom she was with Charles Starkweather on the winter murder rampage which claimed 10 lives.

Although Scheele said at the start of her trial he planned to call only 29 witnesses, the number called so far has reached 33. And he is not expected to complete his case before Thursday.

**Said Alone Twice**  
—Highlight of Tuesday's testimony.

—Starkweather's half aunt, Mrs. Elsie Neal of 923 South, said that Starkweather came to her home alone Jan. 22 and Jan. 24, both times at about 4 p.m. and stayed until about 6 p.m. This was during the 7-day period (Jan. 21-Jan. 27) which Caril has claimed she was Starkweather's hostage in her home at 924 Belmont.

—Dale Smallcomb of 4020 Worthington and Lee Lamson of 2025 A related that Starkweather and Caril drove into the service station then operated by Smallcomb at 17th and Burchard about 11 a.m. Jan. 27 and had Starkweather's car greased. They testified that Starkweather was out of Caril's sight and hearing for about 10 minutes, including several minutes when he used the rest room. Caril was in the car alone on the grease rack at the time.

—Homer Tate said that Starkweather and Caril drove into the service station to be operated 8 miles south of Lincoln on U.S. 77 about noon Jan. 27. He said Starkweather accompanied him into the grease room to fix a tire and was there about 10 minutes while Caril was out of sight in the restaurant next door.

—"Saw Caril With Gun"  
—Marvin Krueger, an employee of Tate, said that after Starkweather's noon visit to the station he and Caril returned about 5:30 p.m. that evening and bought gas and 32 rifle shells. Krueger said he saw a shotgun and rifle "laid across Caril's lap" on this occasion.  
—Scheele thus continued the

onslaught on the "hostage" claim which was begun Friday. At that time Wyoming lawmen testified Caril told of seeing Starkweather kill 10 persons including her family and of finding 7 newspaper clippings dealing with the murders of her family in the jacket she was wearing when captured.

Caril and her defense attorney, John McArthur, have said Caril accompanied Starkweather only because she believed her family would be released unharmed if she did what Starkweather said. She is charged as Starkweather's accomplice in the murder of Robert Jensen, 17, of Bennet, Jan. 27.

**Rifle Described**  
Also testifying was Rodney Starkweather of 1043 No. 10th, 21-year-old brother of Charles. He said Charles borrowed his 22 rifle Jan. 21 and that when he picked it up

## Nebraska City Youth Shot In Hunt Dies

Lincoln Star Special  
Pawnee City — Pawnee County Attorney Bill Colwell said here Tuesday that he is "not contemplating" filing any charges pending further investigation in the death of a Nebraska City youth following a hunting accident.

Raymond Wallace, a student at Peru State Teachers College, died Tuesday at the Veterans Hospital in Lincoln. He was 19.

The youth was taken from a Beatrice hospital to the VA hospital where an artificial kidney was to be used.

Pawnee County Sheriff Leif Lund Hunzeker said the accident occurred Sunday while Wallace and 4 other Peru College students were hunting south of Burchard.

Hunzeker said another member of the party, Richard Brown of Cape Cod, Mass., told him Wallace was walking in front when a covey of quail was flushed. "I remember bringing my gun up and swinging it to the right," Brown was quoted as saying.

A charge from Brown's 12 gauge shotgun struck Wallace. Wallace is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth B. Wallace of Nebraska City, and a brother Wayne, also of Nebraska City.

Jan. 25 at the Harvey Griggs home at 1179 Furnas it was scratched, had mud in the barrel and the butt plate was gone. (This apparently was the rifle used by Charlie to kill the Marion Bartlett family.)

Rodney said he went to the Bartlett home at 924 Belmont Jan. 22 in an attempt to find Charlie and get his gun back. But he said Caril came to the door and told him she had not seen Charlie and did not know anything about the rifle.

Rodney said he and Caril's brother-in-law, Robert Von Busch, returned to the home Jan. 25 again seeking Charlie and were told the Bartlett family was sick and were refused admittance, he said. He and Von Busch then went to the Police Dept. and requested they look into the matter.

**Officer Testifies**

Police Cruiser Officer Frank Soukup took the stand and said he and his partner, officer Donald Kahler, went to the Bartlett home that evening and were met at the door by Caril. He said Caril, appearing as though she had been asleep and dressed in a nightdress, told them the family had the flu.

Soukup said Caril related she had refused to let Von Busch in because he had a small child and she was afraid the baby might catch the flu from him. Caril, he added, said that the Bartletts didn't get along well with Von Busch and that he was probably just trying to cause trouble.

Soukup said he was sure from the way she talked she was telling the truth so he and Kahler left.

**Left Car, Rifle**

Mrs. Rose Griggs of 1179 Furnas testified Starkweather came to her home Jan. 21 and asked to leave his car there for a few days. She said he returned alone Jan. 25 and left Rodney's rifle which Rodney later picked up.

Mrs. Griggs said Starkweather, this time accompanied by Caril, came again Jan. 27 and after fixing a flat tire drove off in Starkweather's car.

Mrs. William Yordy of 720 Nance, long-time friend of the Bartletts, told of going to the Bartlett home about 6:30 on 7 p.m. Jan. 23 to buy eggs. (The Bartletts reported

ly were in the habit of purchasing eggs in the country and selling them to her.)

Mrs. Yordy said Caril, dressed in a housecoat and appearing as though she had been asleep, answered the door and said the family was sick with flu and that there would be no eggs that week.

Other witnesses who took the stand Tuesday and a brief summary of their testimony: Mrs. Blanchard Anderson of 306 27th said she found the C. Lauer Ward dog and named the dog "Jan. 28 and a woman answered the door and said she was Mrs. Ward but did not know if it was the kind housekeeper, Lillian Pender. She said she again phoned the Ward home on Jan. 28 and a "young voice" answered and reported Mrs. Ward was asleep.

Dep. Sheriff Robert Anderson, Lincoln identified several bullets as those fired from Jensen's body following an autopsy at a Lincoln hospital.

Asst. Police Chief Eugene Matzka, Lincoln identified Jensen's high school jacket as the one he found in the Ward home Jan. 29. He said Wyoming lawmen gave him two 22 rifles and a .410 shotgun which reportedly were taken from Jensen when Starkweather was captured, and also said he was shown a small address "for use only" by them. On cross-examination by McArthur he said two police detectives entered the Bartlett home with Mrs. Pender, Mrs. Bartlett's mother. He said Mrs. Pender directed after a search that the home appeared normal. (The Bartlett home was found later that day in the outbuildings behind the home.)

Sheriff Merle Kernrup, Lincoln said he packaged and mailed the rifles and shotgun found with Starkweather about 22 bullet fragments taken from Jensen's body to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Washington, D. C., laboratory.

Robert Zimmerman, FBI technician said the 22 bullet fragments from Jensen's body sent him were fired from a .22 Remington-Union Metallic Cartridge Co. Meyer farm) also sent him for testing. He said the rifle was a Remington-Union .22 Remington-Union No. 270 while on her lunch hour. She said she saw Merion Bartlett about 1:15 p.m. Jan. 21 at a grocery store on No. 27th while on her lunch hour. She said she saw Merion Bartlett about 1:15 p.m. Jan. 21 at a grocery store on No. 27th while on her lunch hour. She said she saw Merion Bartlett about 1:15 p.m. Jan. 21 at a grocery store on No. 27th while on her lunch hour.

Dwain Hutson, operator of Hutson's Grocery at 1122 Belmont said Starkweather came into his store Jan. 28 or Jan. 29 and used the phone (apparently to call Watson Bros.) but he did not know who he called or what was said. He said Starkweather came in the store alone Jan. 28 and again used the phone. He found during a search of the storm cellar area where Jensen was shot.

Louis Meyer, Bennet brother of slain Sheriff Meyer, he said upon searching his brother's home Jan. 28 he found a 22 Remington rifle and an undetermined amount of money had been stolen.

Sally Patrician Vernon O'Neal, Lincoln-completed testimony he started Friday. He said he searched the trunk of Starkweather's car where it was found stuck in the Meyer farm lane and found tools and a spare tire and wheels. He said he and State Highway Dept. employee Leo Schwenke searched the trunk near Cherry Jan. 28 and found several more of Jensen's school papers. (Schwenke had found Jensen's books and some papers Jan. 28 apparently where they had been thrown by Starkweather or Caril.)

**Long, Long Ago**

London (AP) — The heart of London, the Natural History Museum reports, was home to hippopotami 100,000 years ago. The conclusion resulted from a study of hippo remains dug up during recent excavations in Trafalgar Square.

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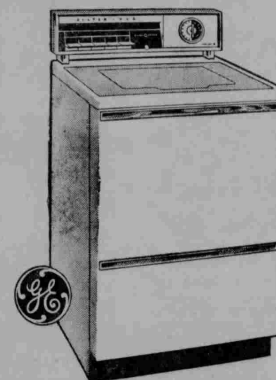
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