

## Great Falls Tribune

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# 29 Sep 1945 - Bud Linderman, Rodeo Star, Held in New York Killing

## *Bud Linderman, Rodeo Star, Held in New York Killing*

**NEW YORK, Sept. 28 (AP)—** Bud Elmer Linderman, 23-year-old Montana cowboy, here for a rodeo which opens next week in Madison Square garden, was held in \$7,500 bail today on a charge of suspicion of homicide in the death of a New York city detective.

Police said Linderman appeared voluntarily last night at police headquarters for questioning, saying he understood the police were seeking him.

Police said Frank McGrath, 35, was injured Wednesday night in an altercation at the bar of the Belvedere hotel. He died yesterday at Roosevelt hospital.

McGrath was quoted by police as saying his assailant seized his service pistol, fired once into the ceiling, then knocked him to the floor.

Police said the detective had been kicked.

When Linderman appeared in police line-up earlier today, he said he had made a statement to the district attorney.

Dermoday, at the arraignment, requested \$10,000 bail because he said Linderman's job was "a traveling one." J. B. Wegman, Linderman's attorney, asked \$5,000 bail.

Linderman was described by his attorney as holding a position in rodeo "comparable to that of Babe Ruth in baseball." Assistant District Attorney Vincent J. Dermoday told the court the cowboy, whose home is at

Red Lodge, Mont., earned \$20,000 a year in prizes as an all-around rodeo performer.

Bail was fixed by General Sessions Judge George L. Donnellan after Linderman first had been arraigned in felony court and the case adjourned to Oct. 15 pending further investigation. The adjournment was requested by Dermoday.

### CLOSE TO TITLE

**RED LODGE, Sept. 28 (AP)—** Bud Linderman, 23-year-old Red Lodge cowpoke charged with suspicion of homicide in New York today, was well on his way to becoming world champion cowboy, according to last reports by the Rodeo Association of America.

By Sept. 1 he had piled up 5,284 points as against 4,950 for his brother, Bill, and 4,779 for Gerald Roberts of Young, Ariz. Bud was leading in bareback riding and was third in bronc riding.

### WELL KNOWN HERE

Linderman is well known in Great Falls. Member of a prominent Red Lodge rodeo family, he has won top money in rodeos at the North Montana State fair here for several years. In the rodeo held here Aug. 9-12 he topped the bareback riding contest the first day, bronc riding event the third day, and finished second in both events in the finals. His brother, Bill, also appeared in the rodeo here.

# COWBOY FREED ON BAIL

## Held in \$7,500 as Slayer of a Detective After Row in Bar

Bud Elmer Linderman, 23-year-old rodeo performer, was freed yesterday in bail of \$7,500 on a homicide charge in the death of Detective Frank McGrath, fatally beaten Wednesday night in the bar of the Hotel Belvedere, 316 West Forty-ninth Street. He will have a hearing Oct. 15 in Homicide Court.

The cowboy had come from his home in Red Lodge, Mont., in advance of the rodeo, scheduled to open Wednesday in Madison Square Garden. He is leading in the national all-around cowboy championship for 1945. Louis Brooks of Sweetwater, Tex., who won the title in 1943 and 1944, is in second place. The championship is decided on total prize money at round-ups sponsored by the Rodeo Association of America.

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## **THREE IDENTIFY MAN IN DETECTIVE'S DEATH**

Bud Elmer Linderman, 23 years old, of Red Lodge, Mont., a star rodeo performer, was identified last night by three witnesses, according to Assistant District Attorney Vincent Dermody, as the cowboy who fatally beat Detective Frank McGrath Wednesday night in the bar of the Hotel Belvedere, 316 West Forty-ninth Street.

Although Linderman refused to answer questions, on the advice of an attorney who accompanied him when he came to the West Fifty-fourth Street police station voluntarily, Mr. Dermody ordered that he be charged with homicide and arraigned today in Felony Court. Linderman was in New York to participate in the coming rodeo show in Madison Square Garden. He had changed from cowboy attire to conventional clothing last night.

Detective McGrath, who was 35 years old and had been attached to the Elizabeth Street station for the last three years, died yesterday in Roosevelt Hospital. He was married and lived at 32-36 Forty-seventh Street, Long Island City, Queens.

According to the police, an argument developed between the cowboy and the detective a few minutes after the latter entered the bar. The detective, the police said, was floored and then kicked by the cowboy, who then seized the detective's service pistol, fired one shot into the ceiling and fled.

## **BUD LINDERMAN DEAD**

**Star of Rodeos for 20 Years  
Was 39—Won Championships**

**PHOENIX, Ariz., March 13 (UPI)—**Bud Linderman of Red Lodge, Mont., who starred in rodeos for twenty years, died today in St. Luke's Hospital at the age of 39.

Mr. Linderman entered the hospital Feb. 16 suffering from pneumonia he contracted last July. He was as well known on the rodeo circuit for his fist fights as he was for his cowboy artistry. He quit extensive competition after suffering a broken neck a few years ago in Houston when he was thrown from a saddle bronc.

Mr. Linderman, who was at his best in the late Nineteen-Forties and the early Fifties, was Rodeo Cowboys' Association world bareback riding champion in 1945. He was third that year in saddle bronc riding. In 1946 and 1947 he was second in bareback, while in 1947 he was all-round champion in International Rodeo Association competition.

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