

pointed to erect the hospital.
"What we want to do is to provide good service in a more accessible way."

The meeting was set to explain a proposed settlement in the ongoing legal dispute about the hospital and introduce miners to the individuals who will work in administration at the facility.

Also present at the meeting was the legal counsel for the plaintiffs who filed the lawsuit to bring the matter to a head.

Agencies investigating fatal accident at mine, death of DWR's officer

By RICHARD SHAW
Sun Advocate reporter

Local, state and federal officials are investigating the unrelated deaths of a worker at Andalex coal mine and an employee of the Utah Division of Wildlife Services.

Last Thursday night, an accident claimed the life of a Castle Dale man at a coal mine on Airport Road in Carbon County.

According to Andalex official Sam Quigley, Jacob Jorgenson, age 29 of Castle Dale, was killed when a material tractor the victim was driving reportedly collided with a long wall shield stored on the surface.

Jorgenson, who had started his shift at 9 p.m., was traveling on the tractor to get a water tank to wet down mine roadways when the Jan. 22 accident occurred at about 11 p.m.

Last Thursday's fatality is the second death related to the coal industry to occur in Carbon County in the last year. The other death involved a truck accident at a different local coal mine.

Nationally, 20 people died from injuries incurred in underground and surface coal mining accidents last year.

The Jan. 22 fatal accident at Andalex is under investigation by the United States Mine Safety

and Health Administration.
"Our company has also hired an independent investigator to look into and help us to understand the accident," said Quigley.

According to a press release issued by the state agency, DWR conservation officer Jon "Kip" Draper was found dead in the field Jan. 25 at about 2:30 a.m. The victim's body was discovered in Straight Canyon near Orangeville.

After Draper was reported missing by his family on Saturday at about 11 p.m., a search was immediately launched by DWR and the Emery County Sheriff's Office.

DWR employees located Draper's body about 50 yards from the canyon road, where the victim had apparently collapsed and died in the snow.

No indication of foul play existed, according to a preliminary investigation at the scene of the fatality. However, the state medical examiner will conduct an autopsy to determine the cause of death.

Draper was believed to have been conducting a routine check of trapping activity in Straight Canyon, indicated Rudy Musclow, DWR law enforcement chief.

Draper worked for the Utah DWR for the last three years.

50,000 acres under similar provisions.

Of the land in question, 92,787.7 acres have been sold, according to 2000 data, with 7,212.3 remaining.

The proceeds were supposed to be allocated primarily toward funding the construction of the miners hospital.

In 1957, the Legislature decided to turn the proceeds from the sales over to the University of Utah.

individual plaintiffs file lawsuit regarding the 2000.

In December 2003 ties identified in the lawsuit permitted a settlement with the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Utah.

The parties in the lawsuit tentatively expected a court decision in the late Monday afternoon.

As anticipated, the (Continued on



No serious injuries incurred in Friday

Utah employment

Utah's employment numbers improved slightly and companies operating across the state started slowly adding jobs during the last half of 2003.

The state posted a 4.7 percent unemployment rate in December 2003, indicated the Utah Department of Workforce Services. The jobless rate translates into 57,300 displaced workers at locations throughout the state.

Last month's statewide job-

less rate was 0.2 percent than November's figure represented a significant improvement from the 6.2 percent posted in December 2002.

In December 2002 Utahns were unemployed, the weekly *Trend* report released by the workforce services department.

Utah's recent upswing in job creation started at least 18 months before the United States as a whole.

Handwritten notes in the left margin: "Sun Advocate 2/007/0019", "Jorgenson", "Tuesday, January 27, 2004".