

By Jan Rahn

Managing Editor

Benjamin J. Pelster, 33, of rural Elsie was arraigned in Perkins County Court on Wednesday, Dec. 2, on charges of motor vehicle homicide.

Pelster appeared in front of Judge Edward D. Steenburg to enter a 'not guilty' plea in the death of 28-year-old Debra Palser of Elsie.

Pelster is charged with a Class 1 Misdemeanor in the fatal crash which occurred on July 13 two-and-a-half miles east of Elsie. Palser's vehicle was westbound on Highway 23 when it was struck by a farm sprayer driven by Pelster, who entered the highway from the north, failing to yield.

A pretrial hearing is set for Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2010 at 10 a.m.

If convicted, Pelster faces a maximum of one year in jail, a \$1,000 fine, or both.

He is represented by Attorney Robert Lindemeier. Prosecuting the case is Perkins County Attorney Richard H. Roberts.