

Similkameen

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Investigators examine the suite located at 133 Bridge Street last week. Photo: Brenda Engel

Local man murdered

Excitement around Princeton last week focused on a residence located at 133 Bridge Street following the discovery December 9th of a decomposed body.

On December 12th RCMP released the identity of the victim. 44-year old Willard Bruce McNroy, who was known to local police, had only just moved into the building November 1st.

McNroy's body was discovered when police began searching for him after he became the subject of a missing person's report.

When the body was recovered, it was in an advanced decomposed state, which police say suggests it had been there for a while. An autop-

sy was required to identify the victim and to determine the cause of death.

Although police have not yet revealed how McNroy died, they confirm he had met with foul play.

RCMP are referring to the murder as an isolated incident and state residents have nothing to worry about.

Princeton Mayor Randy McLean says a murder in a small town is big news.

"When you get something like this happening in a small town, it's pretty spooky."

The last murder recorded in Princeton was a decade ago when the body of Joseph Keneth 'Phen' Drushka was found in his home on December 5, 1998.

Posse skate through league decision

The big talk around Princeton last week revolved around what well happen to the Valley First Princeton Posse?

The team is not in financial trouble by any means as fundraising efforts are a way of life for the community-owned KIJHL franchise. The bullet the team was trying to dodge was related to an error in paperwork that left one player unregistered, thus making him an ineligible player. As has happened in the past, and most recently to Beaver Valley earlier this season, such an error usually is resolved by disciplinary action by the league.

The big question in Princeton was how severe will the penalty to the team be as there were a lot of options available. The team could have lost the 22 points earned with the ineligible player on the roster or the organization could have been fined. Other possibilities fell between those two extremes.

The player in question is 18-year old Kevin Darcy of Boston,

Massachusetts who lists his hometown in the Posse game program as Sydney, Australia.

Darcy was asked by Posse web-cast play-by-play announcer George Elliott to explain what happened during the second intermission of the December 12th game against Kamloops. At the time the league decision had not been made.

"We had an unregistered player - which is me - a mistake made by coaching staff and it went in so every game that I've played I was an illegal player," Darcy explained.

"And now (the league) is trying to suspend these games and I'm not exactly sure what decisions will be made. There could be just a suspension for the coach, the team could lose the points - it's hard to say if (the league) wants to make an example of the team here."

A league conference call was held December 11th to hash out details with a final decision expected to be made the following day. If it was, no one from the Posse organization was talking about it deciding instead to just play hockey.

What was referred to as a 'mistake made on the paperwork' forced the KIJHL to enforce rules to bring

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Valley First Credit Union and Valley First Insurance Services have collected \$2.00 from each employee on every 'Pay Day Friday' for the past year for the privilege of being able to dress in more casual attire on those days. A cheque in the amount of \$756.00 came from those donations. Another \$400.00 cheque was also presented to Princeton Crisis Assistance Society representing the savings resulted from not sending Christmas Cards to members. Accepting the cheques December 12th was Alan Kovaltsenko, centre, Crisis Assistance Society President. He is joined by Linda Thompson, left, from Valley First Insurance Services and Angie Rorvik of Valley First Credit Union. - photo submitted

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