

Hot-wing eating participant dies

Cause of death still unclear

Andrew Ehrkamp

Saskatchewan News Network; Regina Leader-Post

SOUND OFF

Tell us your opinion



REGINA -- A 36-year-old man has died after participating in an annual hot wing-eating contest at a Regina east-end nightclub Friday night.

An autopsy on the man -- who is from Regina but has not been identified -- was scheduled for Monday, said Regina Police Service spokesperson Elizabeth Popowich.

Police officers and paramedics were called at 11:28 p.m. to JD's Cafe & Night Spot at 1055 Park St. after a report that a man had collapsed.

When paramedics arrived, the man was already dead, said Jeff Welke, a spokesperson for the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region.

"He had choked. He was unconscious. (He) had no pulse at the site."

Rob Knippelberg, who was at JD's with his friends, said he saw a man dragged to the back part of the bar. "Everyone thought he was sick or passed out."

It was only later that Knippelberg realized the man had died.

It's unclear what exactly caused the man's death.

"At this moment we're waiting for the post-mortem" before police release any further information or take additional action, Popowich said.

Regina police are continuing their investigation.

JD's bar manager George Selimos, who was present at the bar Friday, called the incident "unfortunate" but declined to speak further.

"I really can't comment on anything until we know the facts," Selimos said Monday, as reporters gathered outside JD's bar.

"The guy got ill and the ambulance came and took him. Whatever happened to him at the hospital, you'll have to talk to the doctors."

JD's bar hosts an annual contest to see who can eat the most spicy chicken wings.

© Copyright 2004 The StarPhoenix (Saskatoon)

CLOSE WINDOW