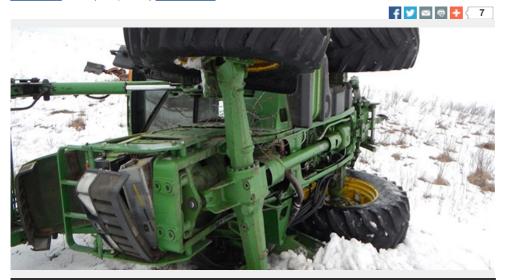


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The driver of the stolen tractor stalled it when trying to climb a hill. When he tried to back it down he lost control and rolled the tractor. | RCMP photo.

A slow speed police chase across fields involving a tractor, cop cars and a police officer hitching a ride on a borrowed snowmobile was like an episode out of the television show Corner Gas.

"I'm from Saskatchewan, and it sort of was," said Blackfalds RCMP cpl. Barry Larocque.

"This is the first time we've had a tractor chase we were actively pursuing with a private snowmobile."

RCMP received a call about a break and enter east of Red Deer about 3:30 p.m. yesterday, in which items were stolen from a rural residence, including firearms.

About an hour and a half later, police received a second call that someone was driving a John Deere 6400 tractor with front-end loader out of a farmyard.

Three RCMP members happened to be in the area and started the slow speed pursuit of the tractor.

"It was slow speed the whole way, smashing into fences and stands of trees," said Larocque.

The tractor driver tried to stay in the fields in an attempt to elude police officers in their cars on the road, he added.

One of the police officers flagged down a passing snowmobile and "was graciously offered a ride on his snow machine to track the stolen implement."

Larocque said the driver of the tractor would pop out on the road and drive back into another

field, hoping to get away.

At about 6:45 p.m., the driver tried to drive the tractor up a hill, but it stalled. When he got it started and tried to back it down the hill, he lost control and the tractor rolled for one complete revolution.

"The subject in it was not hurt at all," said Larocque.

In the tractor were the firearms stolen from the first break and enter.

"He gave up to us and admitted to everything."

Jesse Cecka, 25, has been charged with break, enter and theft, theft over \$5,000 for the tractor, breach of existing court documents and multiple counts of mischief. He made his first court appearance today.



The driver of the stolen tractor stalled it when trying to climb a hill. When he tried to back it down he lost control and rolled the tractor. | RCMP photo.

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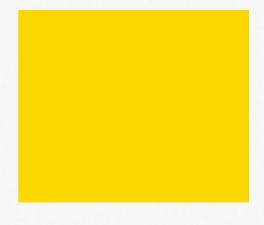
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Markets at a glance

Symbol	Month	Open	Chg	%Chg	Last
ICE Canola	May	459.40	+0.70	+0.15%	459.70
ICE Canola	Jul	471.00	unch	unch	469.00
ICE Wheat	May	0.00	+3.00	+1.40%	218.00s
ICE Durum	May	0.00	unch	unch	250.00s
ICE Barley	May	0.00	unch	unch	130.50s
MGEX Wheat	May	727-6	-2-4	-0.34%	728-0
KCBT Wheat	May	742-6	-2-4	-0.34%	741-4
CBOT Wheat	May	673-4	-2-4	-0.37%	673-4
CBOT Corn	May	498-4	-0-4	-0.10%	499-4
CBOT Oats	May	413-0	-1-6	-0.42%	413-0
CBOT Soybeans	May	1474-6	-1-0	-0.07%	1474-2
Soybean Meal	May	480.0	-1.0	-0.21%	479.1
Soybean Oil	May	41.68	+0.03	+0.07%	41.70
CME Feeder Cattle	Apr	179.250	+0.425	+0.24%	179.250
CME Live Cattle	Apr	145.300	+0.150	+0.10%	145.300
CME Lean Hogs	Apr	125.225	-1.150	-0.91%	124.600
CME Canadian Dollar	Jun	0.90440	+0.00030	+0.03%	0.90480

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