

Preliminary hearing set for Barnes in Fanning death

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The Wauneta Breeze

A preliminary hearing is set for July 6 for Cody Barnes of Elwood. During his May 15 arraignment Barnes was read his rights and the date of the preliminary hearing was set.

Barnes' legal council, Justin Kuntz with Hanson, Hroch & Kuntz in Wilber stated, "out of respect to the Fanning family we are not discussing the facts of the case at this time."

Barnes was charged with manslaughter in the accident in which Cody Fanning died after falling from the back of Barnes' pickup near their college in Crete on April 25.

The charge is a class three felony that carries a possible sentence of one to 20 years imprisonment and/or up to a \$25,000 fine.

Crete police reported that Fanning was standing in the bed of the pickup driven by Barnes when he fell from the pickup as it turned a corner.

Barnes and Fanning attended Doane College in Crete and were teammates on the football team. Barnes was one of the pallbearers at Fanning's funeral.