

Vehicle crushes four primary school pupils to death

By John Ighodaro

CALABAR—FOUR primary school children of the same family have lost their lives as a result of an auto accident at Abini in Biase local government area of Cross River State.

The fifth child, Ogbodim Ugwuna, who was also involved in the crash is in critical condition at the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital (UCTH).

Vanguard gathered that the four pupils that died are Edwin Enya, Sunday Enya, Fidelis Emmanuel and Lillian Ikwa Qurai.

According to a family source, the children, offsprings of two sisters, were going to the farm when the incident occurred.

A vehicle was said to have hit the children on that fateful day and while four of them died, one is however lying

unconscious in the hospital.

Although *Vanguard* reliably gathered that the driver of the vehicle that hit the

kids had been arrested, the State PPRO, Mr. Etim Dickson, could not be reached for comments.

...As flood kills lady in Port Harcourt

By Jimitota Onoyume

PORT HARCOURT—TRAGEDY struck in Port Harcourt last Thursday when a lady reportedly fell into a hole around market junction at Rumuomasi, Rivers State.

An eye witness, Miss Grace Benjamin, told *Vanguard* that the deceased lady was among passengers that alighted from a commercial vehicle due to a heavy traffic situation caused by a heavy down pour in the city.

According to the witness,

as commuters trekked the distance on Aba road to beat the traffic, they got to a point around market junction, Rumuomasi, where flood was submerging vehicles.

"The water got to our waist. I was coming from Calabar with my bag on my head. I avoided the pedestrian lane for fear that I could fall into the gutter. We were all coming in groups. This particular lady was in front of me; she was looking like some one in her 30s.

"Suddenly, she fell into one of the channels. This caused us to raise alarm; people gathered and started searching for her in the thick flood. They even lifted a pole that fell on the road that day thinking she could be trapped underneath it. The whole thing happened at about 5:00pm," said the witness.

She said the lady could not be found after several hours until nightfall when rescuers left the scene out of frustration.

Efforts to get comment from the police on the development failed as the state Police PRO, Mrs. Rita Inoma Abbey, could not be reached on her phone even when it rang severally.

At press time it could not be confirmed if her corpse had been found, but a source who lives close to the scene of the incident told *Vanguard* yesterday that nothing concrete had been heard about the lady.

Delta students laud Uduaghan on bursary, scholarship scheme

By Emma Amaize

WARRI—NATIONAL Association of Delta State Students (NADESS-TU) has commended Governor Emmanuel Uduaghan for paying bursary and approving overseas scholarships for students of the state origin since 2007.

The Association was particularly happy that the governor recently released N2 million to a NADESSTUITE, Delta State student of the University of Jos who was involved in a gas explosion, to cater for his medical expenses in Egypt where he is billed to receive treatment.

In a statement signed by the National President and

Acting National Secretary, Comrades Oboidhe Benedith and Jacob O. respectively, the association said it was delighted by the "tremendous performance in office by Governor Uduaghan in the over two years of stay in office.

"Over the last two years, Uduaghan has continually released over N400 million for the payment of the Students Assistance Scheme (SAS), commonly known as bursary, annually for Delta State students studying in tertiary institutions to cushion their financial stresses in school, speak less of the other numerous scholarship schemes undertaken by his administration.