

ACKROYD: Man suspected in death of his stepdaughter

Continued from page 3

bones and a Timex watch.

Despite strong suspicions, it was difficult for investigators to build a trial-worthy case against Ackroyd and his suspected accomplice, Roger Dale Beck.

Ackroyd's alibi was a claim to have been in the area poaching with his friend and co-worker Beck on December 24, 1978. Police interviewed both men and others close to the case repeatedly but were not able to make an immediate arrest.

The Turner case heated up again when Ackroyd came under suspicion in the disappearance of his stepdaughter, 13-year-old Rachanda Pickle in 1990. Rachanda was presumed to have been killed, but despite an extensive search in the area of Hoodoo, Potato Hill and Lost Lake, no body was ever found.

But circumstances had changed for the Turner case, and with new witness testimony in hand, police made an arrest. Ackroyd was speedily found guilty by jury in October of 1993. Beck's trial followed in November 1993.

Key testimony came from Beck's former wife — who had been Ackroyd's high school sweetheart and divorced Beck in 1985.

Brown reported that in the Beck trial, "Pam Beck Ramirez of La Pine sat in the witness chair a few yards from her ex-husband and said Roger Beck had threatened her with the same fate Kaye Jean Turner met in 1978, unless she lied for him... It was fear of Beck that motivated her to lie to police several times in the early years of the Turner investigation, Ramirez declared."

Ramirez's testimony implicated both Beck and Ackroyd in the Turner murder, and she testified that Beck had bragged about the killing several times, especially when drunk.

Linn County sheriff's detectives arrested Ackroyd

in 2013 for the murder of Rachanda Pickle. No information has been released as to what, exactly, led to the arrest 23 years after Rachanda's disappearance.

According to the Eugene *Register Guard*, "recent 'advances in technology' that were not available in 1990 allowed detectives to gain the information that led to Ackroyd being charged with murdering Pickle."

Ackroyd had not yet gone

“...recent ‘advances in technology’ that were not available in 1990 allowed detectives to gain the information that led to Ackroyd being charged with murdering Pickle.”

— *Register Guard*

to trial for that murder at the time of his death.

The Oregon Department of Corrections reported that the 67-year-old Ackroyd was found unresponsive in his cell at approximately 12 a.m., Friday, December 30. He was the sole occupant. Medical staff began life-saving efforts to no avail. He was pronounced dead at 12:23 a.m.

Bend PD reconsidering body cameras

BEND (AP) — Last week's officer-involved shooting in downtown Bend has the police department reconsidering an earlier decision not to purchase body cameras.

Police Chief Jim Porter told *The Bulletin* newspaper the department considered the cameras before, but felt the cost of equipment and other expenses was prohibitive.

Porter said falling prices and the shooting of Michael Jacques have prompted the department to take another look at the viability of cameras that are worn by officers and record their daily activities.

The 31-year-old driver was shot and killed during a traffic stop Friday night. A Bend Police officer pulled him over after receiving reports of him driving erratically in a Dodge Caravan.

The shooting investigation remains active.

Porter said he initially backed away from using body cams because the department didn't have the money for it, and he didn't see the need.

"I did not feel at the time

that we had a culture that needed body cameras," he said. "We weren't getting excessive force complaints; we weren't seeing complaints about officers' attitudes on the street."

Porter said the department set aside \$40,000 during the 2013-14 budget cycle for body cameras, but then the Oregon Legislature passed regulations as to when the cameras could be turned off, and how the data has to be stored and processed. That greatly increased the cost, Porter said.

"Yes, we are looking at them again," Porter said. "There's now much easier software to work with to be able to redact information out of the videos to make it much easier to use."

Porter and Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel declined comment on whether body cam footage would be helpful in the investigation of Jacques' death.

Hummel, a former defense attorney, said he has always been in favor of body cameras.

"Having more evidence is always better," Hummel said.

Ore. attorney general to investigate fatal shooting

BEND (AP) — The Oregon Department of Justice is taking over the investigation of the Dec. 23 shooting by a police officer in downtown Bend.

Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum said Friday that her office will investigate the shooting death of Michael Jacques by an officer.

Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel asked Rosenblum to take the case due to a potential conflict of interest that recently developed.

Months ago, Hummel retained a Bend law firm to represent him in litigation related to injuries he sustained in a car crash.

On Thursday, the same law firm announced they're representing Jacques' family in litigation against the City of Bend for the shooting death.

Lawyers for Jacques family say he was unarmed and still belted in his vehicle when he was killed.

Police have said Jacques was resisting arrest when the shooting occurred.

Italian FOOD
Best in Town!

R SPOT

SATISFY YOUR CRAVING! BEER ON-TAP OR TO-GO!

Tues-Sun
Noon-Midnight

541-549-SPOT (7768)
161 N. Elm St. #A, Sisters

Salon Renaissance

R

Hair's to a Beautiful 2017!

We look forward to serving you this year!

541-588-6611
220 W. Cascade Ave.
Come in, Relax, Enjoy!

WE RESPOND WHEN YOU CALL US.

YOUR LOCAL SISTERS CONTRACTOR FOR:

EARTHWORK - UTILITIES - GRADING
HARDSCAPE - ROCK WALLS
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

BANR ENTERPRISES, LLC

541-549-6977
WWW.BANR.NET
SCOTT@BANR.NET
CCB# 165122

Proud to be 100% locally owned & operated

FOOD 4 LESS

Large organic produce selection
Larger & improved natural selection storewide
Meat cut & ground fresh daily
Huge bulk-foods department
Weekly 10 lbs. or more meat & produce sale
All your favorite local brands & items
Only 20 minutes from Sisters

Located in the Cascade Village Shopping Center, Bend
Open every day, 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Marley 2008-2016

I miss you, Florence

Donations may be made in honor of Marley to the Humane Society of your choice or Furry Friends Foundation of Sisters.