Downloaded on Feb 8, 2017



## Investigators comb site

of hayride crash Continued from A1

"About 72 people from eight scout troops of Brownies, Daisies and Junior Scouts, and their mothers, from St. Raphael the Archangel School at 6000 Jamieson Avenue in St. Louis, had boarded three wag-one.

ons. The girls ranged in age from 5 to 13. They attended kindergarten through eighth grade. The wagon in which Rachel and Stephanie were riding was the last of three in a line that started down an incline when the tractor driver couldn't control the speed of de-scent.

couldn't control the speed of de-scent. The wagon careened down the wooded slope, crashing into trees and throwing off the victims. An accident reconstruction crew spent most of the night and Satur-day morning at the ranch, about 8 miles south of Interstate 44 on Little Antire Road. The investigators were consider-nge mechanical failure, an over-sized load or operator error. They preasured drag marks and inpact points as well as the position of the fait-bed, hay-filed wagon. Tulgetske said he expected a re-port, Monday or Tuesday. Mean-while, Stephanie gathered with a hundre classmates, friends, priests, parabiloners and crisis pounds for two hours Saturday attemnon. Grif Sout officias also were three. Stephanie told her story outside Tudgetse said he expected a re port Monday or Tuesday. Mean while. Stephanie gathered with anterfere Classmates, friends, rivels, parishioners and classmates, friends, rounselors at the St. Louis Hills parish for two hours Saturday's as well. Don Johnson and his wife, Susie, have operated the 78-acre ranch more than 12 years. The ranch has about 50 horses. It buys and sells aponsors riding camps as well as prosors riding range as called the Party Barn, a for and parametics struggled to reach the girls on a wooded hiliside about filt witter struct as leavely wooded area of High Ridge from High radge Boalevard at Highway 30 to Twikers Road in rural Eureka. Ambulance drivers unfalliar divers Road in rural Eureka. Ambulance do eff the main highways.

The Rev. Matt O'Toole said the 100 who attended Saturday's and silvin Ada 'a collective feeling of re-sjorse" about the event. The theme of this school year is the family and sibaring joy, he said. Now the McManemy family is sharing a deep loss "and as a fami-ly we are all sharing in that loss." O'Toole tailed to a properter the accident site, amb

As O'Toole talked to a reporter, assmates hugged each other and cried together

ST. LOUIS COUNTY TO ST. LOUIS Rachel's aunt, Debbie Woodland, said her niece was "very well-liked. She loved her mom and dad very much. There was never a day when you didn't see a smile on her face."

**Rocking J Ranch** 

mine PP 270

St. Louis County

200/00

At the Rocking J Ranch, photog-raphers were barred from the property Saturday morning where bonfires from the night before still smoldered

The ranch was closed Saturday and was likely to be closed Sunday

Unable to drive their vehicles to

Unable to drive their ventices to the accident site, ambulance and rescue personnel were forced to hike in with stretchers as they searched the hillside with flash-

Jesica Ino. 13 Juliett Knopp, 6 Katty Knopp, 6 Juliet Magoc, age unavailable Jill Magoc, 35 Karen Majda, 39 Leslie Majda, 5 Theresa Melton, 13 Brittany Oppland, 6 Sandy Oppland, 6 Sandy Oppland, 7 Margrette Riley, 6 Amy Ruggeri, 32 Josephine Ruggeri, 5 Injuries ranged from serve to mi-nor. All of the victims are from south \$1. Louis.

lights looking for the injured. This is a situation that police pering, "said Steve Davis, chief of the departments dread hap-pening," said Steve Davis, chief of the dight Steve Davis, chief of the dight Steve Davis, chief of the dight stand actusts throughout a large wooded area. The dight stand actusts throughout a large wooded area. The magon and the tractor in-how the ranch's three remaining hay wagons into a bars. The wagon and the tractor in-solved in the accident have been moived in the accident have been dong havrides here for seven bears, and we've never had a fin-gerstched." Johnson, 55, said. "We've been dong havrides here for seven bears and we've never had a fin-gerstched." Johnson had prided himself on the ranch's unique wagon trail, which winds up a wooded hillside above the stables and circles arach. He said he recut the trail have ato take some of the steep-ses out it the other sole. lights looking for the injured.

## "Just jumped out of gear"

The wagons carrying the Girl Scouts were coming back down the newly cut trail when the accident

newly cut trail when the accident happened. "The tractor just jumped out of grean," Johnson said. "It jumped out of first and went down the hill." Johnson said the tractor's 21-year-old driver told him the brakes locked up as he was trying to gain control. With the heavily

Accident victims

These are the victims of the hayride ac-cident Friday night, as identified by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department: KILLED

Rachel McManemy, 12 INJURED

INJURED Cynthia Federoffer, age unavailable Caroline Fischer, 4 Kathleen Fischer, 35 Rachael Grebing, 26 Linda Hiette, 47 Taylor Hiette, 6 Jessica Imo, 13 Luilett Konon, 6

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH NEWS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1999 · A13

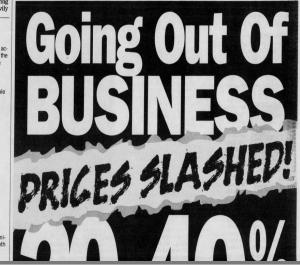
ANDREW CUTRARO/POST-DISPATCH

Danielie Pogue, 12, (center) is comforted by friends after a service Saturday at St. Raphael the Archangel School at 6000 Jamieson Avenue in St. Louis. The service was held to mourn the death of Rachel McManemy, 12, who was killed in Friday night's hayride accident in Jefferson County, and to support the 11 children and nine adults who were injured.

loaded wagon pushing from be-hind, Johnson said, the tractor be-gan skidding down the hillside.

addet wagon pushing from be-sau. Johnson said he trains the driv-an skidding down the hillside. "It only slid about 20 feet, and I

guess it hit a couple trees. The "We take a lot of pride in our wagon never even tipped over," he drivers," Johnson said. "You al-



Dangerous Trailers.Org & Dangerous Hayrides.Org The Forgotten Dead Number 3 And 22 Injured St. Louis Post Dispatch St. Louis Missouri 17 October 1999 Part Two

Clipped By:



dusterrm1 Wed, Feb 8, 2017

Copyright © 2017 Newspapers.com. All Rights Reserved.



ways say, 'What could you have done to do this different?' We've had 10,000 people come through on hayrides and we've never had a

complaint about not being safe, not ever.