

EMS crew comes to the rescue twice

By Loretta S. Neal
Record staff writer

Six-year-old Daryl Sutton of Cayce was entangled in an episode recently that could have been right out of a "Leave It To Beaver" show.

The scene: Beaver borrows Wally's new bicycle without asking, and before long, the bike is destroyed, leaving Beaver no choice but to tell his brother what has happened.

Daryl may be too young to know the antics of young Beaver, but a couple of weeks ago when he had an accident on his brother John's "like new" bicycle, which he had borrowed without permission, "the Beav" could have related.

Luckily for Daryl, the Lexington County Emergency Medical Service related, too, coming to the rescue in more ways than one.

Daryl took John's bicycle for a ride around the block, but in the process got his leg caught between the pedal crank and the bike's frame.

To the rescue came EMS personnel, who used the Hurst tool, or "jaws-of-life," to free his leg. But in the process, they ruined the bike.

At least two other tools were used in the rescue effort, but they failed to cut the cast-steel frame.

Sympathizing with the boys' loss, 51 county emergency medical

personnel pooled funds to buy John a new bike.

On Wednesday, they delivered a black and gold bicycle — by ambulance, of course — to Daryl, who with a smile on his face turned the shiny, new riding machine over to his 5-year-old brother.

And Daryl vowed, "I will not take his bike again without permission."

The fund-raising effort was headed by Tom Hammond, a paramedic, and David Wilkie, an emergency medical technician, who helped Daryl out of the bicycle. Daryl lives on Allen Street in Cayce with his three brothers and parents, Eddie and Debra Sutton.

Mrs. Sutton said, "I feel good about what they have done. I was surprised."

Hammond and Wilkie had no problem raising the funds, and even got a discount on their purchase from the Knox Abbott Drive K mart department store.

"We had never run up on anything like this before," Hammond said. "We really had to work to get his leg out."

Mike Drennon, operation officer for Lexington County Emergency Medical Service, said, "The good

(See Bike page 6)

(Continued from page 1)

news is they saved the child's life and he will keep his leg. The bad news is he lost his brother's bike.

"They didn't feel any fractures were involved, but there was a fear of the loss of circulation to the leg, and this could be serious if left long enough," said Drennon.

Drennon said because of the position of Daryl's foot, the medical crew had to cut most of the bike away to free it.

"We have no idea how his foot got between the pedal and the frame. I have been with EMS for 19 years, 12 of those years as a street paramedic, and I have never seen anyone's leg

caught in a bike like that," said Drennon.

He said it is not uncommon for the department to lend assistance.

"We do this whenever something comes up and we can help," said Drennon. "Folks who work in this service are community people and are willing to help out."



Tom Hammond, David Wilkie present the new bike