

Gustave Oberg

Gustave Oberg, 89, of Irving died Monday, Aug. 1, at an Irving nursing home.

Arrangements are pending in Tinley Park, Ill. Local arrangements are with Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home.

4 Aug 1994
IN P3A

Janet O'Donnell

Janet O'Donnell, 59, of Irving died April 1 at her home.

Mrs. O'Donnell was born May 19, 1934, in Nebraska. She was a homemaker and was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Irving. Mrs. O'Donnell was also a member of Blue Army of Fatima and Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation.

She is survived by her sons, James Patrick O'Donnell and Michael Thomas O'Donnell, both of Irving; daughters, Karen Ann Elliott and Kathryn Lynn Henke, both of Rowlett, and Nancy Jean Darring of Irving; brothers, Thomas Vincent and Richard Vincent of California; and six grandchildren.

A rosary was held Sunday at Holy Family Catholic Church, with funeral mass Monday at the church. The Revs. Melchoir Chladek, Jerry Duesman and David Balas officiated. Burial was at Calvary Hill Cemetery in Dallas. Local arrangements were with Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home.

The family requests memorials to Discalced Carmelite Nuns, 600 Flowers Ave., Dallas, TX 75211

*7 Apr 1994
IN P3A*

*Rodolfo N.
Olivarez*

Rodolfo N. Olivarez, 49, of Irving died Wednesday, June 1.

He was born Feb. 2, 1945, in Edinburg.

He is survived by his wife, Columbia D. Olivarez; sons, Cory,

Rudy and Mike Olivarez; daughters, Dawn Olivarez, Michelle Shiflett, Melissa Olivarez and Sharlene Olivarez; brothers, Andy, Robert and Phillip Olivarez; sister, Dorothy Aguimiga; mother, Aurora Olivarez; special friend, Arlene Keeton; three grandsons and one granddaughter.

Services were held Saturday at St. Luke Catholic Church. Burial was at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

Arrangements were handled by Calvary Funeral Home.

Robert Joseph Oliver

Robert Joseph Oliver, 43, died Sunday, Aug. 14.

Mr. Oliver was born July 13, 1951 in Ennis. He was a member of Fairview Church of Ennis.

Survivors include his mother, Ruth Marie Oliver of Irving; father, R.E. Oliver of Ennis; brothers, Jack, Larry, Freddie Lee, Dickie, Gene and Thomas; sisters, Jessie, Charline, Gearldine and Ima Gene; nieces, Kim Baker, Katrina Marie and Terrie Jean; and nephews, Rickie Sain, Rickie Oliver, Bryan Eastman, Dustin Oliver and Jeremiah Oliver.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Jerry Wayne Oliver, in 1993.

A private memorial service was held last week in Irving.

25 Aug 1994
IN P3A

Frances Olson

Frances Olson, 66, of Irving died Thursday, March 24, at her home.

Mrs. Olson was born March 9, 1928, in Bells Hill, Scotland. She was employed as a school teacher.

Survivors include her husband, Carl Olson of Irving; son and daughter-in-law, Keith and Rhonda Olson of Highland Village; daughters, Karen Olson of McKinney; daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Ed Grochowski of Nashville, Tenn.; sister and brother-in-law, Lena and Tom Holmes of Scotland; sister-in-law, Elsa Neumon of New Mexico; and four grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Friday, March 25, with Chaplain Gene Norman officiating. Burial will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Veterans National Cemetery in Santa Fe, N.M.

Local arrangements were handled by Chism-Smith Funeral Home.

27 Mar 1994
IN P3A

Two arrested in fatal shooting at pool hall

By **LIZABETH CARDENAS**

News Staff Writer

OLVERA

Two 19-year-old Farmers Branch men are in custody for the Nov. 13 shooting death of Ismael Olvera at Nhung Billiards and Games, 1716 E. Irving Blvd., police said.

Victor Manuel Cruz, currently at the Dallas County jail, was arrested by Dallas police Monday for an unrelated crime. His bail has been set at \$100,000. Leonel Obdulio Castro, arrested Friday, is in the Irving city jail, and his bail was set at \$50,000.

Cruz was jailed Monday morning after the Dallas Police Department's gang unit arrested him for aggravated assault in connection with a separate shooting. Cruz was out on bond at the time for three separate Dallas burglaries.

Irving police were led to Cruz during their investigation when witnesses from the pool hall shooting scene, 1716 E. Irving Blvd., told detectives that the main suspect had been arrested in Dallas, said Capt. Travis Hall, head of the criminal investigations division.

Castro's arrest took place at 11 a.m. Friday at R.L. Turner High School in Carrollton, where he is a student, said IPD Detective Harold Renfroe. While police believe Cruz is a Dallas gang member, they think Castro is not, Hall said.

While police estimate 10 to 15 individuals were involved in the shooting, only some were gang members, Hall said.

"Cruz is an alien from El Salvador, but I don't know his status," Hall said. "We referred his case to immigration, and I'm sure they'll put a hold on him. If he is convicted of any of these crimes, he will serve his time in the penitentiary, and the day he is released he will probably be deported."

"Supposedly, Castro pulled

once, and then he gave the gun to Cruz. The victim then started begging for his life, and then Cruz shot him in the head several times," Hall said. "We've talked to witnesses to sort out what really happened."

Police do not plan on making any more arrests at this time, and they believe only one gun was involved, although they have not recovered the murder weapon, Renfroe said.

The fight broke out at 2:06 a.m. after a 14-year-old bumped into Olvera. The 14-year-old is the younger brother of a member of the group of Hispanic men involved in the altercation, police said.

The group, ranging in age from 18-25, started teaming up on Olvera, his brother-in-law and a friend, beating and hitting the victims with pool cues, police said.

After the brother of the owner of Nhung Billiards and Games fired one round from his 9mm handgun into the ceiling, the suspects dragged the victims outside, where they continued to beat them, Renfroe said.

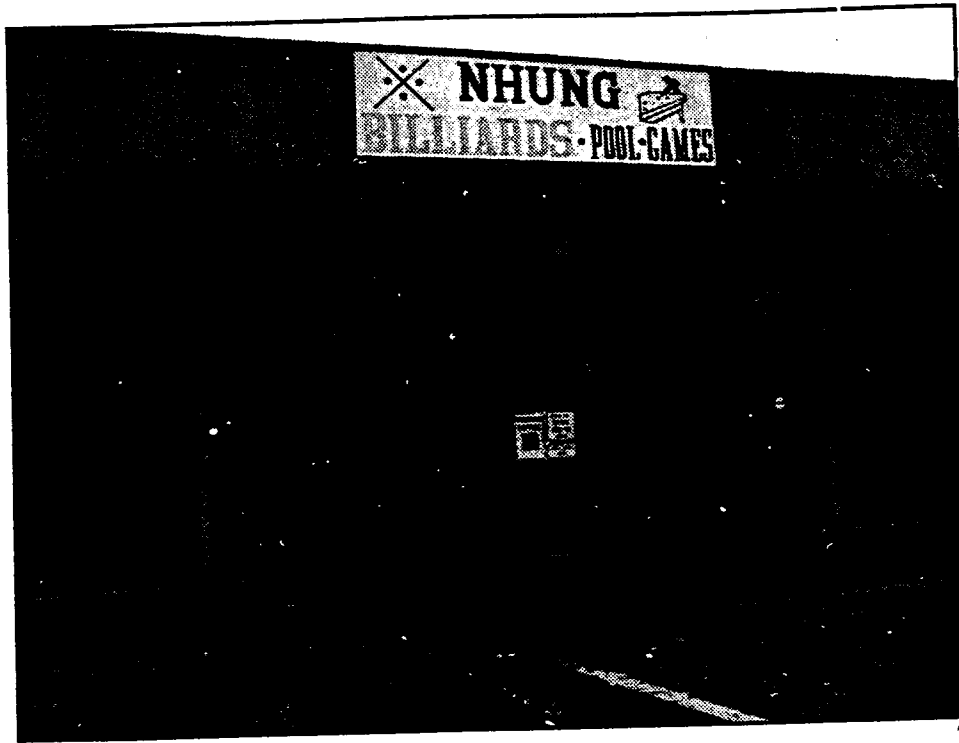
The incident marks the second homicide in the past three months at Nhung Billiards and Games. On Aug. 28 at 1:08 a.m., Sophy Kem, 19, of Dallas, was fatally shot after two rival Asian gangs got into a fight at the pool hall. A 16-year-old girl was also shot, and a 14-year-old boy was struck in the face with a pistol.

A charge of investigation of juvenile delinquency for the crime of murder was filed in September against a 14-year-old boy in Kem's death.

Irving police are currently questioning whether Nhung Billiards and Games should remain open. Police officials plan to review the establishment's history and discuss the situation with the state attorney general's of-

20 Nov 1994
IN P3A

OLVERA



RON BASELICE/Irving News

Nhung Billiards and Games, 1716 E. Irving Blvd., has recently been the scene of two murders involving multiple gunmen — the latest on Sunday at 2:06 a.m., when Ismael Olvera, 19, of Dallas, was beaten and shot several times.

17 Nov 1994
IN P1

OLVERA

Slaying marks second in 3 months at pool hall

Irving police explore ways to shut down scene of multiple shootings

By LIZABETH CARDENAS
News Staff Writer

Faced with their second homicide investigation at an east Irving pool hall in three months, police officials are pursuing ways to shut the operation down, including enlisting the state attorney general's help.

Nhung Billiards and Games, 1716 E. Irving Blvd., has recently been the scene of two murders involving multiple gunmen — the lat-

est on Sunday at 2:06 a.m., when Ismael Olvera, 19, of Dallas, was beaten and shot several times in a fight with about 10 to 15 other Hispanic men. His brother-in-law and a friend also were beaten during the confrontation.

On Aug. 28, 19-year-old Sophy Kem of Dallas also was shot to death after two rival Asian gangs got into a fight. A 16-year-old girl also sustained gunshot wounds

See SLAYING, page 2A

Area merchants fear for safety; hope operation stops or relocates

By VANISHA DESAI
News Staff Writer

When Trinh Hoa opened his family-owned restaurant a year and a half ago in far east Irving, he was hoping for good business and a safe environment for himself, his wife and two daughters.

Lately, his hopes — and the hopes of some other store owners in the shopping strip on East Irving Boulevard — have been dashed.

The reason: fatal shootings in the parking lot of a nearby pool hall. Two of them in the last three months.

The first struck in late August after midnight. Police said it happened after members of two rival Asian gangs began fighting at Nhung Billiards and Games, just three doors down from Trinh's restaurant, Cam-Ranh. A 19-year-old was killed. Two others — a 17-year-old and a 14-year-old — were injured.

Another 19-year-old was killed by gunfire early Sunday just outside the pool hall. Police said it happened after two groups of peo-

See MERCHANTS, page 2

See next page



Hoa, owner of a nearby restaurant, worries that the police will continue at Nhung Billiards unless something changes soon.

17 Nov 1994
IN PIA

Merchants: Fear for safety near pool hall

Continued from page 1A

while a 14-year-old boy was struck in the face with a pistol.

Police officials acknowledge they are seriously concerned about violence at the pool center. Both slayings involved multiple gunmen and at least one, Kem's, involved a gang dispute.

"We'll be reviewing what the police department can do," said Capt. Travis Hall, head of the criminal investigations division, who said many other questions will be asked, such as "is it something the management is doing up there to create this environment?"

The facility has had its share of problems. In addition to the violence, two separate gambling charges have been lodged by police during the last three years. One was filed in 1991, the other in 1993 against former owner Hoa Van Nguyen.

In October of 1991 Nguyen was charged with gambling promotion, then a felony, for accepting bets on professional football games, said IPD Investigator David Wilson. Later, in September 1993, Nguyen was charged with possession of a gambling device, at that time a Class A misdemeanor, for running two poker machines at the site, Wilson said.

An employee of Nhung Billiards and Games said Nguyen had turned over ownership during the last year. He refused to disclose the present owner's name. But according to city tax records, the new owner, as of February 1994, is Nghia Truong Hieu. The new owner has failed to respond to *The Irving News's* request for a comment.

As part of the follow-up investigation to the latest homicide, detectives also are trying to determine for certain who the new legal owner is.

Police officials will be consulting with other legal experts about various measures they might be able to take. The operation's problems do not fall specifically within the enforcement realm of the city's Community Action Team. That team takes aggressive code enforcement measures — including closures — against private properties with structural deficiencies that are magnets for crime and other safety concerns. The pool hall, however, is apparently meeting structural codes.

As a result, the problem may also fall under the state attorney general's jurisdiction. Hall said police plan to consult with representatives of that office soon.

"There's a statute in the civil state law that deals with violations in selling alcohol, gambling, prostitution and weapons," Hall said. "Not all of that is going on, but we're going to research whether all the homicides and assaults that have taken place there fall under that category. We want to see if the attorney general can file a civil suit against the place for being a public nuisance in order to shut it down."

Police are all too familiar with problems at pool halls, which tend to attract drunks and fighters, Hall said. But in this case, investigators are becoming more alarmed for the community's safety. Hall said. "Does the pool hall even need to be open at 2 in the morning?" Hall said. "How we're going to solve this problem, I don't know. Whether we close the place down or just increase the police presence there has not been determined yet. But, we have shut down pool halls before."

Other concerns the police have about the facility is its propensity to draw gangs and other people from neighboring cities. The last

two homicide victims were from Dallas.

"We can't keep them from coming, but we need to find out what attracts them to Irving," Hall said. "Maybe it's not enough regulation of the pool halls here. The people in the incident on Sunday had apparently been in the pool hall before."

In the August shooting, both groups involved were gang members, mostly juveniles. In the Sunday incident, police are working under the assumption the group of Hispanic men were probably gang members, although they are not certain, Hall said. The victims in the Sunday shooting, however, were definitely not gang members, he said.

"Witnesses at the scene said the suspects had a gang look, and they all looked the same, with the same type of appearance," said IPD Detective Harold Renfro. "But, we don't have anything at this time that proves they were gang members."

Charges of juvenile delinquency for the crime of murder were filed in September against a 14-year-old boy in Kem's death. No arrests have been made in the Olvera homicide, but police are following up on suspects who might be responsible, Renfro said.

According to police, a group of Hispanics, ranging in age from 18 to 25, "picked a fight" with Olvera and two men who were with him. "It started when one person

bumped into another person," Renfro said. "Then the guys who came into the place together, teamed up on the victims."

Hall said at one point the assailants were even hitting the victims with pool cues. The brother of the owner of Nhung's Billiards and Games then shot one round from his 9 mm handgun into the ceiling, Renfro said.

"The suspects dragged them outside and continued to beat them outside the establishment," Hall said. "Then, one of the suspects put a gun to Olvera's head and shot once. Some of the others came over and shot him several times. There was at least one shooter and as many as three, and there were as many as three guns."

Olvera was scrambling to get away when he was shot, Renfro said. No guns were recovered from the scene, and police are still not certain what type of gun or guns were involved.

See next page

17 Nov 1994
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Second slaying: Prompts police to seek attorney general help

Continued from page 1A

ple fought at Nhung Billiards.

The pool hall opens at 3 p.m. seven days a week. It remains open until 1 a.m. Monday through Friday and until 3 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, according to its employees. Area merchants said they considered themselves lucky because the incidents occurred after normal business hours.

Still, merchants say they are shocked. And scared.

They add that they are tired of opening their shops some mornings to a parking lot littered with beer cans and other debris — sometimes glass from broken windows. Their businesses are hurting, because of such violent incidents, they said.

Kien Nguyen, owner of a hair salon four doors down from Nhung Billiards, said that he has noticed a change in his business's atmosphere since the first pool hall-related homicide there in August.

"When I opened this business (six months ago), I wanted to earn some money. After (the murder) happened, business became slower than regular," he said.

Trinh agreed: "It makes our customers not want to come. Usu-

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— Capt. Travis Hall, head of criminal investigations

ally, we have to close sooner than we want on Friday and Saturday nights.

"I don't want things like this to happen anymore. If this business (Nhung Billiards) keeps open, terrible things will continue."

The pool hall and the shops are located on property owned by Haber Fabrics Corp., which houses its facility on one end of the shopping strip. The pool hall is adjacent to the fabric business.

A representative of Haber Corp., who asked to remain anonymous, said he had spoken with the owner of Nhung Billiards about

hiring off-duty police officers to patrol the pool hall on weekends, or face possible closure. The Haber spokesman said he had received a "very positive response."

The spokesman said his two main concerns with the pool hall's operation were the lack of security and the trash generated by its patrons.

Attempts to reach the pool hall's owner were unsuccessful. According to city tax records, the new owner, as of February 1994, is Nghia Truong Hieu.

Merchants said that they did not directly blame the owner for the

two shootings, but hoped he would consider relocating his facility to keep such incidents from happening near their stores.

Current city policy allows city officials to shut down a business because of structural and safety defects. But the city may not take such measures simply because violent incidents have occurred on a particular property, according to assistant city attorney Charles Anderson.

"If the proprietor of the establishment is breaking the law, and we can prove that, then we can take action accordingly," Anderson said. "If the proprietor of the business is not (breaking the law), we're kind of stuck."

However, he said, the city does have an arm to closely monitor such establishments if repeated incidents occur.

City Councilwoman Sharon Barbosa agreed: "Are these problems occurring because there is something wrong with the facility, or is it because of the actions of persons who happen to be there?"

"When you have a place where there is a recurring situation, it is part of police policy to go in there and monitor that place more extensively," she said.

Merchants: Fear for safety near pool hall

Continued from page 1A

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17 Nov 1994
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Jerry L. O'Neal

Jerry L. O'Neal, 60, of Irving died Saturday, May 21.

Mr. O'Neal was born Feb. 5, 1934, in Midlothian. He was a retired materials coordinator with Texas Instruments.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy O'Neal of Irving; daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Terry Seale of Irving; brothers, John O'Neal of Garland, Gilbert O'Neal of Mesquite and Bobby O'Neal of Dallas; mother-in-law, Florence Garrett of Irving; and grandchildren, Tori Seale, Tonya Seale and Tyler Seale.

He was preceded in death by his son, David O'Neal.

Services were Tuesday, May 24, at Brown's Memorial Chapel, with the Rev. Wallace Philpot officiating. Burial followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens. Arrangements were with Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

26 May 1994
IN P3A

Roy Lee Osborne

Roy Lee Osborne of Irving died Friday, June 17.

Mr. Osborne was a member of the Big D Jamboree, a one-time guest on The Grand Olé Opry and a minister for 30 years.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Osborne of Irving; sons, David Osborne of Tucson, Ariz., and Eric Osborne of Irving; brother, Bill Watson; sisters, Linda Lindsey, Paulette Herschner of Irving, and Dena Bonner of Eustace; mother, Doreen Watson of Irving; aunts, Melba Brickly and Johnnie Crow; and cousin, Charles David Gardner.

He was preceded in death by his father, J.D. Osborne; and son, Roy Osborne Jr.

Memorial services will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 23, at Kingdom Hall, with Billy Deaton officiating. Arrangements are with Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

23 June 1994
IN P3A

Betty Jo Overall

Betty Jo Overall, 62, of Irving died Thursday, July 14, at The Irving Hospital.

She was born Sept. 17, 1931, in Kaufman County. She worked as a cashier with 7-11 and Stop-N-Go.

Survivors include her son, Wayne Overall of Irving; daughters, Margaret Carroll and Shirley Earley of Irving; eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, several cousins and other relatives.

A graveside service is scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens, with the Rev. Archie Sims officiating.

Arrangements are being handled by Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home.

17 July 1994
IN P3A

D.W. Overstreet

D.W. "Dewey" Overstreet, 83, of Irving died Monday, June 20, in Irving.

He was born July 16, 1910, in Oklahoma.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy Overstreet of Irving; sons, David Overstreet of Norco, Calif., Michael Overstreet of Grand Prairie, Tommy Overstreet of Irving, Eugene Overstreet of Cleveland, Ohio, and Henry H. Clover III of Bossier City, La.; daughters, Betty Bruring

of Plano and Vickie Lynn Clover of Sulpher Springs; 19 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and several nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were held Wednesday at Furneaux Cemetery, with Benjamin Willingham officiating. Arrangements were with Rhoton Funeral Home in Carrollton.

23 June 1994
IN P3A