

'Freak accident' kills cowboy pastor

By Dean Brickey
of the East Oregonian

An Irrigon man died Sunday after being injured in an accident during a seniors' rodeo at the Umatilla Sage Riders Arena.

DeWayne Rogers, 61, of Irrigon was knocked from his horse by a steel gate panel his rope snagged as he started a team roping run.

"Nobody's sure how it happened," said Skip Jones of Hermiston, Rogers' longtime friend and former employer. Linda Phillips, who was at the rodeo, said Rogers' rope caught on the back of a gate panel and when his horse took off after the running steer, the steel panel dislodged and flew up, knocking Rogers to the ground. The loop on his lariat caught him while his horse continued running, flipped him from beneath the gate panel and dragged him across the arena, she said. "He could not be revived," Jones said. "It was an extremely freakish accident."

Umatilla Ambulance took Rogers to Good Shepherd Medical Center, where he arrived at 2:45 p.m. with "grave injuries," said Mark Ettesvold, a hospital spokesman. Emergency room physicians pronounced Rogers dead at 3:15 p.m.

"He was a very avid roper, a very good roper," Jones said. "He was past champion of the Northwest two or three years in a row. He was a great mentor to a lot of people, both in rodeo and in ministry."

Jones said Rogers had lived in the Hermiston area for the past 20 years and in Irrigon for the past 10-12. He worked as a farrier and about nine years ago founded the nondenominational Cowboy Church, which he and his wife, Harlene, pastored. They led worship at 8 a.m. Sundays at the Sage Riders Arena.

Rogers had been shoeing horses for more than 20 years, but also had worked a couple of years for Jones as a refrigeration technician at PJ's Inc., Trailer and Reefer Repair. Jones, who said he'd known Rogers for eight years, said Rogers was a Vietnam veteran, where he served as a U.S. Navy Corpsman.

Jones credited Rogers for helping him to organize Point Man Ministries in Umatilla County, a ministry run by veterans for veterans. Rogers was a past president of Umatilla Sage Riders Club. Friends have established a fund at Community Bank to collect donations for the family.

Funeral arrangements are pending at Burns Mortuary of Hermiston.

Meeting to be held on corridor plan for Highway 730 between Irrigon and Umatilla

The Oregon Department of Transportation is currently sponsoring a study of the U.S. Highway 730 corridor between the east city limits of Irrigon and the west city limits of Umatilla.

This study, known as the US 730 Corridor Refinement Plan, is intended to provide a long-term safety, access, and circulation plan for the highway.

Kittelson & Associates, Inc., a transportation planning/traffic engineering firm hired by ODOT to lead this study will be hosting a public meeting in Irrigon on Thursday, June 28, from 6-8 p.m. The meeting will be held at Stokes Landing, 195 Opal Place, Irrigon.

This will be the third public meeting to discuss the U.S. Highway 730 Corridor Plan. During the first two public meetings, held December 13, 2006, and April 25 of this year, future roadway and access ideas were collected and

evaluated.

At the June 28 meeting, interested parties will have the opportunity to hear updates and share their ideas and suggestions regarding proposed and alternative long-term circulation and access plan.

Currently designated as one of two safety corridors in eastern Oregon, the refinement study will focus on developing near-term transportation improvements that will help to increase the highway's overall safety and efficiency. In addition, the study effort will also focus on the development of an access management plan that will help balance the need for property access and mobility along the highway.

Local residents who live along U.S. Highway 730 between Irrigon and Umatilla, and other interested parties are encouraged to attend this public meeting.

--- DA's Report ---

Morrow County District Attorney Elizabeth Ballard has released the following report:

-Richard Lee Dawson, 41, was convicted of Failing to Register as a felony sex offender. He was sentenced to 24 months' supervised probation and was ordered to complete 80 hours of community service, be subject to numerous additional conditions and pay \$1,674 in fines, fees and assessments.

-Elizandro Sanchez-Madrigal, 29, was convicted of Harassment. He was sentenced to 90 days in jail, suspended, 12 months bench probation and was ordered to be subject to numerous additional conditions, complete 20 hours of community, write a written apology to the victim, have no offensive physical contact

with the victim, complete a batterer's program with Morrow County Behavioral Health pay 533 in fines, fees and assessments.

-Eduardo Dazaet Velasco was convicted of being in violation of probation for Attempted Delivery of Marijuana. His probation was revoked and he was sentenced to 90 days in jail, 12 months' post-prison supervision. He was also ordered to complete a drug treatment program.

-Mark Dewayne Pope, 50, was convicted of Disorderly Conduct. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail, with 15 days suspended, 12 months' bench probation and ordered to be subject to numerous additional conditions. He was also ordered to pay \$413 in fines, fees and assessments.

T-ball season comes to a close



The Heppner T-ball season has come to a close. The team, pictured above, which had its last game against Fossil June 8, was reported to have a "winning season", even though T-ball teams don't keep score. Players pictured above are: Front Row (left to right)-Logan Angel, Antonio Matthew, Cody Wizner, Gavin Hannah, Calvin Metz; Second Row (left to right)-Caitlyn Scrivner, Patrick Burch, Alex Lindsay, Wyatt Steagall, Morgan Burch; Back Row (coaches left to right)-John Hannah, Mike Angel, John Steagall, Dan Metz, Jason Hannah, Dee Burch.

HHS releases semester honor roll

Heppner High School has released its semester honor roll. Following are students who have qualified.

Seventh grade: Seth Palmer and Justin Pranger, all 4.0, Zechariah Hintz, Natalie Rauch, Joanna Patton, Carrie Haguewood, Cody Nelson, Cody Orr, Ashlee Ames, Camron Day, Jared Gorham, Garrett Gibbs, Chase Milner.

Eighth grade: Joseph Armato, Kolleen Chapa, Lindsay Cutsforth, Willy Gentry, Justin Gutierrez, Brett Harrison, Donald Matthews, Julia Meyer, Ian Murray and Devin Robinson, all 4.0, Kelsi Putman, Keshawna Talamantes, Brooke Thompson, Daisy Victorio, Jared Hedman, Daniel White-Jeffreys, Amber Gray.

Ninth grade: Emily Thompson, Ashley Wolff, and Lane Wright, all 4.0, Jordan Hatfield, Frank Meyer, Christopher

Lien, Jodessa Chapa, Curtis Harper, Jared Huddleston, Jessica Hughes, Keenan Jack, Erin Price, Brynna Rust.

10th grade: Maggie Armato, Sarah Ballard, Spencer Palmer, Sherilyn Peck, and Jordan Shepherd, all 4.0, Quinn Chick, Grant Smith, Joseph Pranger, Stephanie Rill, Joshua Shank, Luke Young.

11th grade: Latosha Bowles, Whitney Matthews, Sean Murray, and Kelsey Wolff, all 4.0, Sarah Johnson, Megan Orr, Luke Basile, Josie Miller, Ignacio Elguezabal, Katie Kilkenny, Tim Hauer, Baillie Keithley, Jenna Bowman, Cyde Coil, Kyle Doherty, Kelsie Fox, Taylor Kempas, Matthew McCabe.

12th grade: Aaron Allstott, Sarah Price and, Regina Seitz, all 4.0, Casey O'Neil, Quinn Peck, Tony Haguewood, Justin Delveaux, Meghan Gaines, Roland Farrens, Lyndi Patton, Mahaley Huddleston, Marcelo Santos.

Heppner #2 Babe Ruth team takes win over Condon



Cody Orr of the Babe Ruth Heppner #2 Team made the winning run to finish a 12-inning game against Condon Saturday in Condon. Photo by Sandy Matthews

Christian Life Center to host speaker

Heppner Christian Life Center will hold a program with speaker Duane Parrish on Sunday, June 24 at 10:30 a.m.

A few years ago, Duane Parrish found himself stripped of the ability to read, write, or speak, following a major brain operation. Duane Parrish tells how, with God, you are "Destined to Overcome."

Pastor Tim Van Cleave invites everyone to hear Duane tell his story of "human despair and of divine power, of healing and the power of a grateful spirit. The positive faith and spiritual insight with which Duane speaks, will inspire courage to face life and deal realistically with doubts, fear, conflicts, and obstacles," said a news release. His inspired story has helped many to believe that, with God, they are "Destined to Overcome," the release continued.

Christian Life Center is located at 535 W. Morgan Street, Heppner.

'Get a Clue at the Lone Library'

The Lone City Library will begin its summer reading program, "Get a Clue," on Wednesday, June 27, at 3 p.m.

The "Get a Clue" theme will have its summer readers hunting for good books, discovering fun activities, and "finding yummy snacks," according to a library spokesperson.

The program will run for six weeks, from June 27 through August 1. Betty Rietmann will be leading the three-year-olds through incoming first graders' group and Becky Wagenblast, the incoming second graders on up.

Both age groups will meet at the city library at 3 p.m. every Wednesday, excepting the Fourth of July, when summer readers are invited to join the library's entry in the Lone Fourth of July Parade.

"Get a Clue" this summer, and find good books and great fun at the Lone Library," said the spokesperson.

Spray Rodeo marks the start of summer rodeo activities for the Morrow County Court

The Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo court arrived in Spray bright and early May 26. The girls (and guys) were all busy preparing our mounts and the court members for their first rodeo and mounted parade. Hoof polish, flowers, and garment bags decorated the sides of the three parked trailers, as they worked to make everything just right before the parade began. Several other rodeo queens and courts were present for the day's festivities, which gave the Morrow County Court the opportunity to meet other young ladies from Redmond, Wheeler County, Columbia County and other areas in the Northwest. Before the parade began, the MC and OTRP court was presented with the "Best Court" award. Princess Becky's brother (Pat Schiller) also took home the "Best Cowboy" award.

When it finally came time for the grand entry the MC & OTRP pennant bearers, Jarreid Miller and Ashley Anderson, were asked to pack sponsor flags. "They did a wonderful job and it was a great experience for them to get the chance to take part in a grand entry," said MC & OTRP Queen Josie Miller. "It was also the first grand entry for a few of the princesses, but with bright smiles, a few lost hats, and rodeo royalty poise they came through it wonderfully."

"The day was a great success. Beautiful weather and excited traditional rodeo atmosphere made the whole experience rewarding," said Queen Josie. We can't wait to get out and represent Morrow County through the rest of the summer. Till next time, cowgirl up."

Justice Court Report

Morrow County Justice Court Judge Charlotte Gray has released the following report:

-Rebecca Y. Mavis, 48, Stanfield, failure to use seatbelt, \$76 fine;

-Rodney D. Wohleke, 45, Stanfield, failure to use seatbelt, \$76 fine;

-Jerry Lloyd Olson, 43, Heppner, DUII, \$1812 fine, 180 days in jail, \$500 and 178 days in jail suspended with two years' probation. He was also ordered to complete an alcohol education program by January 15, 2008;

-Betty J. Locke, 81, Heppner, failure to use seatbelt, \$76 fine;

-Deana R. Price, 44, Heppner, failure to use seatbelt, \$76 fine.

St. Pat's Senior Center lunch menu

Members of Christian Life Center will serve lunch on Wednesday, June 27, at the St. Patrick's Senior Center in Heppner. The menu is taco salad with beef, refried beans, chips and cheese, tomatoes, lettuce and onions. Cookies and ice cream will also be served.

Lunch is served from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. A suggested donation is \$3 per meal.

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