



Sketch shows fatal path of Ferrari

The sketch above shows the final path of the out-of-control Ferrari F40 involved in the fatal Cannonball Run crash at a checkpoint 95 km south of Alice Springs on May 24.

The sketch by NT News artist Victor Foo is taken from a plan tendered to the Coroner's Court during the inquest last week.

It shows the Ferrari (coming from the right) beginning to skid on what was described as the loose surface of the lay-by.

Sharp

Senior Constable Michael Potts of the accident investigation unit told the court the Ferrari entered the lay-by at a sharp angle at an estimated 86 km/h and braked heavily.

It slipped left and the driver over-corrected to the right.

The car went back on to the highway, then skidded into the accident scene sideways.

The plan shows the position of vehicles and victims when accident investigators took measurements.

Moffat evidence in Run deaths inquiry



Evidence today ... Allan Moffat outside court last week

By BOB WATT

Former touring car racing champion Allan Moffat is due to give evidence to Darwin Coroners Court when the NT Cannonball Run inquest resumes today.

Mr Moffat, an organiser of the Run, attended all four sitting days of the inquest last week with another organiser, Graham McVean.

It will not be decided until Mr Moffat completes his evidence whether Mr McVean and a third organiser Doug Fraser will be called.

Coroner John Lowndes is expected to continue hearing evidence today and tomorrow with counsel representing the families and organisations giving their addresses on Wednesday.

The driver of the Run entrant passed by the Ferrari just before it

crashed, Porsche driver Johnny Kahlbetzer, is due to give evidence tomorrow.

Also due to give evidence during the next two days are NT Government Cannonball Run committee chairman Barry Chambers and an interstate civil engineer, who will give expert evidence on road surfaces.

Findings

After hearing final addresses, Mr Lowndes is expected to reserve his findings on the cause and manner of death of the four people who died when the Ferrari crashed into a checkpoint 95 km south of Alice Springs on May 24.

The coroner is also expected to make recommendations.

Those who died were the driver Akihiro Kabe, 40, navigator Takeshi Okano, 35, and voluntary marshals Tim Linklater, 22, and Keith Pritchard, 31.

Police blast crime wave

From PI "It was quiet for ages and all of a sudden all hell breaks loose."

He said copy-cat offenders were emulating the crimes of others.

In some cases, the offenders were striking fear into the entire community, Sgt Sullivan said.

He alleged that one man in his 30s had threatened to kill people in the town.

Sgt Sullivan said the man had just completed a four-year prison sentence for grievous bodily harm and arson.

He said the man was out on bail after committing another offence soon after leaving jail.

NT Police Association president Max Hill said the problem was similar to trouble being experienced on Groote Eylandt, in the Territory's east.

He said officials should not respond by sending reinforcements

but should address the question of punishment for offenders.

This could mean the courts imposing stiffer penalties or opting to return the offenders to their communities for punishment.

Sgt Sullivan said repeat offenders were the community's biggest problem.

Exacerbating the situation were community members returning from drinking sessions at nearby Pempinarti or Daly River.

Sgt Sullivan said: "The local club is well controlled but the visitors to Daly River and Pempinarti can arrive back at any time from midnight to 3 am.

"It's becoming a regular thing for us to be tending to trouble into the early hours of the morning."

Port Keats has not been the centre of reported trouble since 300 people were involved in a riot there in December, 1988.

In that incident the local club was ransacked, resulting in damage which cost \$100 000 to repair.

Local community members had blamed the crimes on excessive drinking.

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City post office going fast

From PI around a job like this the better - mostly for safety reasons," Mr Faulkner said.

"There won't be any blasting or anything like that here ... we're just using the excavator to

pick at and pull the lot down and clear it away."

Mr Faulkner warned city dwellers and motorists that tip-trucks would start frequenting the site later this week.

"We'll probably have about

five trucks ... but we hope to have it all done in five or six weeks," he said.

A 140-room, seven-storey hotel, office tower and ground-floor shopping centre is planned for the site.

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HITS THE
SALOON

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POOL TABLES

"MOFF & GROOVE"

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