

Falling truck delivers near-fatal blow

by PHIL CHRISTENSEN
Correspondent

Working on his truck April 8 nearly cost Hoodland resident Jess Boggs his life.

He was under his three-quarter ton Chevrolet, removing the driveshaft, when the vehicle rolled off the ramps and crushed him. His pelvis was broken in two places and he suffered massive internal bleeding.

"When I saw what was happening," Boggs said, "I rolled onto my side to keep from having a tire run over me." Instead, the entire weight of the truck came down on his hip.

Hoodland rescue personnel found Boggs insisting he was uninjured. "He was apparently in no distress at all, with very little pain," said Jeff Shackelford, emergency medical technician with the Hoodland Fire District.

"There were a few abrasions, but we encouraged him to go to the hospital just in case," Shackelford said. He said the size of the truck was a clue there was "more wrong than met the eye." It was en route to the hospital that the pain and internal bleeding began.

Boggs was hospitalized at Providence Medical Center for more than a week. Now at home, he is restricted to moving about with the aid of a walker. "I can't put too much weight on either leg," Boggs said, "but with the walker I can get around the house a little." For trips outside the house, he must use a wheelchair.

"The wheelchair is quite an ex-

perience," Boggs quipped good-naturedly. He added some people pass by without even looking at him while others speak to him condescendingly.

"I know how I'll treat people in wheelchairs from now on. I'll just look them in the eye and say 'hi,' like they weren't in a chair."

The six weeks of inaction will be especially hard for Boggs, who enjoys a mobile lifestyle. He and his wife, Cindy, go on extended vacations on their touring bicycles as often as possible.

They recently completed a trek up and down most of the West Coast. "We went clear to L.A., down to Tijuana and then back (to Oregon)."

Boggs, a carpenter by trade, has a business at his home called Wood 'n Things. In front of his house there is a variety of handcrafted furniture, children's activity sets and other goods. Hoodland residents driving by his house on Highway 26, just west of the Shamrock Motel, have seen his wares for years and keep him busy with orders.

Boggs lamented that he was not able to do any work in his shop for the time being, but expressed appreciation to his son-in-law, Kevin Vanderhoff, who has been filling orders for him.

Boggs believes the accident has drawn him closer to God.

"God used the accident to get my attention," he said. "I've been riding the fence for a long time and I'm not going to do that anymore."

For at least another three weeks,



Photo by Scott Newton

Hoodland resident Jess Boggs survived an accident that occurred while he was working on his truck.

Boggs will have to stay down; that's the amount of time doctors say it will take the bones to finish knitting together.

Boggs also offered a practical suggestion: "If you work on a truck, be sure to block the wheels. There's a piece of sound advice."

Anniversary

St. Johns
celebrate 60th

Harry and Ruth St. John, who have lived in Sandy for 16 years,

celebrated their 60th anniversary on March 9. They moved to Sandy from Paw Paw, Mich.

The have seven children, 25 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

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In brief

Sheriff's deputies are keeping busy

As a way to show people in Clackamas County where their tax dollars go, the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office has prepared a list of activities it performed in 1986.

The sheriff's office is seeking voter approval of a three year serial levy for \$33,826,755, or \$11,275,585 per year, on May 19.

The levy is a replacement for the serial levy that expires June 30, 1987. In 1986, the sheriff's office investigated and solved 10 murder cases, patrolled in excess of 2 million miles, responded to 44,069 calls for service, investigated 13,148 criminal cases and recovered \$3,130,445 in stolen property.

Sheriff Bill Brooks said the state average for recovering property is about 20 percent; Clackamas County's was 41.1 percent.

The sheriff's office also conducted 778 drug investigations, executing 69 search warrants and making 69 arrests. Eight drug laboratories were seized.

The sheriff's office investigated 1,817 traffic accidents, including 40

fatalities, issued 7,049 traffic citations and made 458 arrests for drunken driving.

Foreign students seek host families

The American Scandinavian Student Exchange Program (ASSE) is seeking local families to host Scandinavian, French, Spanish, German, Dutch, British, Swiss, Japanese and Australian girls and boys, 15 to 18 years of age, who are coming to this area for the upcoming high school year.

The exchange students arrive from their home countries in August and return at the end of the school year in June. Each ASSE student is fully insured, brings his or her own personal spending money and expects to bear his or her share of household responsibilities.

The students speak English and are screened by ASSE. Families may select the youngster of their choice from extensive student applications.

For more information contact Barbara Cook of Troutdale, 669-8237.

Family Math Night held

April 21 was a busy night at Kelso School, where approximately 20 families gathered to enjoy an evening learning math.

The project known as Family Math was designed to improve attitudes toward math by demonstrating the relevance of mathematics to future studies and jobs and to show math can be fun and enjoyable.

Family Math encourages teachers, parents and children to build an understanding of mathematical concepts with hands-on materials. Many opportunities were provided to develop problem solving skills in a cooperative, non-threatening environment.

Twenty families joined in the activities, which were taught by four teachers, one parent and Principal Mary Smith.

In a game to estimate the amount of candy in a jar, winners were Laura Cockrell, a second grader, parent Randy Klobas and Kim Wilson, a Sandy High School student.

The Family Math Night was an introduction to a series of Family Math classes that will be offered at Kelso School next year.

Fair will help people keep homes safer

The Sandy Area Block Home Association will present a Crime Prevention/Personal Safety Fair on Thursday, May 14, from 6 to 10 p.m. in the Sandy Union High School commons.

The fair will feature up-to-date information on how people can keep their homes and families safer and healthier.

Participants will include the Sandy Police Department, the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office crime prevention unit, the Sandy Fire District, East Clackamas County Emergency Medical Services Association, the Mount Hood Fire Prevention Association, Alpine Ambulance Co., Consumer Products Safety Commission and Mount Hood Medical Center alcohol treatment services.

Representatives from these agencies will be available to answer questions and share their expertise through video tapes, films, slide-tape presentations and printed material.

The Emergency Medical Services Association will be conducting free blood pressure screenings throughout the evening.

Topics will include home security, Neighborhood Watch, Block Home, fire and home safety, woodstove safety, senior citizen security, water and boating safety and other topics.

Play

Continued from Page 1A.

follows a short scene in which they dance after Eliza successfully enunciates rain, Spain, mainly and plain.

The accents present a problem for both Harris and Bruce Scarth, vocal music director. The trick for Scarth is to teach enough cockney English to give the proper effect without obscuring the words of the songs.

In addition, some chorus members must switch back and forth between cockney and British English.

One advantage is that most of the featured actors have played parts that required an accent. Benton played the valet — the lead — in "Nude With Violin," answering the telephone in seven different languages throughout the evening.

Learning accents can be helpful as well. "I think an accent helps you get in character," he said.

One challenge for DeBoer will be a half-dozen costume changes, one requiring split-second timing.

The play is produced on two round platforms that the students refer to

as "turntables." The set is tricky because the musical was designed for a theater with a "fly system," meaning walls and props could be suspended by counterweights in a theater with a high ceiling.

Steve Christensen, instrumental music instructor, also has overcome obstacles. Orchestras usually sit in front of the stage, but at Sandy High School the musicians will be in a loft next to the stage. So, instead of having the actors follow the director's cues, Christensen will be following the actors.

"It is probably the largest, most complex production we've undertaken," Christensen said.

Harris appeared to be undaunted by the scope of the project. "Challenge is a part of educational theater," he said.

The play opens May 8 and will run May 9, 15 and 16. All shows start at 8 p.m. and will be held in the Sandy High School commons.



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