

# LESSON 12 – CASE STUDIES

## 12.1 Boy dies in fall from grain bin

### *Gearing Up Daily News*

*Paris* – A farming accident Thursday evening claimed the life of a 15-year-old boy here.

Jacob Herman, 1234 Old Anson Road, died at about 5:00 p.m. Thursday, according to reports.

Herman died as a result of a fall from the roof of a grain bin on the family farm, according to a report by Sherman County Coroner, Michael Barber.

Herman was apparently working on the top of the grain bin, according to coroner's reports, opening it in preparation for the placement of a grain auger at the bin. He fell approximately 22 feet to his death, reports stated.

Herman was found by a fellow employee who notified 911 at 6:00 p.m. Sherman County Sheriff's Department and the Paris Volunteer Fire Department were notified at 6:03 p.m. EMS personnel arrived on the scene at approximately 6:15 p.m., and called for the coroner at 6:20 p.m.

According to Barber, Herman was dead when medics arrived at the scene, although he may have not died immediately. "He suffered massive skull fractures and numerous internal injuries."

Barber ruled that the death was accidental.

## 12.2 Boy dies in load of corn

### *Gearing Up Daily News*

*Fly Creek* - Lewis Sinclair, age 10, became buried and suffocated in a wagon load of corn being unloaded at his parent's farm north of Fly Creek. His father, Fred Sinclair, had put his son on the top of the load of corn so that he would know where he was. The senior Sinclair then proceeded to unload the corn into a PTO-operated auger that fed the corn into one of the farm's storage bins. He was completely unaware that his son had been drawn into the flow of exiting grain until part of the boy's body became visible at the outlet.

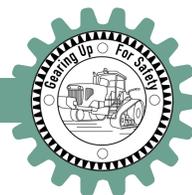
Emergency response personnel from the Fly Creek Fire Department were called using Sinclair's cell phone and first-responders arrived within minutes. The wagon was pulled on its side to empty the wagon and recover the boy. Efforts to resuscitate the boy were unsuccessful and he was pronounced dead at the scene by County Medical Examiner, Clette Horowitz.

## 12.3 Pizzaville teen died in a grain bin

### *Gearing Up Daily News*

*Pizzaville* - A Pizzaville teen died Friday evening after becoming trapped in a grain bin. At about 4:30 p.m., the Bluewood County Sheriff's Office, Pizzaville Fire Department, and Pizzaville Ambulance responded to the call at 303 S Liberty Ave. Upon arrival, Daniel Keeth, age 16 of Pizzaville, was completely submerged in a grain bin filled with corn and rescue attempts were unsuccessful. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Donnie Hackman, the farm owner said that Daniel was unloading grain from the bin into a semi-trailer. It is unknown why Daniel entered the grain bin.



## 12.4 Maughamworth Co-op worker loses leg in auger accident

### *Gearing Up Daily News*

*Maughamworth* - Federal workplace safety officials are investigating a Nebraska grain bin incident in which a worker's leg got caught in a running auger and was later amputated. The U.S Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and health Administration said Tuesday that the 19-year-old Maughamworth Co-op worker had his left leg surgically removed Tuesday after this incident. OSHA said in a statement that the unidentified worker stepped into an open auger well inside a steel grain bin while the auger was operational.

As OSHA's regional chief in Kenwood, Nina Smith says workers should never enter such bins when an auger is running. The Co-op's general manager and president, Terry Smallwood, said the OSHA investigators haven't been to that site since the incident and that he had no comment.

## 12.5 Multiple victims in accident at Little Star

### *Gearing Up Daily News*

*Almondville* - Three people are dead following an accident at Little Star Grain Elevators on Mitten Drive in Almondville, according to the company. Crews arrived on scene responding to a report of three people trapped in the grain elevator just after 10AM Monday morning. Rescue crews worked for about two hours to extricate the victims before confirming the first death. The bodies were recovered around 5:30 p.m. They were taken to the Woodstock County Coroner.

Almondville Fire and Rescue said the retrieval efforts were made more difficult because of the 10 million pounds of grain that continued to cave in, as well as the 110-degree temperatures inside the storage tank. They also thanked the Sage Green and Sallyville Fire Departments, as well as the Villageline Coop for providing personnel and specialized equipment for the recovery efforts.

