



Mentions in [The Daily Herald-Tribune](#), Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada



Taffy pull

There's a more fun way of getting taffy than buying the treat at a store, as St. Gerard school students learned yesterday at their Saint Catherine day celebration when Robert Boisvert (left) and Alexander Hilz demonstrated the art of taffy pulling. Saint Catherine day is a traditional French celebration in which young women wear brightly-decorated hats to attract the attention of young men. St. Gerard is at 9724-88 Ave. in Grande Prairie.

Youth dies after ski hill accident

A 15-year-old boy from Bezanson died in Queen Elizabeth II Hospital Thursday night as a result of injuries incurred at the Nitehawk ski hill south of Grande Prairie.

Alexander Michael Hilz was injured at the hill, 13 km south of the city, at 9:15 p.m. and was pronounced dead at the hospital at 11:02 p.m..

The boy is the son of Mary and Ron Hilz, both teachers in Grande Prairie.

Hospital executive director Ken Fox said Alexander Hilz arrived in emergency at 10:51 p.m. where the attending doctor began treatment.

The case is being referred to a medical examiner in Edmonton to determine the cause of death.

Mr. Fox said Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) was being administered when the paramedics arrived at the bottom of the hill and the process was continued as the boy was being rushed by ambulance to hospital.

He had suffered a cardiac arrest.

Mr. Fox said once the boy was in hospital CPR was continued but the boy remained unconscious.

Hill manager Brian Chernish said

he had been advised by the Nitehawk's insurance manager not to comment until after the police investigation is completed.

Myrna Barber, a member of the ski patrol was on duty Thursday night, but said she did not see how the accident happened as she arrived five minutes after the incident.

Ms. Barber said she couldn't comment further until after she filed a police report.

Ski club president Jerry Bauer said he was shocked to hear the news and is not aware of any other such incidents at the club in his 10 years with it.

Alexander Hilz attended St. Joseph's high school this year where principal Dan Kingdon said he was an honors student.

"You're always shocked by a sudden death, but when they are so young and are showing such potential, it is hard to reconcile it."

"He was a fine student — just coming into his own." He was involved in school sports such as the football team.

Scholarship set up in **Hilz** name

A memorial scholarship has been established at St. Joseph high school in honor of honors student Alexander Michael **Hilz**, 15, who died Thursday following a skiing accident at the Nitehawk ski hill.

Classes have been cancelled this afternoon at the school to allow his fellow students to attend the funeral at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church. The ski hill has been closed for the day.

The boy was pronounced dead at Queen Elizabeth II hospital about two hours after the accident. The case has been referred to a medical examiner in Edmonton to determine cause of death.

A hospital spokesman said that the attorney general's department will have to rule on whether an inquest will be held on the incident.

Donations to the scholarship can be made at the high school.