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Football: Rangel in intensive care

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September 01, 2009 1:15 PM

BY JOEL A. ERICKSON

Julio Rangel, a varsity offensive lineman at Permian, is in the intensive care unit at Medical Center Hospital a day after suffering an injury to his spinal cord at practice.

Rangel, a senior, was taken by ambulance from the practice fields at Permian on Monday night to Medical Center Hospital.

Previous reports that Rangel had regained motion in his legs were not true.

"From the time that we got here with him, there hasn't been any movement in his legs or his feet," his mother, Benita Benavides, said. "There is trauma to the spine."

Practicing a play during Monday's workout, Rangel collided with a Permian teammate and went to the ground.

"It was a head-on collision, him and another boy," Benavides said. "His head went down, and they collided. The way I heard it, he got up, walked a couple of steps and dropped."

The ambulance picked Rangel up and brought him to Medical Center Hospital.

Rangel's doctors are currently trying to determine whether or not the senior needs surgery.

For their part, the Panthers continue to practice in preparation for their next game, to be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday against San Angelo Central on the road at San Angelo Stadium.

But their thoughts are with Rangel.

"Our players, the coaches and the entire school is really praying for him and supporting him and hoping for his recovery," Permian head coach Gary Gaines said.

Following Tuesday's practice, Permian trainer Randel Vaughn gave the players an update on Rangel's condition.

And that's when the varsity hit their knees.

"After he got injured, the offensive linemen prayed for him, and we decided after we broke out, we'd pray for him again," Panthers left guard Aaron Voss said. "We decided we're going to pray for him every day until he recovers."

Led by the offensive linemen, several members of the Permian football team planned to visit Rangel on Tuesday night.

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Julio Rangel

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High school football, baby!

Let us know what the most surprising result was from Week 0

- Permian loses to Duncanville
- Odessa High loses to El Paso Montwood
- District 2-5A registers a grand total of one victory against a Class 5A opponent
- ECISD and Midland ISD teams all lose
- Willie Bans got his story in Friday before midnight
- Crane beats Roscoe (by a whole lot)
- McCamey struggles in season opener against Seagraves
- Alpine 30, Pecos 27 (and all the twists and turns)
- Andrews hangs with Canyon before falling 38-24

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dannyglides wrote:

Know what? I think that outside the bickering, everyone wants this man overcome and be back to health. Maybe like the good person from Plano said, we should save our energy to pray for return to good health, instead of making it a point of contention. Sure the family would like to see our efforts put to good use.

9/4/2009 5:53 PM CDT

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lilamma2 wrote:

So does anyone know the status on his injury?

9/4/2009 2:38 PM CDT

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mavericksjr21 wrote:

No one willingly puts themselves in danger. This is an unfortunate accident. May God look over this youngman and give his family the support that is needed at this time. May Julio have a speedy recovery and may everyone keep them in their prayers.

9/4/2009 10:40 AM CDT

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vmarieisme wrote:

Lilly, How can we not READ your postings, you seem to AMUSE us with your stupid outlook on LIFE! Keep fighting Julio, we are all praying for you!

9/4/2009 10:38 AM CDT

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lillychamille wrote:

You are all way to worked up. Yes, he willingly put himself into danger. It has already been said that waiver are signed before students are able to be on the team. Does this mean I don't hope for the best for this young man? No. I am not evil or cold, I am a realist. Perhaps the rest of you need to do the same. Yeah, yeah, I realize all things in life are dangerous. That is an old argument that I have already addressed. If you don't appreciate what I have to say, don't read it.

9/4/2009 10:13 AM CDT

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whippoorwill wrote:

What is really devastating is the injury occurred in practice...same as Joe Beene's. Practice pits one part of the team against another, I can't imagine his own teammates doing something deliberate to this young man. This is another tragedy that might be helped with stem cell transplant. Dogs are being cured (per an article in the OA) with this innovative practice. Seems the stem cells being used appear in the bodyfat, are sent to a company who harvests them, then sent back to the vet for injection into the animal. (and please, I'm not comparing humans to an animal). It would be nice if this procedure were available to humans.

9/4/2009 9:07 AM CDT

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iwantcandy1999 wrote:

LILLYCHAMILLE...what you need to do is just SHUT YOUR MOUTH. How dare you run your mouth about this injured player. I dont care what you say, this boy didn't "willingly put himself in danger" and he sure didn't deserve this. If you don't have anything supportive to say to Julio or his family, then I think everyone would appreciate if you found somewhere to voice your remarks. If you want to express your opinion for contact sports then have at it, but talking about this boy getting support or donations from the community, then I think you have crossed the line lady.

I think EVERY CHILD has so much pressure put on them everyday for anything that they do. And unfortunately injuries can happen anytime,anywhere. What everyone needs to realize is how important loved ones are to us. LILY just because your children aren't in football doesn't mean that someday something horrible could happen to them. And eventhough youre a very cold person, I would hope that you would get the support you needed from.

Its such a shame that we are having to defend this boy from a bunch of fools instead of just signing on to get updates and offer our thoughts and prayers.

9/4/2009 8:54 AM CDT

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vmarieisme wrote:

Wow Lily, I must agree with Elgrande, there is contact in almost every sport. For children with parents like you, there is cheerleading your child can do, WAIT...there is chance of getting hurt in cheerleading too. Let me think, there is staying at home, watching TV and playing games, WAIT...that is where OBESE comes in, and...carpal tunnel from playing too many games....Well, maybe staying home and reading a book....wait, straining of the eyes!!!! I really can't think of ONE thing that is not "harmful" in ANY SILLY WAY. Accidents happen! Praying for you Julio!!!!

9/4/2009 8:47 AM CDT

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elgrande wrote:

I was nicknamed "ElGrande" due to my height. Sorry that you choose to immaturely label someone based off of an internet moniker. I have no need for any type of complex. I've earned everything I have from scratch.

I'm glad that you can see the "eventual" end of all debates. Let me know where you got your crystal ball. Again... please consider a career in politics.

(And I was throwing in the towel because football's on... I could care less who "wins" this one. All I know is that you got called out, and all you can come up with over and over is "No I didn't! No I didn't!")

So, how 'bout saying: "We both want this kid to recover"?

9/3/2009 10:04 PM CDT

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elgrande wrote:

Lilly -

I've already shown you where you've contradicted yourself. You've been reduced to simply defending yourself now for the sake of argument. Now, you've pretty much boiled this down to a game of "No, I didn't" which could go on forever. Your first statement wasn't even close to what you now say you "think" you want us to believe is your point. You used generalized, vague phrases that we're supposed to just decipher with our magic codebooks.

And I'd put my degrees up against yours any day of the week. Whatever institution granted you a diploma just dropped 4-5 spots in their academic rankings. Unless you're called "Dr. Lilly", your education can't hold a candle to mine.

I'm done. You seem like a "last word freak". Go ahead and tell me "uh-uh, nannynannybooboo". I'm going to watch contact sports now.

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