

MORRISON, SAMUEL FERRIS

October 7, 1941-April 8, 2002

Wheatland Junior High School principal Ferris Morrison is in critical condition, and his wife, Kathy, is dead following a tragedy that struck the Morrison home April 8.

Wheatland police officers were called to the couples' residence at 11:09 a.m. after receiving a 911 call. Officers found the husband and wife, both apparently suffering from gun shot wounds. Mrs. Morrison was pronounced dead on the scene. Mr. Morrison was transported to Platte County Memorial Hospital and then taken to United Medical Center in Cheyenne. Details of the incident are being withheld pending an investigation.

As word of the tragedy spread throughout the community, words of shock and sympathy were expressed.

"It's the loss of a good friend that will be missed throughout the community," said Eric Jones, Platte County School District #1 (PCSD#1) board member.

PCSD#1 superintendent Dr. Don Bryngelson added the school is saddened by the events.

He said extra counselors had met with the seventh and eighth graders Tuesday morning to explain what they knew about the situation and to offer counseling to those that need it. The counselors will continue to be available.

"The kids are doing well," Bryngelson said after returning from a visit at the Wheatland Junior High School. "They are very understanding."

Bryngelson said that they didn't know at this point what the school district will do to fill in for Mr. Morrison until a permanent replacement can be found. Mr. Morrison had resigned as principal effective after the end of the school year.

Bryngelson added he would be in contact with the state board of education