

LESSON 13 – CASE STUDIES

13.1 Jackson girl kicked in the head by a steer

Gearing Up Daily News

Jackson – Melissa Fairchild, of rural Jackson, was seriously injured when the steer she was fitting for the upcoming 4-H Fair kicked her, striking in the side of the head and neck. Her father found her unconscious on the barn floor with the steer nearby. Blood was coming from the girl's nose and ears.

Emily Fairchild, the girl's mother, is a nurse and provided immediate first aid until the EMS unit from Jackson Township arrived. They transported Melissa directly to the University Medical Center in Columbus. Preliminary reports from the hospital indicate that she suffered a fractured skull and cracked collar bone.

The girl's father, John, indicated that the steer had been raised on the farm and was almost a pet of the family. He is not sure what might have caused the animal to kick.

13.2 Rampaging bull injures girl at Clover sale barn

Gearing Up Daily News

Johnsonville - A 9-year-old girl was injured Tuesday night when a rampaging bull leaped over a corral fence into the grandstands and landed on her.

Rachel Jackson of Johnsonville was treated for leg injuries at Memorial Hospital and released.

Police say this was the first time an animal has jumped over the corral pen into the crowd at the Johnson County Sale Pavilion in Clover.

The 1,000-pound bull, described as a Black Angus mix, was in the corral during a livestock auction that was attended by several hundred people.

Maj. Cody Morrow of the Johnson County Sheriff's Department said something startled the animal and it jumped over the eight-foot-high corral fence, apparently landing on the girl.

Most of the crowd evacuated, but some were blocked from escaping as the excited bull made its way to the concourse at the top of the bleachers. "This was a big bull – it was doing a lot of thrashing around up there," Morrow said.

When the deputies arrived, animal handlers at the sale barn were moving gates to restrict the bull so it wouldn't jump out of the large windows on the top floor. With the bull trapped, ambulance crews reached the girl and rescued her, Morrow said.

To avoid destroying the animal, an animal control officer was called from Gobleville to bring a tranquilizer gun. But before it arrived, the bull had calmed down enough that the handlers were able to prod it back into the pen, he said.

13.3 Nine-year-old injured by falling gate

Gearing Up Daily News

Albany - Nine-year-old George Wiseman was severely injured when a heavy steel gate he was climbing on fell over striking his head. His parents, Jim and Joyce Wiseman of 1105 N County Road 12, were working elsewhere on their farm and did not witness the event. They said that the gate had been damaged and replaced with a new one, but the old gate had been left leaning against a side building. It appears that their son had climbed onto the unsecured gate causing it to topple over on him. The boy was transported by Ferry Springs, EMS to the hospital in Albany where he was admitted with head injuries. No further information is available on his condition.



13.4 Young Murray girl injured while unloading a horse from a trailer

Gearing Up Daily News

Murray - Shasa Fritz, age 12, received a concussion and broken collar bone when a horse she was leading off a horse trailer was spooked and began kicking. The horse attempted to turn around inside the trailer throwing Shasa into the divider that separates the trailer into two sides.

The Murray Ambulance Service was called to the scene and transported the girl to St. Francis Hospital where she was admitted for observation due to the concussion. Her parents John and Denise Fritz indicated that she has worked with the same horse for several years with no prior incidents. They acknowledged that loading and unloading livestock from trailers could be more hazardous if the animal was not familiar with stepping in and out, or if the trailer moved unexpectedly. Local Extension Educator, Carol Smith, recommended that whenever horses are ridden or worked with that a protective helmet be worn, which may have prevented the head injury in this case.

13.4 Farm worker received over 30 bee stings

Gearing Up Daily News

Vandalia - Carlos Munzo was stung over 30 times by a swarm of honeybees that attacked him in an orchard on the Frost Free Peach Farm outside of Vandalia. Apparently, the swarm came from a set of hives being used to pollinate the peaches. The hives were owned by an outside contractor hired to bring over 100 hives onto the farm for pollination.

Munzo was removing tree trimmings at the time he was attacked. Due to the number of stings, he was transported to Mercy Hospital for treatment and observation. Some individuals are extremely allergic to the venom delivered by a bee sting and deaths have occurred according to Ralph Williamson, a local beekeeper. No further information is available on Mr. Munzo's condition. His family had no comment at this time.

13.4 Protective mother cow attacks, kills Snyder's Bobby McKissock

Gearing Up Daily News

Snyder - A common act of tenderness cost a Snyder man his life last night.

Bobby McKissock, 45, was trying to pet one of his newborn calves when the calf's mother slammed her head into him. McKissock was pronounced dead at 7:27 p.m. at the Heathrow Memorial Hospital in Big Springs, where he had been transported by helicopter.

According to the report filed by the Jones County Sheriff's Office, McKissock was at his Snyder farm getting hay to feed the calf and cow.

Kedra McKissock, the victim's wife, told the police the cow moved to defend the week-old calf and pinned her husband to the ground. Police say blood was found on the cow's head.

Chris Redman, the boyfriend of Mandy McKissock, the victim's daughter, told the police he witnessed the incident. Redman said the cow and calf were standing near the opening of the west side of the barn.

When McKissock came down from the hayloft and attempted to pet the calf, Redman said the cow drove her head into McKissock and continued crushing him while pushing him deeper into the barn. The cow eventually pushed McKissock to the southeast corner of the barn, the police report said.

Jones County Coroner, Carl Jackson, said the injuries were consistent with the type of attack the family described, but that he intended to conduct an autopsy later, police said.

McKissock was a native of Roscoe, a self employed rancher, and a member of the Jones County 4-H council.

He is survived by his wife, three children, his mother, and four sisters.

