



The driver of this 1999 Ford F250 pickup and trailer, 58 year-old Henry Winborn of Rapid City, was eastbound on I-90 near the 179 mile post when he lost control of the rig which skidded and rolled across the median before coming to rest in the westbound lane of I-90 Thursday morning. The accident, one of many this week, completely blocked the westbound lanes, forcing officials to close the road for a short time. Gaylord Lenz Photo

## Old man winter takes toll

By Jeff Moberg

As our folks were mutating into ghosts and goblins last week, mother nature showed her ability to quickly change costumes as well. Thoughts of dry sunny days with temps reaching 70 degrees enjoyed just hours before now seemed years removed as the clouds appeared, the air took on a chill and the snow began to fall. The snow kept falling and temperatures continued to drop throughout last week greeting travelers along northeastern Wyoming roads with treacherous driving conditions that have lingered over the area throughout the last week.

Based on the activity levels of local emergency personnel, it seemed many drivers were slow in responding to the changing conditions.

Lt. Will Zilka of the Wyoming Highway Patrol said that on Thursday of last week they responded to over a dozen accidents in this area alone - many within just a short time span around noon. One accident near the Coal Divide exit on I-90 nine miles west of Sundance even caused officials to close the westbound lanes for a short time until the overturned trailer and tow vehicle could be removed. Two Thursday accidents in the Colony area had to be worked by South Dakota patrol units due to the amount of activity keeping Wyoming officers from moving more than a few miles at a time.

Most of the Thursday accidents appeared to be the result of roll overs brought on by unsafe speeds on the icy roads. Incredibly, ac-

ording to Zilka, none of the earlier accidents resulted in deaths or major injuries. Zilka said that according to the reports he has received thus far, most of the accident victims either refused medical treatment or were treated for minor injuries and released which he noted was likely a testimony to the use of seat belts.

More snow throughout the day on Monday again created dangerous road conditions which led to more accidents, one of which resulted in more serious injuries.

A vehicle pulling a loaded car trailer jackknifed on I-90 near the Moskee exit east of Sundance late Monday night and set in action a tragic chain of events. The travelers associated with the jackknifed vehicle entered the roadway on foot in an apparent attempt to examine their vehicle's predicament. It was at that moment another vehicle approached. The oncoming vehicle, a 90's Chrysler New Yorker occupied by two Czechoslovakian residents noticed the wreck and attempted to stop but due to the icy road conditions were unable to do so as they careened into the mix. The resulting collision crushed a female victim between the skidding car and the stationary trailer. Emergency personnel responded and the female was taken to the Sundance Hospital with severe leg injuries. Life Flight was reportedly unable to respond, prompting officials to summon paramedics from Spearfish who then transported the victim to Rapid City.

No further information on her condition was available, however officials do expect her to survive. No other major injuries were reported as a result of the collision.

Another road closing accident occurred early Tuesday morning along I-90. While a limited amount of details were available at press time, a semi apparently collided with an older Ford pickup at approximately 5:15 a.m. Tuesday morning. The collision occurred about one mile east of Inyan Kara exit or roughly 12 miles west of Sundance and resulted in a complete road blockage. The eastbound lanes remained closed for the majority of the morning as clean up continued. No injuries were reported as a result of the accident.

Given the apparent cause of most of the incidents, Lt. Zilka noted that "people need to understand that posted speed limits are for optimum conditions" as he reiterated the need for drivers to slow down, leave a little extra time to reach their destination and to wear their seat belts. Zilka also noted that each of the three wrecks he responded to on Thursday involved four wheel drive vehicles. Zilka relayed that many drivers seem to have a false sense of security when they operate a four drive, noting that "four wheel drives may help you get going but they don't help you stop."

Wintery conditions are expected to continue through the remainder of the week with a possible reprieve early next week.

## City Council reconsiders expansion

Reverses previous annexation decision

By Jeff Moberg

The Sundance City Council opened the November meeting with an abrupt about-face on Monday night. Following a short discussion on the subject of annexation, the Council voted to reverse themselves regarding the decision they reached last month when they chose to limit the scope of the Highway 585 annexation to only property along the south side of the roadway. During that October meeting, the Mayor cast a controversial yet deciding vote to limit the annexation which he noted was based on feedback he received from Council member Peterson. The decision drew criticism from community members who felt that Peterson, who was representing a substantial piece of the property in question, should have declared a conflict and abstained from voting on the issue.

In Monday's discussion, Mayor Miller asked Peterson how she felt regarding the issue at this time. Peterson responded that she could see no problem with reversing the decision and including the entire area in the annexation. "Personally, I think that's the only way to go," noted Councilman Roberts, "we'll save money and do what we needed to do for years." After a short discussion centering on the proper language of the motion, members voted to vacate the original decision and to begin the annexation process for property along both sides of the highway. The decision clears the way for the City to create maps of the proposed annexation and schedule public meetings to wrangle with the issue in depth before the property actually becomes part of the City.

Council members refocused on the issue of receiving the I-90 frontage road along the south side of town. Joe Baron presented members with a proposed agreement on behalf of the County government, deeding the roadway and adjacent property to the City. Conversation on the issue eventually focused on right of way concerns

centering on storm drains serving the interstate. Nothing was noted in the documents which provide for any right-of-way regarding the drains. Based on the lack of information which would clarify the concern, members chose to table the issue in order to give State and County officials an opportunity to provide for proper right-of-way designations prior to signing the land over.

The Sundance Kid statue required attention next as the Council agreed to enter an agreement with the County and Chamber of Commerce regarding placement and ownership of the statue. The agreement indicated that the County will provide the location and insurance of the statue while the Chamber will maintain ownership of the statue. The Chamber will also be required to set aside \$200 per year as an endowment which would be used to pay for statue replacement/repair costs if the need should ever arise. The agreement also mandates that the City will assume ownership of the statue and will be responsible for the endowment fund should the Chamber of Commerce ever cease to exist.

As the meeting progressed, Council members granted a variance request for Steve Hartl, paving the way for him to remove his

old shop and erect a new one near the old Roberts' Construction building along 2nd Street.

A request regarding special subdivision consideration concerning a parcel of property owned by Elta Rogers was tabled so that the concerned parties could discuss other options.

Members next gave the local Kiwanis club their blessing to pursue the erection of a shelter in the City park adjacent to Sundance Pond if they can gain needed funding.

Miller informed members that on Tuesday morning the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) will be holding a plans review meeting concerning the curb and gutter extension project along Cleveland at the east side of town. He felt the WYDOT would be receptive to the City's desire to have the plans incorporate sidewalk and curb additions similar to that along the west side of town. Miller noted that if the proposed extension becomes a reality, the jogging path plan could be scrapped, providing a windfall which could be used to provide more decorative lighting along Main Street if the Council was in agreement.

*please see COUNCIL page 11*

## High School presents Veteran's Day concert

The SHS Music Department will present a concert on Tuesday, November 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the SHS Auditorium. The concert will be a combination of patriotic music and America's music, jazz. The groups to perform will be the JH Concert Band and Concert Choir, the HS Concert Band and Concert Choir, the SHS Jazz Choir, the HS Flute Quartet, The SHS Jazz Combo and a special performance by Lorrie and Amber Redfield.

Musical selections will include marches, Duke Ellington's Take the A Train, a choral arrangement of God Bless America and many more. The SHS Concert Band will be performing the original composition entitled 911 which was written and performed by the JH Band two years ago following the events on September 11.

The SHS students and their director would like to encourage all Veteran's to attend this evening of "American Music." There is no charge for the concert but a cash donation or cans of food will be collected for the Sundance Community Food Banks and Christmas Basket. Please note the starting time is 7:30 p.m. and the doors will open at 7:00 p.m.

## Pretty to see - a problem to have...



The recent snows we have had has brought even more wildlife to the community. These photos were taken Tuesday morning in the alley off from main street. This site has become a growing concern amongst some residents of the community. Reports have been many ranging from garden and shrub destruction to attacks on domestic small dogs. Some concern has been voiced regarding the possible attack on children who may come to close to the wild animals. No plans are presently underway to control the animals, the city has been made aware of concerns of its residents and recognize the growing problem. Residents have been urged to not feed the animals. Curt Moberg Photo