

COMMERCIAL TRUCKS, TRAILERS

Police target unsafe vehicles

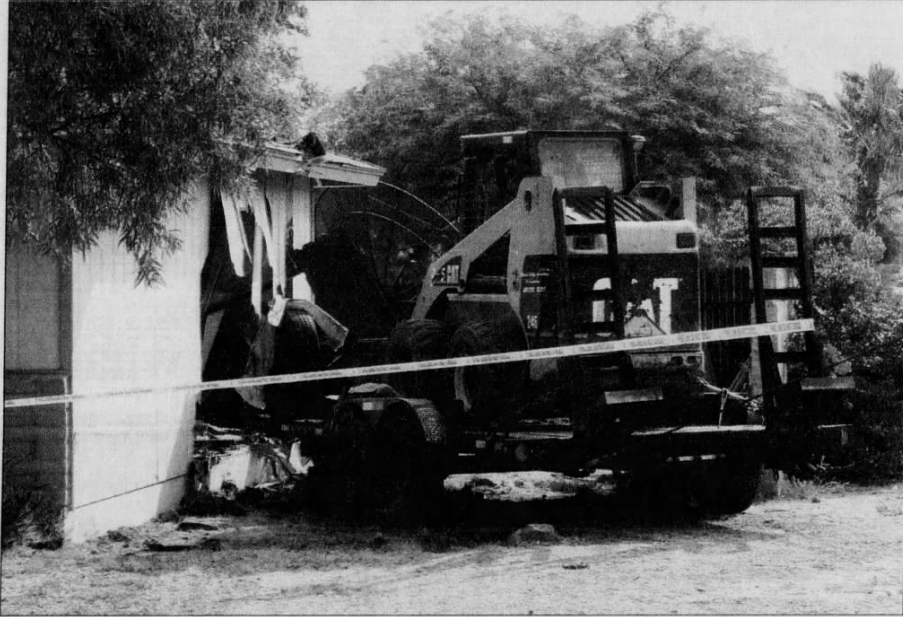


Photo courtesy of the Gilbert Police Department

A 44-year-old Gilbert man was nearly crushed when a front-end loader on a trailer broke loose from a truck.

3 East Valley crashes in 2 weeks underscore hazards

By Josh Kelley
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Three recent crashes in the Gilbert-Queen Creek area have again highlighted the danger that driving unsafe trailers and commercial vehicles can pose to motorists, and even to people sleeping inside houses.

The crashes, which occurred within a two-week period last month, killed a 19-year-old woman, closed Germann Road for hours and badly damaged a house with a man inside narrowly escaping.

In Gilbert, 8-year-old Henry Enrique Bega of Queen Creek died in March after an improperly attached

trailer broke loose from a truck and collided with the car his mother was driving, according to police.

After that fatal accident, Gilbert police said they stepped up enforcement of safety regulations on commercial vehicles and increased efforts to educate truck drivers and owners about regulations.

In January, the Gilbert Police Department increased its number of officers trained to inspect commercial vehicles to nine after five officers completed a two-week state Department of Public Safety training course.

Now, officers continue to

See **CRASHES** page 2

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