

## Planning for a green Moffett Field

University Associates-Silicon Valley President William Berry speaks on Tuesday in Mountain View during an orientation for potential developers of the 77-acre site of a proposed green research and education campus at Moffett Field. In addition to receiving an introduction to the early plans and features of the \$1 billion project, the developers took a tour of the site. Developers interested in the project have until June 15 to submit their qualifications. Officials from University Associates, which includes Foothill-De Anza Community College District, University of California-Santa Cruz, said that a developer could be chosen by October.

Joshua Melvin / Daily News



## Man hit by ambulance on beach dies

24-year-old volunteer was leading vehicle on ATV when he flipped and was run over

BY LISA FERNANDEZ

Bay Area News Group

A former Sunnyvale resident who volunteered over the weekend to help with a search-and-rescue team died en route to an emergency call on a beach in San Luis Obispo.

Christopher Meadows, 24, was leading an ambulance over a sand dune when his all-terrain vehicle flipped over and landed on him. The ambulance was unable to stop in time and struck him.

Meadows was pronounced dead shortly after the 4 p.m. Sunday incident, said Rob Bryn, spokesman for the San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Office.

It was the first search-and-rescue death in the department's history.

"This is just tragic all the way around," Bryn said.

After receiving a call about someone who had possibly broken a leg at the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreational Area, Meadows was dispatched with a team to respond to the call, Bryn said.

Meadows was leading the team, driving a four-wheel, all-terrain vehicle. An ambulance and a second all-terrain vehicle followed behind.

Meadows crested a 30-foot sand dune, Bryn said, and on the way down, his vehicle flipped over on top of him, causing major injuries.

Following close behind was the driver of a San Luis Ambulance, who also crested the dune and couldn't stop on the way down. That ambulance crashed into Meadows. And despite medical attention promptly given, Meadows died at the scene, Bryn said. An autopsy and a CT-scan will be conducted this week to try to determine

which accident caused Meadows' death. But Bryn said "it may be impossible to tell."

What's especially sad about Meadows' death, Bryn said, is that for three years, he worked for the same ambulance company during the week — on Sunday, he was acting as a search-and-rescue volunteer on his free time. And the driver of the ambulance that struck him, trained Meadows to be an emergency provider, Bryn said.

That driver was unavailable for immediate comment. The San Luis Obispo Tribune reported that the director of operations for the ambulance company, Joe Piedalue, said: "We're destroyed."

Bryn said he is trying to figure out what happened with the initial call of the broken leg on the beach.

But so far, he hasn't heard whether that person had been located.

## PETA protests circus at Cow Palace

BY CHRISTINE MORENTE

Bay Area News Group

The big top is coming to the Daly City's Cow Palace and the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals is gearing up for a five-day protest.

The animal rights organization calls Carson & Barnes Circus a "chronic violator" of the federal Animal Welfare Act. It claims handlers use bull hooks, electric prods and other devices to control the elephants.

Last week, PETA urged the Daly City City Council to enact an ordinance that would ban the use of those instruments.

Performances begin Friday and will continue through Tuesday.

"The elephants are under constant domi-

nation," said RaeLeann Smith, PETA circus and government affairs specialist, on Tuesday. "Every move is manipulated and controlled by bull-hook wielding handlers."

Smith, who lives in Denver, said the organization relies on whistle-blowers and former circus employees to report abuse.

PETA has undercover footage shot in the late 1990s that shows animal cruelty at Carson & Barnes and Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

The video, "Elephants in Circuses: Tragedy and Training," shows Tim Frisco, Carson & Barnes animal care director, instructing a trainer how to use a steel-tipped bull hook.

In the footage, Frisco is heard saying, "Tear that foot off! Sink it in the foot! Tear

it off! Make 'em scream!"

"The circus goes to great lengths to hide the reality of abuse and constant confinement from the public and the media," Smith said. "Former circus employees tell us when the media, a legislator or the public's around — it's all part of the show."

She added, "Abuse happens when the cameras are off and the audience is gone."

Mayor Sal Torres hadn't seen PETA's letter when asked for comment Tuesday.

Enacting an ordinance to prohibit the use of bull hooks and electric prods on animals in the city would be a challenge. The council has other priorities, such as balancing the city's budget, he said.

Torres, however, commends PETA's diligence in its mission to protect animals.



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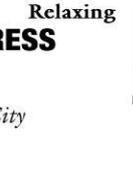


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