

LESSON 2 – CASE STUDIES

2.1 Gasoline explosion critically injures south county man

Gearing Up Daily News

Walton – A gasoline explosion and fire left a rural Sweetwater man in critical condition Friday afternoon.

Chris Gordon, 19, Route 9, Sweetwater, was adjusting the carburetor on a tractor he was operating when fuel from a loosened fuel line spilled onto the tractor resulting in an explosion and fire.

Freddy Kirkpatrick, Fountain County Ambulance Director, said Gordon was able to make it back to his residence with the help of another man.

When we found him he was in the bath tub at home. His family was trying to get him “cooled off,” he said.

Gordon was lifelined to Taub Memorial Hospital, Midland, where Monday, he was listed in critical condition in the burn unit.

The tractor burned completely in the fire, but the nearby farm shop was saved by the efforts of the Sweetwater Volunteer Fire Department that had responded to the scene.

2.2 Woman injured in farm accident

Gearing Up Daily News

Whitney – A woman is in serious but stable condition at a Baltimore hospital after being pinned under a tractor Thursday afternoon.

Crystal Smith, 22, Whitney, suffered multiple fractures in the accident. The Lifeline Helicopter landed on her farm after the accident and transported her to Memorial Hospital.

The accident occurred at 2:41 p.m. on Harris County Road 100 E, one-half mile north of County Road 900 S, according to the Harris County Sheriff’s Department.

The sheriff’s department said Smith was trying to hook the tractor to a manure spreader but was having trouble, so her husband told her to move the tractor. When she started moving the tractor, it got away from her; she turned the wheels sharply and the tractor overturned, pinning her underneath. The tractor was not equipped with rollover protection.

Assisting with the accident response was the Whitney Volunteer Fire Department and the Harris County Ambulance crew.

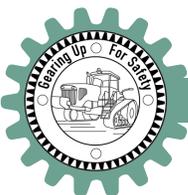
2.3 Youth involved in tractor accident dies from injuries

Gearing Up Daily News

Rolfes – A Rolfes youth died from injuries sustained when he was trapped between the wheels of a tractor and a tree for several hours on Saturday afternoon.

Dale Whiley, 15, of Rolfes, died Tuesday at the University of Iowa Medical Center. Whiley, of 3521 Lowellville Road, was flown to the hospital after a friend found him trapped around 2:00 p.m. His parents, Joseph and Paula, were not home at the time.

Whiley was doing some lawn work on private property near Grisham Road when the tractor apparently struck a tree, knocking Whiley from the tractor and pinning him against another tree, according to reports from the Knox County Sheriff’s Department.



2.4 Tractor flips, injures man

Gearing Up Daily News

Davis – A rural Davis man was scheduled to undergo surgery at a Port Charles hospital Saturday evening after a tractor he was driving overturned and partially amputated one of his feet.

Grant County Sheriff's Deputy, Dale Priddy, said Marvin Latour, 25, 1254 S. 500 W., was mowing his grass in a ditch in the 6600 block of East Grant County Road 600 West with a small utility tractor at about 12:10 p.m. Saturday.

"He got on a steep incline and the tractor flipped over," Priddy said.

Latour told authorities that as the tractor overturned sideways, he tried to jump away, but part of the tractor landed on his foot.

Latour managed to free the foot from underneath the tractor by himself, Priddy said.

He added that Latour also complained of pain to his shoulder, on which he had landed after jumping from the tractor.

Moments after the accident, a motorist happened by, stopped and called 911. Other drivers and neighbors showed up soon after to offer assistance, Priddy said.

"He was attended to very quickly," Priddy said.

Latour was initially taken to Memorial Hospital and later transferred to General Hospital in Port Charles.

Kim King, a nursing supervisor at General Hospital, said Latour was in the emergency room being prepared for surgery early Saturday evening. She said she wasn't sure how extensive the surgery would be.

Latour was listed in stable condition Saturday evening.

Priddy said Latour has often mowed the ditches along the roads near his home. "He just likes to keep his neighborhood clean," Priddy said.

Along with sheriff's deputies, a San Luis County Hospital ambulance and the Volunteer Fire Department responded to the scene.

2.5 Child killed by combine

Gearing Up Daily News

Harrisburg – A Harrisburg toddler was killed when he was struck by a combine on a farm off of Winchester Road Friday afternoon.

According to the Cherry County Sheriff's Department release. Ricky Cook, 19 months, 12345 Winchester Road, was pronounced dead at 7:30 p.m. at the Methodist Hospital in Largetown.

Ricky Cook, the son of Roger B. and Natalie Cook, was playing with his brother near the field where the boy's uncle, Bobby Cook, 17, Winchester, was operating the combine.

The toddler apparently wandered into the field and was struck.

Family members searched for the boy, then found him and placed an E911 call at 5:15 p.m.

They put Ricky Cook in a private vehicle and headed toward Memorial Hospital in Smallville. They were intercepted by Smallville's Rescue-10, where he was transferred to the ambulance and transported to the Smallville Hospital. From there he was taken by helicopter to the Methodist Hospital in Largetown.

A state trooper and Rescue-10 assisted at the scene.

2.6 Youth run over by tractor

Gearing Up Daily News

Pettit – Fourteen year old Carl Horowitz was seriously injured when the tractor he was attempting to start while standing on the ground started and ran over him. State Police Investigator, John Todds concluded that Horowitz was using a screwdriver to engage the solenoid on the starter in order to bypass the safety switch on the seat. The tractor's transmission was still in gear; so when the engine started, the tractor jumped forward and ran over him. This was the second case of a "by-pass" starting accident that Todds has investigated.

Horowitz was transported by Life-Line Helicopter to Metro Hospital. No further details are available at this time.

