

Alcohol involved in death of Brady teen

Written by Deb Egenberger
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North Platte residents cited for procurement.

Alcohol was determined to be a factor in the Oct. 25 accident that killed 18-year-old David Pedersen, Jr., of Brady, according to Lincoln County Sheriff Office officers.

Sheriff Jerome Kramer said the office received alcohol blood results last week.

The results showed Pedersen's alcohol content at .163 or over twice the legal limit for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Deputies investigated a party Pedersen had attended near the corner of F and Cottonwood Streets in North Platte the evening before the accident.

To aid the investigation and find those who supplied alcohol to the party, Lincoln County Attorney's Office officials agreed not to prosecute anyone for minor in possession of alcohol.

Witnesses estimated that 15-25 people attended the party with most of them under 21 years old.

Upon completion of the investigation, deputies cited four North Platte residents for procuring alcohol for minors. They are: Cameron J. Sis, 21; Megan L. Sheffield, 21; Stephen J. Gigax, 20; and Justin T. Huss, 20.

Pedersen was killed after he lost control of his vehicle and it rolled on Highway 30 west of Maxwell.

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Kramer said officers are always saddened by needless loss of life and the loss of a productive young adult is even worse.

“The tragedy is compounded when alcohol is a direct cause of the loss.” he said. “The Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office is committed to minimizing these needless tragedies by doing all we can to avert underage drinking.”