

APPENDIX M

Owner tells of deadly dog attack Author:
Barbara Hollands
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Wednesday, July 23, 2014

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WIN A PEUGEOT



SEE PAGE 2

Owner tells of deadly dog attack

Desperate attempts to save pitbull victim

By BARBARA HOLLANDS
Metro Desk

THE owner of two pitbulls who mauled Hadee Pook to death said he lay on top of her to protect her from his marauding dogs when he realised he was powerless to stop the fatal attack.

His tattooed arms visibly scratched, Travis Wade, 28, a former cage fighter and bouncer who lives in a flatlet at his parent's Bayville home, walked the Daily Dispatch through the path he claims the 45-year-old Pook took minutes before his pitbulls tore into her petite frame.

In his version of events, Wade said he had fetched Pook, a former nursing assistant, from her Beacon Bay home at about 9pm last Thursday night before collecting his friend Wayne Brundyn, 23, who lives with the family, from Hemingways Mall.

The trio arrived at the Bayville house just after 11pm. He said while he parked his car in the driveway, Pook and

Brundyn walked down an enclosed alleyway between the main house and garages which leads to both his flat door and a door to the backyard.

He said his eight-month-old pitbull puppy was in the alleyway and had started Pook.

Instead of entering his flat, Pook and Brundyn went through the door leading to the backyard where Pook ran to the kitchen door of the main house and opened the lower part of the stable door.

His parents were not at home at the time.

Brundyn said he was holding the puppy between his knees and shouted at Pook not to open the kitchen door.

"The two dogs were inside and they don't know her and so they attacked her," said Wade.

"She has never met my dogs. She only knows the puppy. When she heard them coming she tried to close the security gate, but my male dog jumped against the gate and went at her. The female dog also joined

in."

Wade said he smashed a brick and a metal weight against the dogs and even managed to fling the male dog into the pool in a bid to stop the frenzied attack, but to no avail.

He said he had eventually become exhausted and lay on top of Pook's trussed body in an effort to keep his dogs off her, but the pitbulls savaged his arms to get at his friend.

Wade insisted his dogs were simply protecting their territory.

Brundyn said he had also tried to help Pook.

"I tried to help her. I tried pulling them off. I kept screaming for her to get away from the yard, but she had run through the kitchen door."

Wade said he and Brundyn had attended counselling at Cecilia Makiwane Hospital since the horror attack because "it is stressful to see a friend die".

Police have opened an inquest into Pook's death.

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DISPLEASED: Xolile Busakwe is livid after his son, Sandile Busakwe, was expelled from King's College allegedly for getting circumcised before the age of 18. Picture: ALAN EASON

School expels underage initiate

By ARETHA LINDEN
Metro Desk

A PUPIL has been expelled from a private East London school for allegedly undergoing the traditional circumcision rite.

Sandile Busakwe, a 16-year-old Grade 10 pupil at King's College in Southernwood underwent the rite during the June holidays.

When his father Xolile Busakwe went to the school on Monday to disclose that his son was a circumcision graduate, he was allegedly told that Sandile would not be allowed to return.

Contacted for comment King's College director Johann Nell defended the action. "They chose to defy the school's terms and conditions," he said.

Asked to explain further, Nell refused to answer. "I have nothing else to say," he said before hanging up.

Busakwe said: "Nell told me that it was against the school's rule for boys under the age of 18 to get circumcised."

When I enrolled my son at the school in 2012 there was no such rule because if there was I would not have enrolled him there."

Sandile's brother, Luvuyo Busakwe said he had asked for a copy of the school's policies but claimed Nell had refused to give him one.

The school is not new to controversy. Nell, who has been convicted of fraud and forgery, was booted for illegally running the college in 2008.

Earlier this year the school again made headlines when a five-year-old pupil was told to leave for having dreadlocks.

Two months ago eight female teachers at the primary school were allegedly taken to the toilets and made to strip in front of a cleaner.

The purpose of the humiliating exercise was to discover which of them was on their menstrual period after blood was found in the toilet.

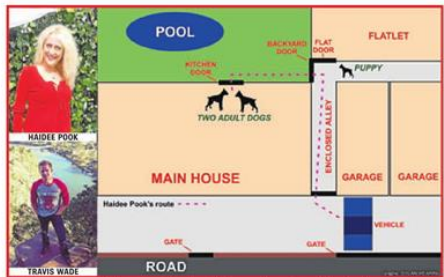
Department of education spokesman Layiso Puhumani said the district director for East London "will be sending the relevant circuit manager responsible for the school to assess the matter."

Thirty-six initiates have died this winter season compared with 40 who died in the 2012 winter season.

The season officially came to an end at the weekend.

Cooperative and traditional affairs spokesman Mamekeli Ngam said they were busy compiling a full report which would look at areas which could be improved and the challenges and plans for the next season.

The report is expected to be debated by the Eastern Cape House of Traditional Leaders on August 1 in Bisho.



OVERVIEW: This graphic illustrates the inside of the house where the tragic incident happened

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