

Sports editor recovering from injuries

Editor's note: The following story by Ruth Heide is reprinted from the Sept. 26 issue of the Alamosa Valley Courier.

Valley Courier Sports Editor Lloyd Engen continues to make progress in his recovery from serious injuries sustained three weeks ago on the sidelines of the Sangre de Cristo football game.

"Due to the excellent progress being made through the rehabilitation services at the hospital everything is on schedule and the doctors are still very happy with the incision that was made," Engen said Friday.

The week following the Sept. 5 sideline accident that left Engen with multiple fractures in the pelvic/hip region, he underwent extensive surgery.

"The incision goes from one end of my body to the other. It preserved a nerve ending that was needed, a long nerve."

Engen said Friday he is scheduled to move from inpatient rehabilitation at St. Anthony Hospital in Denver to outpatient rehab late

next week.

On Oct. 1 he is scheduled to be released from the Denver hospital and go to good friends Ron and Holly Dea's home in Fort Collins where he will continue therapy and rehabilitation on an outpatient basis.

Engen said he continues to appreciate the care and concern of Valley residents. He said the hospital staff in Denver has been amazed at the outpouring of love from the Valley. He added that the donations folks have been making care of the SLV Federal Bank will be put to good use, with one of the first orders of business involving the acquisition of a wheelchair.

Engen has appreciated the cards, calls and visits.

He said the Alamosa High School cross country team stopped in last weekend. He said as he looked around at the faces of the young athletes sitting on the floor and gathered around him, he was inspired.

Engen was hurt on sidelines

Editor's note: The following story is reprinted from the Sept. 7 issue of the Alamosa Valley Courier.

MOSCA — Valley Courier Sports Editor Lloyd Engen was severely injured Saturday afternoon when he was hit while taking photographs on the sideline at the Sangre de Cristo and Norwood High School football game.

Engen, who was hit by a Norwood running back and two Sangre de Cristo defenders making the stop, landed on his back.

Witnesses said the play continued off the field where Engen was standing, knocking him into the air.

He awoke a few minutes later and was helped to an awaiting ambulance, which transported him to the San Luis Valley Regional Medical

Center in Alamosa.

X-rays were done and it was discovered that he had a shattered pelvis and three cracked vertebrae in his back.

According to Engen, the attending emergency room physician, Dr. Grant Hurley, decided that work needed to be done immediately, and Engen was flown to St. Anthony Central Hospital in Denver late Saturday afternoon.

On Sunday morning, physicians drilled a hole in Engen's knee and stabilized it with a 15-pound pulley that will allow for his condition to settle before operating in 4-5 days.

Engen said the ball in his hip socket was shattered into many pieces and that a team of surgeons will attempt to repair it later this week in hopes to allow him to walk again.

Fundraiser planned to aid stricken Windsor reporter

Editor's note: The following story is reprinted from the Sept. 9 issue of the Windsor Beacon.

A series of fundraising events are being organized to assist the family of Windsor Beacon sports reporter Jason Shedd.

Shedd currently is battling brain cancer.

A "Jason Shedd All-Stars" fund account has been opened at the

Bank of Colorado, 1041 Main Street., to help cover family and medical expenses.

Randy Fitzgerald, the Good Samaritan regional director for Kansas and Colorado, announced at last Friday night's Windsor-Fossil Ridge football game the beginning of the fundraising campaign to help the Shedd family with their upcoming personal and medical bills.

Nearly \$2,000 was donated to the fund at the game.

Fitzgerald said people who donate will be referred to as "team members."

Team members already involved in the "Jason Shedd All-Stars" fundraiser include the Windsor Beacon, Windsor High School, Water Valley, Pelican Lakes Golf Course, and Windsor Charter Academy.

In addition to the fundraising account at Bank of Colorado, plans have been announced for a "Jason Shedd All-Stars" benefit golf tournament. It will be held Sept. 26 at Pelican Lakes Golf Course.

If you would like more information about being a "Jason Shedd All-Stars" team member, please call Fitzgerald at 970-674-0634 or 970-674-1552.

Paid access becoming more of a possibility

Nearly 60 percent of newspapers are considering initiating paid access for currently open/free news and information Web site content, according to initial results from a new survey on paid content revenue initiatives released Sept. 14 at The American Press Institute's Newsmedia Economic Action Plan Conference in Reston, Va.

The paid content survey, conducted by ITZBelden in partnership with API, was launched in August. Invitations to participate were sent to 1,350 U.S. and 30 Canadian newspapers. The 118 responses in the initial report represent a wide cross section of large, mid-size, small and very small markets.

Among the findings:

- 90 percent of the respondent newspapers currently do not charge for content.

- Only 3 percent currently have a paid-only site.

- Nearly 25 percent expect to implement a paid strategy in the next six months.

The responses paint a picture of an industry that is actively engaged in a conversation about many new directions it can take with monetizing content. When given 15 different options of which pay models to implement, respondents indicated they were seriously considering 11 of them.

"Much of the public debate seems to assume that newspapers are going to be charging for subscriptions online after putting their content behind a pay wall, but the internal conversations really go far beyond this," said ITZ Publishing CEO Greg Swanson. "Companies are talking about paid content strategies as diverse as new partnerships with niche players, content delivery on new devices, packaging content for the greatest appeal to certain audiences, and creating new revenue platforms for which content is a key part."

Among the challenges news organizations face is a consistent problem with the way unique visitors to their Web sites are calculated — a fact that came through in the paid content survey responses and is reflected in additional ITZ-Belden research. This can result in a serious lack of understanding of audience behavior and can limit the effectiveness of any business plan that includes paid access.

There is no cost to participate in the survey, and newspapers that have not yet responded can still do so through September 30, according to Swanson.

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