



Multi-vehicle pileup closes I-70

By Kevin Bottrell
Goodland Star-News

Sherman County emergency units responded to a five-vehicle pileup on I-70 east of the Kanorado exit this morning.

The Sherman County Rural Fire Department and Northwest Kansas Emergency Medical Services were called to the wreck at 10:09 a.m. (Central Time) today. It was initially reported to involve four to six vehicles near the Port of Entry, however staff at the port reported they could not see it.

The five-vehicle wreck was in the construction zone east of the Kanorado exit. It was reported that at least two of the vehicles were involved in a head-on collision at about 40 mph. The wrecked vehicles were mostly on the north side of the road.

Sherman Rural, Kanorado and Burlington firefighters responded to the scene along with law enforcement. Three Sherman County ambulances were dispatched. The first one arrived on scene at 10:25 (Central) to set up a command post and do triage. Kit Carson County and Thomas County also sent ambulances. The Thomas County ambulance was left



Emergency vehicles from several counties worked a five-vehicle pileup near the Kanorado exit on I-70 Thursday morning.

ANGELA BONHAM/The Goodland Star-News

in Goodland to cover any other emergency calls that might come in.

Sherman County Fire Chief Brian James reported to dispatch

that two vehicles suffered heavy damage while several other vehicles had minor damage. Rescue workers had to cut the doors off at least one vehicle to get the oc-

cupants out.

The ambulance department transported at least three patients to Goodland Regional Medical Center or Kit Carson County Hos-

pital in Burlington.

Rural fire trucks helped divert traffic onto U.S. 24 at the Caruso exit. The Sherman County Sheriff's

Office posted a statement at 10:04 a.m. recommending people avoid the area if possible.



CAROLYN PLOTTS/Oberlin Herald

A cement truck owned by Oberlin Concrete (above) flipped on its side after the front passenger-side tire blew out Tuesday morning about 5 1/2 miles east of Oberlin on U.S. 36.

Two accidents strike truck, car at Oberlin

A concrete truck flipped over and spilled its contents into a ditch about 9:50 a.m. Monday on U.S. 36 about 5 1/2 miles east of Oberlin.

Trooper Tucker Woolsey of the Kansas Highway Patrol, a sheriff's deputy and a Decatur County ambulance crew came to the aid of two passengers in the truck. The Highway Patrol report said the Oberlin Concrete truck, driven by Marlin Anthony Hackney, 44, Oberlin, was eastbound on U.S. 36 when the passenger side front tire blew out. Wayne Benson Hackney, 47, Oberlin, was a passenger in the truck.

The truck went off the roadway to right and overturned into the south ditch. When officers first arrived, there was no one at the scene.

Marlin Hackney was taken to the Decatur County Hospital for treatment of minor injuries. He was wearing a seat belt, the patrol said. Wayne Hackney, who was not wearing a seat

belt, was not injured. The truck was removed from the roadside into a pasture by the family of the victims.

An Oberlin woman totaled her car after rolling it in a ditch five miles east of town on U.S. 36 early Sunday.

Trooper Woolsey, who covered the accident, said Ashley Brown, 23, told him she was driving west on U.S. 36 when she swerved to avoid hitting a deer about 2:55 a.m. He said she over corrected and her vehicle ended up going off the south side of the road.

She re-entered the roadway, he said, before losing control and heading into the south ditch again. The car rolled in the ditch, coming to rest on its wheels.

Although an ambulance was sent to the scene, Woolsey said it was not needed, as the driver suffered no serious injuries.

Woman dies when car rolls

Goodland resident Brandi Bahe was killed early Tuesday morning when her car rolled on U.S. 24 west of town.

The Sherman County Sheriff's Office released a report later that day, saying she had been driving eastbound on U.S. 24 when at

12:56 a.m. about three tenths of a mile east of County Road 14 when she lost control of the vehicle. It rolled several times. No other vehicles were involved in the wreck.

Bahe was transported to Goodland Regional Medical Center where she was pronounced dead.

Bahe, 21, was a Goodland High School and Northwest Kansas Technical College graduate. She was engaged to be married to Ryder Kling.

Services are scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the First United Methodist Church.

City council plans to replace trash truck

By Sam Dieter

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The Colby City Council moved closer to bids for several projects at its meeting Tuesday night.

The first order of business for the council was to approve a yearly crack fill project, paying \$21,868 to Paving Maintenance Supply Inc. for 44,000 pounds of crack fill. This year, the city intends to work on East Walnut Street, East Cherry Street, East Plum Street, Donelan Avenue, Cooper Avenue and West Seventh Street.

The council also approved bid specifications for a new one-man truck that empties tipper cans with a robotic arm. The truck would need a body capacity of 20 yards and a diesel engine with at least 300 horsepower.

City Manager Tyson McGreer said the city was scheduled to replace a trash truck instead, but that a one-man truck is breaking down frequently. He said city workers suggested getting a new truck, but keeping the old one as a backup. Public Works Director Omar Weber said that truck often breaks down, costing the city many man-hours by disrupting workers'

schedules. Sometimes the arms stops working. The council approved the specifications without deciding whether to replace the truck.

The council also heard reports:

- The city got a letter from the state and the Environmental Protection Agency that says the agency will continue paying for and operating its superfund plant in town until April 16. The council voted the purchase of gel to purify water at the plant in a meeting earlier this year.

- Dane Olofson has been hired to replace Stacy Jasper as the head of the city recreation department. Olson has been working for the department since about 2007. He will start on Monday, Sept. 16.

- The city tree board recently decided to buy a 1984 GMC tree spade for \$8,000. McGreer told the council about the spade and got the council's blessing to buy one for a reasonable price at the last city council meeting.

- McGreer reported that, as decided at the last meeting, he asked American Tower to get a better bid to lease a tower south of town, and the company has not come up with one yet. The company wanted a new 50-year lease for the tower for \$75,000, which McGreer pointed out comes to only \$1,500 a month.

Search leads to arrest of alleged drug dealer

A Colby man was arrested Saturday for allegedly selling marijuana from his home.

Alan Dible was arrested after a search of his residence at 1710 S. Country Club Dr. by the Thomas County Sheriff's Office, Kansas Bureau of Investigation and the Colby Police Department. The agencies had been investigating the distribution of marijuana from the residence.

"There was quite a few hours invested," Undersheriff Marc Finley said, adding that officers prob-

ably put in 20 hours.

Finley said he considers the operation a major drug bust, although he could not say how much marijuana Dible was distributing. The sheriff's office found marijuana and drug paraphernalia in his residence. He was arrested for sale of marijuana and possession of the same with intent to sell or distribute, felony possession of drug paraphernalia, no drug tax stamp and endangering a child, and booked into the Thomas County Jail.

New computers needed, not yet approved for sheriff

By Heather Alwin
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The county sheriff's office needs new computers and a server, but the county commissioners hesitated to approve the purchases at their Friday meeting.

Undersheriff Marc Finley said representatives from Ntronic Inc. told him the department's server is nearly full. The server capacity

has slowed the department's computers so much that it took two hours Thursday night to book one inmate.

County Clerk Shelly Harms mentioned her department experiences long delays when their computers break down or become infected by a virus.

Harms and Finley suggested the commissioners consider hiring a computer technology expert to work for the county, managing

the computer systems the county depends on.

Commissioner Mike Baughn said it might pay for the county to have such an employee "because we're transitioning into a new era of technology."

See "COMPUTERS," Page 2

