

Accident causes backup during lunch hour



Traffic backed up on K-27 just before noon Wednesday as crews cleaned up scattered glass and car parts after a crash. Police said Ronald L. Jones, 41, was stopped to turn left on 16th Street when his 2001 Chevrolet pickup was hit from behind by a 1998

Chevrolet car driven by Mark J. Moyer, 23, of McDonald. Moyer suffered minor injuries and was treated on the scene. Both cars were removed by Alex's Repair.

Photo by Kathryn Gurfinkel/The Goodland Star-News

City office gets computer upgrade

COMPUTERS, from Page 1

vices would not be subject to the fee. The city still will collect sales tax on water sold at retail.

The state has made the fee an irrevocable decision, so the city can't back out of the program later.

Commissioner Dave Daniels said at a recent solid waste meeting, the county's trash-collection contractor, In the Can, requested permission to pick up trash left outside of city dumpsters.

Daniels said the company would be willing to go into the alleys and clean them up, but they are afraid of liability issues. In the Can does not want to be held responsible for hauling away items and later discovering the owners didn't want them trashed, however.

"What some people think is trash," said Pickman, "is someone else's treasure."

Daniels said the solid waste com-

mittee wants to have an ordinance allowing the trash company to pick up abandoned items.

Although commissioners agreed they would like to see the alleyways cleared, they decided that an ordinance could become too complicated.

In other business, commissioners:

- Discussed the mediation process on defects in the swimming pool.

- Approved a resolution to review bond refinancing while interest rates are low. The approval does not commit the city to refund bonds, but looks into refinancing them at a lower rate.

- Voted to hold next month's meeting on Monday, Oct. 4, as scheduled although Volk and Pickman will be at a League of Kansas Municipality meeting until Oct. 6. Commissioners agreed to meet to pay bills and review minutes, and to call a special meeting if something else comes up.

Center launches prevention campaign

DRINKING, from Page 1

year will be about \$80,000. The grant was written for more, she said, so there will be an extra \$10,000 each for programs with the Big Brothers Big Sisters organizations in Sherman and Thomas counties.

Each year, the grant will be written for amounts based on the planned programs, she said. It was awarded to the prevention center, she said, which is working with the Sherman County Community Partners Coalition and the Thomas County Coalition to administer the grant.

Both coalitions meet monthly, Evans said, and would welcome anyone who would like to get involved. There are no dues, she said; it's

just a group of concerned people working to prevent problems.

The idea behind the campaign, Evans said, is that a lot of kids make good decisions and healthy choices.

The prevention center wants to support them, she said, and work with parents to support their kids.

A lot of parents and kids think everybody drinks, she said, but that's not true; it's not that widespread.

The center hired an advertising agency, MB Piland of Topeka, Evans said, and worked with people there who know how to market an idea.

They came up with a series of six logos, she said, and then had adults and youths from Colby and Goodland participate in an on-line focus group to evaluate them.

They voted on a logo and said why they chose it, she said; the logo is now on T-shirts, tank tops and labels that are attached to the prizes given out.

Members of the community partners coalition helped hand out T-shirts and goodies at the school, and school faculty and staff helped with the event as well. Coalition members who helped were Paul Chaffin, Pat Jordan, Clark Jordan, Dennis Washburn, Art Lovington, Judy McKee and Nancy Farris.

High School Principal Harvey Swager and Athletic Director Steve Raymer helped with the "traffic" flow in the hallway at the south entrance of the school, where the event was held.

Coalition members would like more people to become involved, Evans said, and work on prevention activities. One thing the coalition would especially like help with, she said, is the Communities That Care Survey.

The survey is given to students in sixth, eighth, 10th and 12th grades, she said, and there will be a mail-in and on-line survey of some of the same questions for parents.

The survey gives the coalition an idea of what the kids say is going on, she said, and the parent survey could be used to compare with that what the parents think is going on.

But, she said, 80 percent participation is needed for the results to be scientifically defensible.

Evans said she had tried the mail-in survey before and didn't get a good response, so she is adding an on-line version to make it more convenient. She said the survey will probably be taken in December, and the results will be used to decide what the campaign's focus should be.

Alcohol seems to be the drug of choice for youths, Evans said, but data from the survey may show that something else needs to be added to the campaign, such as marijuana or methamphetamines.

The prevention center and coalitions want to be sure the campaign targets what the kids say is the problem, she said.

"We want this campaign to be successful in Colby and Goodland," Evans said, "to get people involved in the coalitions and positively impact the communities."

Employees get new early schedule

SCHEDULE, from Page 1

drop box is used a lot.

City employees working at the power plant and emergency services will still be on 24-hour shifts, but Pickman said, the change will put all other city employees on the same schedule.

"Instead of staggering things," he said, "they will all work the same schedule."

Commissioners said the early hours would help parents, who could pay bills after they drop their kids off at school in the morning.

Mull said an earlier opening time would be better for him.

He said the city could try the schedule and go back to the old

one if it doesn't work out.

City employees also had a say, with 41 preferring 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., three choosing 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and one opting for the work schedule to remain the same, Pickman said.

The commission voted to change the schedule after offering 30 days notice and publishing the change in the newspaper. City offices will start opening earlier after the time change on Nov. 1.

Although the decision was unanimous to approve the new work schedule, commissioners are concerned about public opinion.

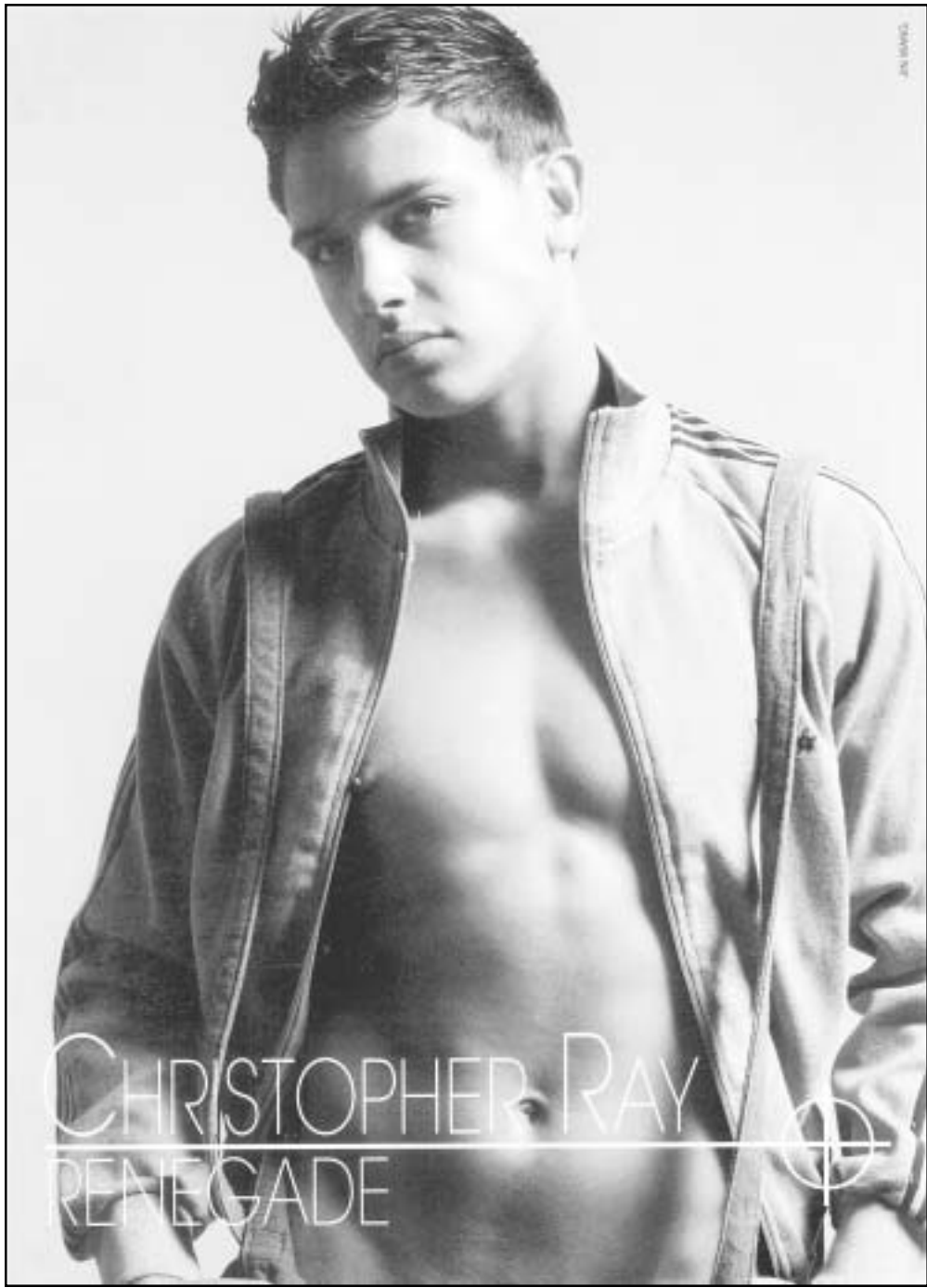
"Oh, you're going to get some static about it," said Commissioner Dean Blume, "no doubt about that."

Homecoming nominees chosen by classmates

ROYAL, from Page 1

Other nominees for queen were Bailee Guyer, Shannon Johnson and Shannon Showalter.

The final results of the students election for king and queen have already been compiled and the results will be announced during halftime at tonight's game.



Christopher Ray Baumfalk

On the story of Teen Model Chris Baumfalk, Tina Tesmer respectfully honors and is very proud of him and his accomplishments. Chris is the son of Tina Tesmer.

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