

Phone failure downs Internet

Equipment failure in Southwestern Bell's phone system disrupted Internet service to **nwkansas.com** customers for much of the day Saturday until a repairman could be called home from a fishing trip to fix it.

Evan Barnum, systems administrator for the Internet service, said a telephone connection box in Oberlin failed Saturday morning, shutting down the connection between Oberlin and Topeka.

The failure meant that customers in Oberlin, Bird City and Norcatour were unable to get out on the Internet. Customers in the rest of the **nwkansas.com** system couldn't get e-mail, and some had Internet connectivity problems, depending on their computer's domain name server settings.

Southwestern Bell technicians started searching for the source of the disruption Saturday morning, and by mid-afternoon had it narrowed down to Oberlin. After a technician from Colby was called in, he located and repaired the Bell equipment about 4 p.m. Pat Cozad came in to restart the system and the phone line came back up.

William McKnight, county building manager, will talk to the commissioners about maintenance work which was done on the two air conditioning units at the courthouse.

"On behalf of our customers, we appreciate the Southwest Bell technicians getting out on a Saturday to restore service," Barnum said.

Steve Haynes, president of Nor'West Newspapers, which operates the service, added that Cozad and Barnum had given up part of their weekend to be sure the system came back on line.

"Several customers called to let us know there was a problem," he said, "but it took a while to fix since it was in telephone company equipment, and on a weekend."

County to appoint Smoky members

The Sherman County commissioners plan to make three appointments to the Smoky Gardens board when they meet Tuesday morning at the courthouse in Goodland.

The three vacancies are for board members whose terms expired April 30.

William McKnight, county building manager, will talk to the commissioners about maintenance work which was done on the two air conditioning units at the courthouse.

The commissioners are to make a decision on the "cafeteria plan" and short

term disability insurance with American Fidelity Life Assurance Co. for county employees.

The commission will meet at 8 a.m. in the commissioner's room on the first floor of the courthouse, Eighth and Broadway.

TV cop center of real-life murder mystery

LOS ANGELES (AP) — On TV's "Baretta," Robert Blake was the tough and cocky cop who always knew right from wrong.

"I told you, man, nobody kills nobody. That's the rules. I don't know no other way," the detective declared as he busted a killer in an episode of the 1970s drama.

Now, with police investigating whether the 67-year-old Blake had a role in his wife's slaying, the question is how much of a gulf exists between the actor and his Emmy-winning screen image, forever associated with a theme song with the line: "Don't do the crime if you can't do the time."

"He's got a cloud over him," said attorney Harland Braun, who represents Blake. "I mean, isn't that the problem with Hollywood, is what people think you are rather than what you really are? I think he's learning a fast lesson in reality."

Bonny Lee Bakley, 45, married Blake four months ago after a paternity test showed he fathered her 11-month-old daughter. Bakley was shot in Blake's car May 4 at a restaurant where the couple had dined.

Police have said they have not ruled out anyone as a suspect in the slaying, and Braun has acknowledged the actor has come under suspicion. Braun said his client had returned to the restaurant to retrieve a gun he had left behind and then found his wife had been shot.

Braun and others have portrayed Bakley as a schemer who tapped lonely men for money through a mail-order business and the sale of nude photos. Friends and relatives have described Bakley as obsessed with celebrity.

But it is Blake who is at the center of the Hollywood murder mystery. To novelist Harry Crews, who profiled Blake for Esquire magazine in the mid-1970s, it was inevitable that the actor would end up a fallen star.

"Whatever his devils were, they destroyed him. They destroyed him long before he got into whatever he's into now," said Crews, who has stayed in touch with Blake over the years. Blake's received accolades for his performance as a killer who goes to the gallows in 1967's "In Cold Blood," and he won a 1975 Emmy for "Baretta," but his career has been stalled for years. When the divorced father of three and Bakley crossed paths at a nightclub, he was no longer a Hollywood player.

In interviews during the mid-1990s, Blake said he took a self-imposed exile to deal with too much "pills and booze" and the therapy-induced realization that he had been a victim of child abuse.

He was eager to regain his popularity, he told People magazine in 1995,

and he had a facelift to improve his odds of getting work — a decision he later regretted.

"I survived my whole life by listening to my own drummer," the 5-foot-4 actor told the magazine. "Then all of the sudden I said, 'Gee whiz, all the stars my age look like they belong on 'The Donna Reed Show,' so I'll do it too.' I'm sorry I gave in to that (expletive)."

For Blake, however, life's second act proved elusive.

"He couldn't get work," Crews said. "He just couldn't get it. And he was hustling and slumming and partying and begging and everything else for any kind of work within five years after he left 'Baretta' up to now."

As a child, Blake had stepped easily into the Hollywood limelight. He appeared as Mickey in the "Our Gang" comic shorts of the 1930s and '40s, then as Little Beaver in the "Red Ryder" Westerns.

The charming innocence of his early roles contrasted sharply with a horrible life at home, Blake said. He was born Michael Gubitosi in Nutley, N.J., to parents he called "commitably insane."

"My father was a sadistic, madman alcoholic who killed himself when he was 40-some years old," he said. "My mother was equally bad, if not worse, because she saw what was happening and did nothing about it."



Learning bike safety at early age

The Goodland Police Department and Boy Scouts held a bike rodeo Saturday morning in the parking lot behind Bankwest. Kids had their bikes inspected, practiced their riding skills on an obstacle course and learned safety rules and hand signals. Mikail Freeman, 7, (above) rode his bike through a simulated intersection as Goodland Patrol Officer Cary Amos watched. Garrett Geist, 7, (left) maneuvered around an orange cone on the obstacle course.

Photos by Janet Craft
The Goodland Daily News

Goodland All-Star Booster Club

WILKENS TRUCK & TRAILER
1016 W. Hwy 24, Suite 2
Goodland, KS 67735
Toll free: 888/613-1121
Office: 785/899-5454
Fax: 785/899-6411
Chuck: 785/821-1234

Linda & Walt Linthacum/Peggy Schlepp
Independent Insurance Agents
Insurance PLUS Service
L & W/Andrist Insurance Agency
(785) 899-5678 or (785) 332-2121
102 E. 8th Goodland, Kan. 107 S. Quincy St. Francis, Kan.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, May 14 - Regional Softball
Regional Golf
Regional Tennis

Tuesday, May 15 - Band Concert - Gulick Park 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 16 - Last Day for Seniors, Commencement Practice
Technology Comm. Mtg. 3:45 p.m.

Thursday, May 17 - X-Presso Guest Night HS Auditorium 7:00 p.m.

Friday, May 18 - Regional Track
State Tennis

Saturday, May 19 - State Tennis
Graduation 2:00 p.m.

Monday, May 21 - State Golf

Tuesday, May 22 - 7-12 Spring Vocal Concert
7:00 p.m. HS Auditorium

You're GEMS to us,
Cowboys & Cowgirls!
Mann's Jewelry
"The distinctive difference"
1007 Main
Goodland
785/899-6100

Koons Funeral Chapel Koons
Monuments
211 N. Main
Goodland
785/899-3900

Rasure Lumber, Inc.
Do-it center
785/899-7149
605 Caldwell
Goodland
Complete line of hardware and building supplies plus prompt, personal service.

SHORT & SON INC.
SINCE 1934
Hwy. 24
GOODLAND, KAN.
(785) 899-2592

Quality Care
Ford Mercury Blue Oval Certified
"Where Service is an Affair of the Heart"
DAN BRENNER FORD-MERCURY, INC.
222 W. HWY. 24 • 1-70 BUSINESS LOOP
GOODLAND, KS 67735
(Toll Free)—800-636-8770
(Business)—785-899-2316
(Fax)—785-899-2317

Goodland
WAL★MART
Super Center
Hwy. 27 & 24 Jct.
(785) 899-2111

McB's Corner
Full Service Fuel
• Tire Repair • Oil Change
• Exhaust Systems
• U-Haul Rental • Tire Sales
• Trailer Sales
COMPLETE VEHICLE REPAIR
785-899-7375
17th & Cherry • Goodland

First National Bank
Member FDIC
Colby • Goodland • Kirk • Quinter
• Sharon Springs • St. Francis
www.fnbank.com

"The place to keep in shape!"
Goodland Activities Center
808 Main
785/899-7242

SCHIELDS BDS ENTERPRISES
GOODLAND, KS
785-899-2269
801 Main

Tom Harrison Branch Broker/Auctioneer
HomeLand REAL ESTATE
785/852-4200 — after hours
114 West 12th • Goodland
785/899-3060
Fax: 785/899-3100
E-mail: homelands@aol.com
www.goodlandnet.com/homeland

Help us support the local teams this winter season.
Julie's INTERIORS & GIFTS
1005 Main Street
Goodland, KS
67735
785-899-7231

Walker & Traeger
Snapper Mowers & Equipment
Outdoor Grills
New & used Western Golf Carts
Mobile: 785-899-2121

SHORES BROS Auto Supply
1609 Main Goodland, HS
785/899-3647 • 800/246-4036
Count on us for all your hardware & auto parts needs
ALL PRO AUTO PARTS SENTRY Hardware

Lonny's Quality Auto Body, Inc.
Collision Specialists • Since 1975
1933 Caldwell • Goodland
785/899-6311

WESTERN STATE BANK
815 Center Goodland 785/899-2393
Member FDIC

M&M Sales
Authorized Merritt Sales Center
Dealer for DMF & Wheeler Steel Trailers
New & Used Trailers
1840 W. Hwy. 24
Goodland, KS
785/899-6636
Eve: 785/899-2610
Toll Free: 888/221-7409

"THE SPORTS LEADER"
KLOE 730 am
Full Service Radio
KWGB 97.9
102.5 FM KKCI
Best of the 70s, 80s, & 90s

McClure Plumbing & Heating
"Since 1930"
Plumbing • Heating • Air Conditioning • Residential • Commercial • Farm • Ranch • Repairs & Remodeling
Goodland 899-6229 • Colby 462-7314