

Accident Kills 6, Including Former Potsdam Residents

Young, Balanced And Deep; Times Report On Clarkson

(The following article appeared in last Thursday's edition of The New York Times (Nov. 30). Because of the interest of its subject matter, the Courier and Freeman reprints it below in full. —Editor)

By JOSEPH M. SHEEHAN
While what local weather commentators described as snow "flurries" were whitening the frosty air outside, Clarkson Tech's unbeaten hockey squad took the ice today for its final hard workout before week-end home games against Yale and Loyola University of Montreal.

About two added inches of snowfall later, Coach Len Ceglarski was free to discuss his team in the heated office of Clarkson's sports director, unheated arena, sometimes invaded by the sub-zero outside temperatures of this cold-weather belt.

Strong Finish Last Year
No pessimist, Ceglarski came right out and said, "This is the strongest club I've had in my four years here. We have balance and good depth. We retained our goalie, our four regular defensemen and seven of our nine top forwards from last season and we also have a few sophomores who should help."

This news, already heralded by the Golden Knights' consecutive victories over the Ottawa Glebes (13-0), Laval University (11-2) and Michigan State (3-0), constitutes welcome tidings to the hockey-conscious St. Lawrence Valley center.

Clarkson, which has won its full share of hockey honors the past, including Tri-State League titles in 1950-51, 1955-56 (when it went through a twenty-one-game schedule without a defeat) and 1957-58, has had to take backseat to St. Lawrence, its cherished Valley rival, and Rensselaer Poly the last three years.

Signs of restored vigor began to appear at the end of last season. Off a losing 1953-54 record, its first since 1933-34, the Golden Knights closed with a rush. Victories over Boston University, Boston College and St. Lawrence contributed to a respectable 13-3-1 mark.

Gibbons Heads Returnees
The improvement promises to continue because this is a young team that has not yet attained its full potential. It's too early in the campaign to draw conclusions that the Golden Knights victory over Michigan State could be significant. On the night before and the night after, however, the Spartans defeated St. Lawrence, last year's Eastern champion.

The basis of Clarkson's strength lies in a talented junior class that has supplied nine members of the regular fifteen-man playing squad. Good as sophomores, these young men should be even better now.

The group is headed by Wayne Gibbons, rated the Tri-State League's top goalie last season, and Barry Wagner and Pat Brophy, a pair of sturdy defensemen. It also includes two complete lines. One unit consists of Bert Halliwell, Harold Petersen and John Naimsmith; the other, of Paul Lapointe, Arnold Lawlor and Frank Schmeier. Schmeier started with the Class of '63, but was out



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last year, so technically, he is only a sophomore.

Other leading lights are the alternate senior defense pair of Capt. Jack Graves and Joe Legari and the all-sophomore third line of Roger Purdie, Corbett Adams, and Brian Wilkinson. Another sophomore, John Taylor, and Bob Zhiarelli, a junior, are employed as penalty-killing spare forwards.

All the players named, and a total of nineteen of the twenty-three-man squad, are Canadians, as is one of the team's four student managers. If explanation is needed, the Canadian border is close by and there are large numbers of Canadian boys, ready, willing, able, academically qualified and eligible to play hockey for United States colleges.

Clarkson is looking forward to its appearance in the Eastern College Athletic Conference's first holiday tournament in Madison Square Garden on Dec. 21-22. The school has more than 3,000 New York area alumni who don't often get a close-at-hand chance to see the team in action. This squad promises to be one worth watching.

An interesting program has been planned for the evening, and it is hoped that all licensees within the county will attend.

Anthony Visciglio, former State President of the State Association, and presently a

Director of the National Licensed Beverage Association, will be the guest speaker.

Among the honored guests that evening will be Thomas A. Lewis, Jr., Deputy Commissioner, State Liquor Authority; Robert C. McEwen, (R-Ogdensburg), State Senator; and Vermer M. Ingram (R-Potsdam) State Assemblyman.

The president of the County Association, Anthony Scialise, hopes that there will be a good turnout at this dinner dance, as great plans have been made for an enjoyable evening.

Liquor Dealers Dinner, Dance

The St. Lawrence County Restaurant-Hotel Liquor Dealers Association will celebrate its annual dinner dance for all county licensees on Sunday at the Roman Gardens, Potsdam. The dinner commences at 6 p. m. with a cocktail party with dinner at 7:30 p. m. followed by a dance until 3 a. m.

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Potsdam Elks Sponsoring Christmas Charity Program

The Potsdam Elks Club is again sponsoring its Christmas program of aiding needy families in this area. Families requesting aid should fill out the following application blank and mail it by next Monday.

APPLICATION FOR AID FROM ELKS CHRISTMAS CHARITY PROGRAM

1. NAME: (Print) Father—
Mother—
2. COMPLETE ADDRESS: (Street and No., Route, Road, etc.)
3. DEPENDENTS:
Name Age Relationship
4. NEEDS: Food, Toys, Clothing (articles needed)
Submitted by:
NAME
ADDRESS
RELATIONSHIP

Mail or present to: B. P. O. Elks, Potsdam, N. Y.
Attn.: Chairman Christmas Charity Program

NOTE: Deadline for receiving applications: Monday, Dec. 11. Absolutely no applications to be accepted by telephone. All applications shall be thoroughly but confidentially investigated by members of B. P. O. Elks, Potsdam Lodge.

By CHARLES W. KELLY

Redwood — The death toll has reached six in one of the worst highway accidents in Northern New York history which took place Saturday night at 6:30, two miles south of Redwood.

Three adults and two children were killed in the crash and a third child Linda Kelson, 4, daughter of Robert and Mayfred Kelson, who were both killed in the crash, died shortly before midnight Sunday at the House of the Good Samaritan in Watertown. The Kelson family lived in Potsdam six years ago.

Dead are Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Mayfred) Kelson, both 43; Robert's brother Alfred, 66; Donald, 7 and Linda, 4, both children of Robert Kelson, and George Kelson, 13, a nephew of Robert and Alfred Kelson. George was the son of Joseph Kelson of Gloversville.

Allen Kelson, 5, another child of Robert and Mayfred is still listed as critical in the House of the Good Samaritan.

Barbara Kelson, 11, suffered possible chest and stomach injuries. Elizabeth Kelson, 11, received cuts to the hand and head. Both are at the E. J. Noble Hospital in Alexandria Bay.

Allan and Barbara are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kelson. Elizabeth is the daughter of Joseph Kelson of Gloversville.



TRAGIC MISHAP—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kelson, above, formerly of Potsdam, and four other members of the Kelson family were killed Saturday night, 6:30, when the car shown collided two miles south of Redwood, on Route 37. The top of the Kelson car was sheered off at hood level. The frame of the truck was wrenched from the impact. The nine members of the Kelson family were enroute to Ogdensburg to visit relatives. The picture of the Kelsons was taken a number of years ago.

Courier and Freeman

SECTION TWO

COURIER FREEMAN, POTSDAM, N. Y., THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1961 13

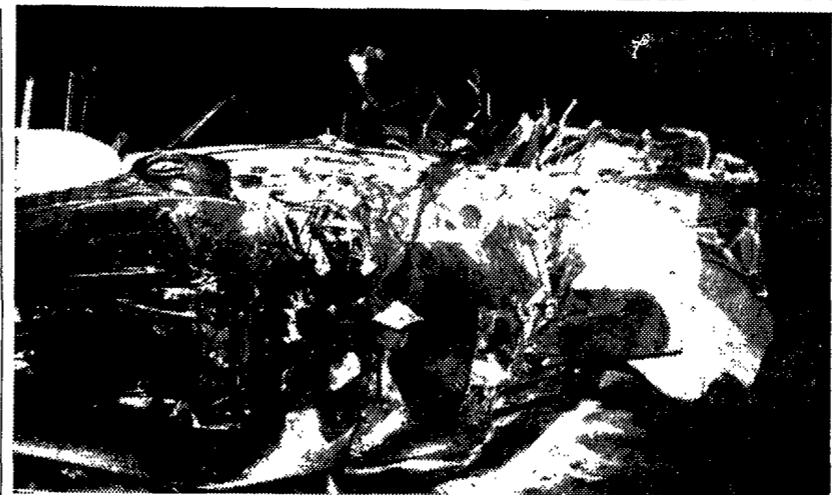
er of Joseph Kelson of Gloversville.

Walter W. Brown, 62, of Tully, driver of the cattle truck, is in the House of the Good Samaritan Hospital suffering from a fractured left leg, and bruises.

Merle L. Dye, 23, also of Tully, a passenger in the truck, was released from the same hospital following treatment for minor injuries.

Enroute To Ogdensburg
According to reports, the Kelson family was enroute to Ogdensburg to visit with Robert and Alfred's mother, Mrs. Millie Buker Kelson, 87, who lives at 112 Gilbert St., but has been staying with a daughter, Mrs. Mary Kiah, 110 Hamilton St.

State Police at Watertown and Alexandria Bay who investigated the accident stated that the 1955 Packard in which the nine members of the Kelson



KELSON FAMILY CAR AFTER MISHAP

family were riding was owned by Alfred, but at the time of the accident, was being driven by Robert Kelson.

State police said the Kelson vehicle was traveling north on Route 37, about two miles south of Redwood in the Town of Theresa, when it suddenly veered into the opposite lane of traffic and into the path of the cattle truck which was proceeding south.

Six Thrown From Car
Troopers said the left front ends of both vehicles collided, throwing six of the occupants of the Kelson car from the vehicle. The vehicles continued on after the collision, ending up about 50 feet apart on the highway.

The six members of the Kelson car all died of fractured and crushed skulls. Dr. Robert Birch of Alexandria Bay, appointed coroner's physician pronounced five of them dead at the scene.

Troopers said the accident may have been caused by a blowout of the left front tire of the Kelson car. No skid marks were noticeable on the highway. State Police at Watertown are continuing the investigation.

Rev. Scouten Affiliates
Funeral services for all of the accident victims were held Tuesday, 2 p. m., at the Nichols Funeral Home, Ogdensburg, with the Rev. Kendall Scouten, Pastor of the First Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will follow in the family plot at the Old DeKalb Cemetery.

Alfred James Kelson, 66, was born in Kemptonville, Ontario,

Jan. 1, 1895, the son of Mrs. the Auburn-Skaneateles Road.

Robert and Alfred Kelson are survived by their mother, four sisters, Mrs. Mary Kiah of this city, Mrs. John (Nellie) Barr of Canton; Mrs. Joseph (Bella) McCord of Lysander, New York and Mrs. Percy (Anna) Newton, Detroit, Mich.; five brothers, Charles of Tahawus, New York, William of Rochester, Gordon of Spencerville, Donald (Jerry) Kelson of Ogdensburg, and Joseph of Gloversville. Several nieces and nephews also survive.

Mrs. Robert (Mayfred Ames) Kelson, was the daughter of the late Charles and Harriet Redmond Ames. She was born in Ogdensburg in August of 1912.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kelson lived in the town of Lisbon for a time. Kelson was employed on a year at the start of the St. Lawrence tenant farmer near Auburn on

the Auburn-Skaneateles Road.

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