

Man arrested after he removed handgun from scene of Baker City suicide

■ 14-year-old Baker City boy died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound

By Chris Collins
WesCom News Service

A 14-year-old Baker City boy found dead at the skate park near Sam-O Swim Center Wednesday died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff said this morning.

The Baker County Major Crime Team investigated the death of Izah Nicholas

Gonzalez. He was found dead at about 4:30 p.m. at the skate park in east Baker City.

The investigation was delayed because a .45-caliber semi-automatic handgun had been removed from the scene where Izah was found, Shirtcliff said.

Oren Shaile Moore, 20, of Baker City, has been charged with two counts of first-de-

gree theft. Moore is accused of taking the gun from the skate park and selling it.

Shirtcliff said Moore discovered Izah's body and took the gun before reporting the boy's death to people who live near the skate park.

"The District Attorney's Office takes removal of any item from a death scene very seriously as that affects investigations and in this case delayed getting answers to a grieving family," Shirtcliff stated in a press release. "This is a hor-

rible tragedy and the law enforcement community of Baker County extends its condolences to Izah's family at this time."

The investigation into the gun sale is continuing and other charges are pending, Shirtcliff said.

Izah had recently enrolled at Baker High School, a press release issued by the Baker School District Thursday stated. He had been reported as a runaway at about 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Shirtcliff

said. "Principal (Skye) Flanagan is aware of this connection and is following response protocol," the release stated.

A safe room was set up at Baker High School and counselors were on hand at BHS and at the middle school to meet with students throughout the day. Counselors also were available at all district schools to provide service as needed.

"We would ask you to

use care in communication with your child regarding his incident," the press release stated. "In addition, we encourage parents to be sensitive to any disturbances or concerns your child(ren) might express, or any non-verbal signals that your child may be struggling with information surrounding this event.

"Please contact the school if you would like to request extra support for your child during this time."

OREGON IN BRIEF

From wire reports

No suspect named in hit-and-run

HERMISTON —Police are still looking for the suspect in a hit-and-run last week near Hermiston, where the driver of a car ditched the vehicle and ran away.

Oregon State Police Senior Trooper Trish Draz said they have not arrested anyone in connection to the case, and could not confirm any persons of interest yet.

On the morning of Wednesday, Aug. 29, the driver of a silver Suzuki Sidekick was driving north on Diagonal Road when they turned left in front of a Cadillac Escalade traveling south. The Suzuki hit the Cadillac but did not stop, and took off through a gravel area near the Short Stop Circle K parking lot onto Punkin Center Road. The driver left the vehicle next to a field and took off on foot, about half a mile from the scene of the wreck.

Witnesses said the driver was a male, wearing all black or dark clothing, and said he ran from the vehicle and hid in a tree.

Draz said the vehicle had not been reported stolen, and that she did not know whether it belonged to the driver.

Search heats up for missing hiker near Mount Hood

MOUNT HOOD VILLAGE — Authorities say they've found the car of a missing hiker near a Mount Hood ranger station.

KATU-TV reports that 55-year-old Diana Bober, of Gresham, has been missing since Aug. 29. She's described as an avid hiker.

Deputies say her car was discovered near the Zigzag Ranger Station on Saturday, and search and rescue teams with trained dogs were out looking for her on Sunday.

Authorities are also hoping to identify two hikers who dropped off a backpack at the ranger station on Aug. 30.

They believe the backpack is Bober's, and they're hoping the hikers who found it will get in touch and let them know where they found it, to give searchers a better indication of her last known location.

Pedestrian struck, killed by car in Beaverton

BEAVERTON, Ore. — A 27-year-old man was killed after he was hit by a car in Beaverton.

KOIN reports that when authorities arrived, they found the deceased pedestrian. The driver, a 20-year-old woman, is cooperating with the investigation.

According to police, the pedestrian was not in the crosswalk when he was struck and was wearing dark clothing. Authorities said there was no indication the driver was impaired.

Oregon seafood company sues fisherman over hagfish deaths

PORTLAND — An Oregon seafood company is suing a fisherman who it says caused

a power outage that resulted in the deaths of thousands of pounds of hagfish.

KATU-TV reports AA Seafood in Depoe Bay is seeking \$49,000 in damages from the fisherman, claiming his boat struck a power line when he was pulling it out of the water in September 2016.

According to the lawsuit filed in Lincoln County, electricity went out at the company's facility for about six hours, cutting power to equipment that circulated water and controlled temperatures in fish tanks.

The tanks held about 16,400 pounds of hagfish, also known as slime eels. According to the suit, most of the hagfish died because of lacking power to the tank

equipment.

125 pets flown to Oregon from high-kill shelters

SALEM, Ore. — A rescue flight has landed in Oregon carrying 125 pets that were living at high-kill shelters in Oklahoma.

The Statesman Journal reported Monday that the flight was the 16th flight by an organization called Fetch Fido a Flight, which flies animals from those shelters in Oklahoma to Oregon no-kill shelters.

These 108 dogs and 17 cats arrived in Salem over the weekend and will be housed at SafeHaven Humane Society south of Albany.

They will soon be up for adoption.

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