

(Photo by Josephine County Sheriff's Office)

Father, young son dead in single-vehicle wreck

Alcoholic beverage use is seen as a contributing factor in a crash in which a father and toddler died, said Josephine County Sheriff's Office (JCSO).

Dead in the accident on Monday night, Aug. 18 are James Lee Dahl, 25, and his son, 2-year-old Mason James Slawson.

The driver of the 1991 Dodge Caravan that struck a tree head-on in rural Grants Pass is identified as Roy Lee Smith, 59. All three of those in the van are from rural Grants Pass, said JCSO.

Investigators said that the youngster "would have survived the crash had he been in an approved car seat." The child was in the farthest rear seat of the van and "was only secured with a lap belt," reported JCSO.

Smith was wearing a seat

belt; Dahl was not, it added.

A report by detectives said that Smith, who suffered a fractured right leg, was taken to a hospital by American Medical Response. The report further notes that it appears that Smith was westbound on Dutcher Creek Road in the 600 block.

He told officers that he swerved to avoid a wild animal on the road. The van left the roadway and hit a tree.

JCSO added, "In the summer of 2006, Mason Slawson's biological mother, Karlee Christine Slawson, was killed in a car crash on Riverbanks Road. James Dahl was driving the car at the time, and it was reported that Karlee 'jumped' from the moving vehicle."

Oregon State Police investigated that accident, said the sheriff's office.

Republicans state battle vs. sexual text messages

House Republicans announced that they'll introduce 2009 legislation to combat text messaging by sexual predators.

The legislation would strengthen the 2007 "luring" law, which makes it a crime for predators to use the Internet to lure their victims.

"When it comes to catching predators, technology continues to outpace state law," said Rep. Andy Olson (R-Albany). "The Legislature passed an important law in 2007 to crack down on Internet predators, yet the statute doesn't address the use of text messaging for luring."

"We will close this loophole next session, and continue our efforts to protect children."

Digital TVs

(Continued from page 5)

To locate a recycler, see DEQ's E-waste Website at deq.state.or.us/1q/ewaste/resources.htm.

Starting Jan. 1, 2009 Oregonians will be able to recycle their old TVs (as well as desktop computers, portable computers and monitors) for free through the DEQ-administered Oregon Electronics Recycling Program. This program will provide convenient, free electronics recycling in every county, including at least one collection site in every city with a population of 10,000 or more.

For more information on the program, visit deq.state.or.us/1q/electronics.htm.

Until March 31, 2009, households can request up to

two \$40 coupons from the federal government toward the purchase of eligible converter boxes, which cost between \$50 and \$70. Converter boxes are available at consumer electronics retailers nationwide.

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World War II bombing near Brookings recalled

(The bulk of the following was printed in *The Daily Triplicate* in Del Norte County).

During the 1940s, the tensions of war began to reach Del Norte County. Reports and events in the coastal areas made it necessary to protect shores.

In 1941, Japanese submarines off the Mendocino coast torpedoed the General Petroleum Corp. tanker, the S.S. *Emido*. Five men died and 31 survived. The unmanned tanker drifted northward until Christmas Eve and lodged itself against Steamboat Rock off Crescent City.

A portion of the hull was later raised and placed at Beachfront Park in Crescent City in remembrance of the men aboard.

On Sept. 4, 1942, eyewitnesses in Brookings stated that they saw an unidentified aircraft entering the area at the early light of dawn. The craft apparently was 500 feet over a beach when sighted, and there seemed to be no distinguishing marks, according to witnesses.

Later, an employee of the U.S. Forest Service reported that he had seen bomb fragments and a sizable crater. The Associated Press reported that a crater had been found near what is now Mt. Emily, up the Chetco River from Brookings.

The earth was scorched and markings were seen on the fragments of the device that appeared to be Japanese in origin. In and around the crater were a number of fragments of varying size. There were no reported injuries.

(It subsequently has been noted that the float-plane, piloted by Nobuo Fujita, was secured atop a submarine that surfaced off the Oregon coast. Fujita years later donated his family's samurai sword to the Brookings community, and it was displayed at Brookings City Hall in a special case. His coming to the coast aroused strong sentiments, but eventually, as the war was long over, and Japan had lost, the controversy passed.

Additionally, around 1984, Fujita arranged for four Brookings-Harbor High School students to visit Japan at his expense. He also visited the Brookings area at least one other time, besides the time he passed on the heirloom sword in a gesture of

peace.

During WWI, reports of "balloons" were received. These devices were hot air balloons that carried explosives. The weapons would be controlled by equipment that enabled them to float via the jet stream until reaching their target, at which time the balloon would release its explosive device.

Many of these new weapons were seen in the North Coast area of Crescent City. One device had landed in an area where a family reunion was occurring in 1945 in Bly, Ore. When the party-goers went to investigate there was an explosion, and tragic consequences that affected five families.

During the 1940s, these and other events were being reported to the government. In 1943, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported that sources believed the Japanese forces were intending to invade the coastline of Crescent City. As well, a U.S. Coast Guard station at Port Orford was ready to detect and defend if necessary.

Kilsoo K. Haan, a Washington representative reported, "My agents report that 60 percent of the Japanese navy will be thrown into the attempt. They have a fleet of huge submarines about twice the size of the average destroyer. Each of these carry more than 1,500 troops."

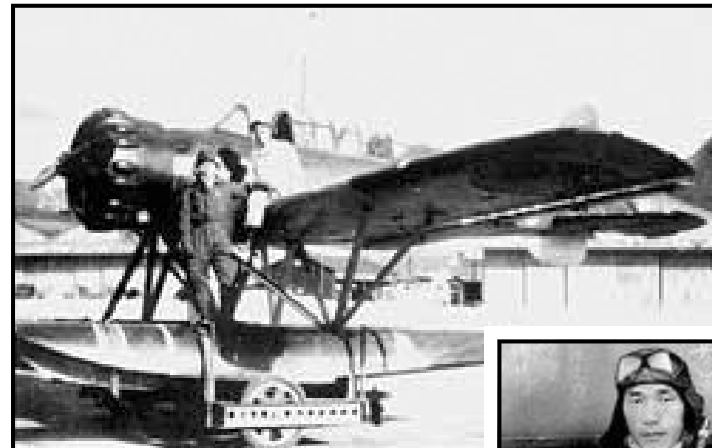
Haan predicted the attack on Pearl Harbor and predicted a possible attack on Crescent City; his sources are reported to be from espionage ops.

Due to all the reports, the expectation was that there would be an investigation of anti-submarine patrols off the Pacific Northwest and an increase in naval and air operations in the area. The military planned to put the Point St. George light station to use. It's approximately 8 miles off the coast from Crescent City.

Training operations on the site were to include robot bombing at targets set up on the sand strips and ocean side of the station.

Arrangements also were made to remove power lines on the south side of the station due to the danger they cause to low-altitude flyers using the airstrip.

Point St. George became a classified naval installation, one of three on the entire West Coast. The station's main pur-



Nobuo Fujita (right) and his Yokosuka E14Y 'Glen' (Photos from Wikipedia)



pose was to intercept radio transmissions from the Japanese. These were often in code called Kana, similar to what we know as Morse Code. The men reported their findings to the U.S. government.

Two additional bases were established in Klamath, Calif. These bases contained radar devices to ensure safety from attack. The buildings were intentionally built to resemble farmhouses to avoid detection from enemy aircraft. The "farm" remains today and is registered as a historic landmark due to the fact that it is the only remaining station of its kind on the West Coast.

During these unsettled years, Crescent City residents also played their part in ensuring safety. Air horns would blare throughout the town when a threat was reported. The citizens would perform "blackouts," turning out all their lights at home and covering windows to confuse any enemy searching for the small town.

Many men of the area also served in the military forces, risking their lives to protect freedom and the community.

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Campus News

Andrew Seidler

Sarah Lawrence College at Yonkers, N.W. awarded a bachelor's degree to Andrew Seidler, son of John & Teri Seidler, of Cave Junction, on May 23, 2008.

Seidler is a graduate of Illinois Valley High School. While at Sarah Lawrence, he interned as the editor of a newspaper, and will be working as an editor in New York City.

Aaron Brooks

Aaron Gregg Brooks, of Cave Junction, has received a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering. He was awarded the degree during June commencement exercises at Oregon Institute of Technology at Klamath Falls.

Brooks is the son of Gregg & Karen Brooks, of Cave Junction.

Leo K. Chan

Leo K. Chan, son of Anthony & Kitty Chan, of Cave Junction, has received a bachelor of science degree in geomatics from Oregon Institute of Technology at Klamath Falls. The award was bestowed during June commencement exercises.

Chelsea Calhoun

The University of Findlay in Ohio announced that Chelsea Calhoun, of Selma, achieved a grade-point average of at least 3.5 during spring semester 2008.

Calhoun is majoring in early childhood development/equestrian studies.

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