

MIDWEST**Farmer Sentenced In Fatal Crash**

CANTON (AP) — A farm tractor driver has received a suspended jail sentence for a crash that killed a Centerville man.

KELO-TV reports that 47-year-old Richard Hybertson pleaded guilty Wednesday for recklessly driving a tractor and colliding with vehicle that 54-year-old Paul Winterfeld was driving.

Hybertson was given a 30-day suspended jail sentence and a \$300 fine.

Authorities say the crash that killed 54-year-old Winterfeld happened just after sunset on a rural road near Centerville on Dec. 2. Hybertson's tractor was pulling disc implement that was 20 feet wide on a road that was 24 feet wide.

Authorities say Hybertson didn't keep his tractor in his lane and he didn't have any lights on the tillage equipment to warn drivers of its width.

Referrals Halted To Boys Town Programs

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has stopped sending troubled youth to two Boys Town programs after a review uncovered improper treatment of clients.

Documents provided Thursday by the department show a review of Boys Town's Intensive Residential Treatment Center and Specialized Treatment Group Homes conducted in June and July found staff were misusing restraints on clients, imposing excessive time-outs and not filing injury reports.

Department spokeswoman Jeanne Atkinson says referrals to both programs were suspended on Aug. 26. The suspensions were first reported by the Omaha World-Herald.

Atkinson said Thursday that the state is awaiting approval of Boys Town's corrective action plan.

A Boys Town spokeswoman didn't have an immediate comment.

'Toilet-Paper Bandit' Pleads Guilty

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The so-called "toilet-paper bandit" has pleaded guilty to attempted robbery in Lincoln.

Sentencing is set Oct. 28 for 29-year-old Joshua F. Nelson, of Lincoln. Nelson made his plea Wednesday in Lincoln County District Court after an agreement with prosecutors, who had lowered the charge and dismissed a weapons count.

Nelson faces a maximum of 20 years in prison.

Police say Nelson concealed his face by wrapping his head with toilet paper to rob a Lincoln convenience store on April 24. He was armed with a knife, but no one was hurt in the robbery.

Prosecutor Andrew Jacobsen told the Lincoln Journal Star that on May 2 a man found a roll of coins, a knife and a prescription pill bottle with Nelson's name on it. That led investigators to Nelson.

Superintendent's Trial Is Set

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (AP) — The superintendent of the Centura Public Schools district has pleaded not guilty and will face trial in December on a charge of second-offense drunk driving.

Kenneth Heinz, of Cairo, was arrested early Sunday morning. Grand Island police say he failed a field sobriety test.

The Grand Island Independent says Heinz filed a plea of not guilty on Wednesday. His trial is set for Dec. 23 in Hall County.

Heinz did not immediately respond to a phone message left at his district office or to an e-mail.

Court documents show Heinz was convicted of driving under the influence in 2008. He was fined \$400 and given six months' probation.

He has been superintendent of the Centura district since 2007.

Buffett: Recession Continues

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Billionaire Warren Buffett says the economy remains in a recession, by his definition, because most people and businesses still aren't doing as well as they were before the financial crisis.

Buffett talked about the economy and his Berkshire Hathaway Inc. businesses in an interview that aired Thursday on CNBC.

Buffett's assessment of the economy contradicts the view of experts who announced this week that the recession officially ended in June 2009. But Buffett says he uses a commonsense standard to evaluate the economy.

Buffett gets insight into the health of the economy through the performance of Berkshire's subsidiaries. Buffett's Omaha-based company owns clothing, insurance, furniture, utility, jewelry and corporate jet companies.

Authorities: Gunman Wounds 3, Kills Self In Neb.

BY MARGERY A. BECK
Associated Press Writer

CRETE, Neb. — A worker entered the lunchroom of a cold-storage warehouse in eastern Nebraska and started firing a handgun, wounding three employees before going outside to shoot himself in the head, authorities said Thursday.

Saline County Attorney Tad Eickman identified the gunman at the Americold Logistics plant near Crete as 26-year-old Akouch Kashoual of Lincoln. He said

Kashoual entered the lunchroom around 9:50 p.m. Wednesday and started shooting, before going outside the plant to shoot himself in the head.

Eickman didn't give any information about Kashoual's motive.

There was no answer at the phone number listed for Kashoual's apartment in Lincoln.

Several people who said they were his relatives gathered on the balcony outside his apartment Thursday afternoon but declined to comment. The 21-unit, low-rent

complex is near downtown and the state Capitol.

Those wounded were Elizabeth Canas, Renee Villareal and Paul Rivera, all workers at the plant who live in Crete, Eickman said. The Saline County sheriff's office said Canas is 40 and Rivera is 42. Villareal was turning 23 Thursday, according to the date of birth it gave.

All were being treated at area hospitals. A spokesman for Byron LGH said Canas was in critical condition and Villareal was in fair condition.

Saline County Sheriff Alan Moore told the Lincoln Journal Star that about 35 people were at the facility when the shooting occurred. Spent shells were found inside in the cafeteria and other areas as well as outside the building, Moore said.

"When we first came across him, it appeared that it was a self-inflicted wound that ended it," the sheriff Moore said, referring to the gunman.

Moore did not return several messages left Thursday by The

Associated Press and would not speak with a reporter at his office.

Americold spokeswoman Samantha Cohen said Thursday the company is cooperating with investigators but did not give any details about the shooting.

"We wish to extend our sincere thoughts and prayers to our co-workers' families and friends," Cohen said in a statement. Cohen declined to comment beyond the company's brief statement.

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