

# Drugs, alcohol, explosives found during random search

**By MICHELLE L. HAWKINS**  
*The Goodland Daily News*  
GOODLAND — A security contractor made an unannounced search of Goodland High School Wednesday, and a canine search turned up two guns, marijuana, a knife and some shotgun shells. Two students were arrested and one was sent home for the day on Wednesday, while a third student was arrested on Thursday. The school district employs the

firm to make random searches for drugs, alcohol and explosives. An inspector with a search dog visited the high school on Wednesday and Thursday. Goodland Superintendent, Marvin Selby said today school officials hadn't been told when the searches would take place, but knew they would be coming sometime in the school year. As the handler searched through the parking lot, Selby said, the dog

indicated that three vehicles had suspicious items inside. In one, two handguns were found, while marijuana was found in another. In the vehicle of another student, shotgun shells were found, which are not illegal without a firearm, along with a hunting knife. Shelby said the inspector came back on Thursday to search a different part of the parking lot and found a shotgun and pellet pistol in the car of a fourth student.

School officials refused to release the names of those involved. However, names of juveniles are no longer protected under Kansas law. Other sources listed Gage Cloyde as having the two handguns in his vehicle, sophomore Blake Saint as having marijuana, and junior Blayze Bahe with the shotgun shells and hunting knife. Sophomore Jordan Anderson had a shotgun and pellet pistol. Under federal law, it is illegal to have weapons on school property, and students who break this law have to be turned over to police. The offense can be a felony or a misdemeanor and the student must be expelled from school for one calendar year. "These are federal laws," Selby said. "If you get state aid, you have to follow them." Bahe was sent home for the day on Wednesday while officials, with the state Department of Education, were making a determination as to whether the knife was a violation or

not. Selby said the knife was not a violation of the law since it was in his vehicle. It would have been a different situation if the knife had been inside the school. "People need to realize it is illegal to have weapons on school grounds," said Sherman County Sheriff Doug Whitson said. Whitson said because of the federal laws concerning school violence, when weapons are found on the school property, the case must be turned over to law enforcement without exception. The three students who were arrested, Cloyde, Anderson and Saint, were all taken to the Goodland Police Department and released to their parents. Police Chief, Ray Smee said two were charged with possession of firearms on school property and the other with possession of a controlled substance. He said all reports have been sent to County Attorney Bonnie Selby

for the filing of formal charges. A school hearing committee will be meeting on Tuesday to discuss the drug and two gun violations and what will happen to each student. Selby is the only person who can make an exception to the 12-month expulsion for the two found with guns. He said if they are expelled, they would be able to attend classes at the Northwest Kansas Service Center in Oakley to stay on track with their high school credits. Saint, who was found with marijuana, will also appear before the hearing committee on Tuesday to discuss punishment. The school's drug policy on a first offense would suggest a 30-day suspension plus a suspension from all student activities for no less than four school months. Selby said he was meeting today with high school principal Harvey Swagger to discuss the students and their character and to gather more information.

## Oberlin council agrees to help theater

OBERLIN — The Oberlin City Council agreed Tuesday to continue giving the Sunflower Cinema \$100 a month to help pay their city bill. The council started to make a donation instead of subsidizing the utility bill for the theater within the last weeks. City Administrator Gary Shike said he had received a call from a board member asking if the council was planning on giving


\$100 a month again this year. The theater plans on reopening the beginning of February. Councilman Ken Shobe said he thought the theater is a good thing for the town, and although the budget is tight, it is a good idea to help the cinema. The vote was unanimous to give \$100 a month. Mr. Shike said he had received

word from the state that the city had not received a Community Development Block Grant for housing rehabilitation. He said the representative he talked to said the coverage area was too big. The city can reapply for the grant with some changes to the application, he said. Anytime the city can get a grant, said Mr. Shobe, they should try for

## Consolidation talks continue

OBERLIN — The Oberlin School Board talked briefly about the idea of consolidating with the Herndon school system at their meeting earlier this week. Superintendent Kelly Glodt said he had checked with the state Department of Education to see if people who live in the Herndon District could put their land into a district which the school board did not decide to consolidate with. Mr. Glodt said what he found out was that people who live on the border between two districts can choose to put their land with another district even if the Herndon School District didn't decide to consolidate with it. For example, if the Herndon Board decided to consolidate with the Atwood District, but a family lives on the Oberlin district line, they can choose to put their land


with the Oberlin district. Glodt said he spoke with Herndon Superintendent Kim Juene-mann about whether their board was interested in doing something other than consolidation, possibly a cooperative agreement. That way, he said, the districts could both still keep their schools open but could share activities like sports teams. He said she told him the only option being considered was consolidation. Board Member Dan Wasson said he thought someone from the board should attend the town hall meeting tonight. Glodt said he would be going and if anyone wanted to go with him, they could. Some of the board members said they would be interested in going. They decided to call a special meeting just in case more than a quorum showed up.



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