



Wednesday, June 27, 2007

Local news in brief

POLICE

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River drowning victim identified

A man who drowned Monday in the Ohio River has been identified as Raymond Rogers, 45.

His body was found by the Boone County Water Rescue squad about 1:50 a.m. Tuesday about 50 yards from the Sedamsville boat ramp where he was last seen about 4:30 p.m. Monday, Cincinnati police said. A friend told investigators Rogers was swimming when she lost sight of him, police said.

Heavy drinking may have been a factor in the drowning, and no foul play is suspected, police said.

VANDALISM

Damage to turf farm

A 19-year-old Maineville man was charged with vandalism Tuesday in connection with an estimated \$48,100 damage to an Anderson Township turf farm.

Tyler L. Wright, of 2679 Kimberly Drive, was lodged in the Hamilton County Justice Center pending his arraignment, Hamilton County Sheriff Simon Leis said.

He was arrested about noon Tuesday at his workplace in Symmes Township.

Authorities believe he is responsible for 12,699 linear feet of damage to sod at the Motz Turf Farm, at Ebolt and Moore roads, early Sunday. Someone driving through the field did the damage.

Vandals also did more than \$10,000 damage to the farm in December of last year.

COURT

10-year sentence

A Northern Kentucky transient was sentenced to 10 years in prison Tuesday for setting fires in two places he lived - and then collecting emergency aid money from the Red Cross for living expenses.

But instead of using the money to live, Gary Spoonemore Jr. bought drugs with it, according to court records.

During his sentencing, Spoonemore said his actions were caused by his addiction to drugs, but Kenton Circuit Judge Steve Jaeger wasn't buying it.

When Spoonemore took money from the Red Cross, he was stealing from real victims of disasters and from the

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entire community, Jaeger said.

Spoonmore earlier pleaded guilty to two counts of second-degree arson, one for a fire at the Lookout Motel fire in Fort Wright, which did approximately \$100,000 worth of damage to five rooms.

The second guilty plea was for a fire in a mobile home he had been living in on Patton Street in Covington.

CORRECTION

Chabot undecided

Although he favors some elements of the measure, U.S. Rep. Steve Chabot said he does not support an energy bill passed last week by the Senate.

A story Monday erroneously said Chabot supports the bill.

The Cincinnati Republican said Tuesday that he will decide when the bill is considered in the House whether he will vote for it.

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