

DELOZIER, WILLIAM RALPH
January 4, 1940-October 20, 1956

Billy Delozier, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Delozier was killed instantly about 11 p.m. on Saturday night of last week when the car which he and his four companions were riding, hit the 25 mile city limit speed sign just east of the Forster Lumber company when out of control. The car traveled some 443 feet, hit the city and railroad signs and rolled one and one-half times, finally landing in the bottom of the creek bed just north of the bridge.

Most seriously injured of the other four boys was James Cozad who suffered a cracked sacroiliac, cuts, head lacerations and multiple bruises. He is expected to be in a cast for quite some time.

Milton Edmiston received a broken collar bone and John English, the driver of the car had a badly cut left ear and bruises. Bill Baker, the only one of the occupants who was not thrown clear of the car was uninjured and suffered only from shock.

The boys were heading west into town at the time of the accident and Bill Baker was the only one able to walk to the depot and call for aid.

Three of the occupants were high school students and the other two graduated last spring with the class of 1956. John English, 18, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank English; James Cozad, 17 is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Art Cozad. Billy Delozier 16, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Delozier. Milton Edmiston 18, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Edmiston and Bill Baker 18, is the son of Ralph Baker.

Billy was a junior in Wheatland high school and one of their top all-around athletes. He weighted only 135 pounds yet was the key man in the Wheatland high school backfield: he lettered as a freshman and sophomore when he was just a little fellow compared to his opponents, and performed equally well in basketball, track and softball. Billy was what is called a "natural" athlete and was might efficient for his size.

Services were held for William Ralph Delozier on Tuesday of this week at the Christian church in Wheatland with Floyd Hopper officiating. The entire high school was dismissed for the services.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Delozier, a brother Robert and a sister Shirley and his grandfather, Ralph Baker of Wheatland. He was born January 4, 1940 and resided in Lingle prior to moving to Wheatland some 12 years ago. He was employed part time by the O.P. Skaggs store and was affiliated with the DeMolay and the Christian church.

Pallbearers at his services were his teammates: Larry Habel, Billy Hayden, Ronnie Davis, Larry Ashenurst, Benny Wilson and James Stebar.