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Victims Of Horse Carriage Crash Speaks

The Three Passengers All Visiting From Nebraska

by Hena Daniels, CBS Atlanta News Reporter

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ATLANTA -- CBS Atlanta spoke to one of the victims of a carriage crash.

Andrea Rice and her two friends Carol Knieriem and Marilyn Campain were in Atlanta for a conference last week. They told CBS Atlanta they decided to take scenic horse drawn carriage ride through downtown on Friday when everything changed.

"I don't remember seeing anything but I remember flying," said Rice. "I heard tires squealing and engines revving. I saw a black car flying towards us."

Police say a black Lexus, driven by 28-year-old Gerald Odom, plowed into the carriage and the next thing Rice remembers is she and her friends were thrown on to the ground. "It happened so quickly. I couldn't say 'oh my goodness' or 'watch out,'" said Rice. Rice is suffering from a concussion and has staples in her head, along with several bruises and lacerations and torn muscles in her right arm. Campain is currently in critical condition suffering from a broken neck. Knieriem was discharged with a smashed wrist and several cracked teeth. All three were treated at Grady Hospital.

Police have charged Odom with following too closely, driving on a suspended license, and having an open container. Witnesses say Odom may have been racing with another car. "The suspended license and alcohol was frustrating and of course him choosing to do this. I mean the streets were packed," said Rice.