star-news lland The Goodland Star-News / Friday, October 14, 2005 3 Hockey player caught driving drunk, speeding on I-70

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News

player caught driving drunk and speeding on I-70 last month apparently had illegal steroids in his Greg Black, 23,

Kirkland, Wash., who was listed two seasons ago as a forward on the St. Louis Blues hockey team, was pulled over at 7:34

p.m. on Sept. 19, by

Highway Patrol.

ence of alcohol, a class B misdemeanor; possession of steroids and pos- Black didn't slow down. session of drug paraphera 60 mph construction zone; and following too closely.

Black is facing charges in

Greene said he picked

office about an erratic driver.

He clocked Black's 2003 Chevy A former major league hockey Sherman County District Court of Tahoe going 92 miles per hour in the driving under the influ- westbound lane of I-70 near milepost 11. Greene said he followed him into a construction zone, where

He said Black was driving at a nalia, both class A misde- high speed and nearly ran into the meanors; speeding 92 in back of a mini van about the time he caught up to the vehicle.

"He was all over the road," Greene said.

up Black after a call came drunk and smelled alcohol, he said. Trooper Joe Greene of the Kansas into the Sherman County dispatch He did a field sobriety test and took

Black into custody, escorting him to hockey gear and Black told him he Hockey League. A native of Surthe Sherman County Bastille. There they administered a formal breath test.

Trooper Greene said he found anabolic steroids in the vehicle along with drug paraphernalia such as razors and syringes.

Greene said Black told him he was a player for the St. Louis Blues and was heading to Alaska to play for the Alaska Aces of Anchorage, an ECHL (formerly East Coast He suspected Black was driving Hockey League) minor league team.

was a player.

has taken calls from Black's man- had a record 63 points — 36 ager and coaches and the head of security from the Blues.

Black had his first appearance in season. court and pleaded not guilty. He was released on \$7,500 in bond after roster this season. The league did spending three days at in the notplaylast year because of a labor Bastille.

The Blues web site said Black was signed on March 20, 2003, to not show Black on their roster, and play as a forward. He was in his officials said they did not know anyfourth season with the Seattle thing about Black being sent from The car, he said, was full of Thunderbirds of the Western the Blues to be on their team.

rey, British Columbia, Black was Since the arrest, Greene said, he the team's assistant captain and goals, 27 assists — and 203 penalty minutes in 71 contests that

He is not listed on the St. Louis dispute.

Acheck with the Alaska Aces did

Water breaks free

Black



City water department workers responded quickly to a water main break at the corner of Sixth and Main Wednesday morning. City Manager Wayne Hill said the break was in a four-inch line, and it took the workers a little longer to locate the broken pipe because it was not where the map indicated it should be. He said the crew got the leak fixed without any problems. Crews will be replacing the bricks soon. The city commission meets at 5 p.m. on Monday, and Hill said he will update the members on the status of Pioneer Park and schedule a utility rate work session.

Photo by Mona Carver/The Goodland Star-News

Street sealing diverts traffic

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News Several city streets were closed last week as city workers finish a the streets. sealing project to extend the life of the surface.

Crews were putting down a new type of seal for Goodland, known as fog seal. The product, the same oil used for the original chip seal done last summer but diluted with hot water, is sprayed in a fog over the streets and then it settles in, creating the seal.

Rich Simon, superintendent of public works, said the process locks in the rock so it can't come lose.

The sealant, he said, should make the roads last twice as long, moving the street sealing from three-year to six-year rotations.

Simon said the road had to be left untouched while they dried. If cars were allowed on too soon, he said, they could have pulled up some of the sealant.

"There can't be any traffic at all on them for at least two hours," he railroad crossing on Cherry to said, adding his crews blocked off

He said several variables contribute to how fast it will dry, including wind, heat and moisture.

"It's all weather dependent," added Darin Nuefeld, the city's engineer.

The seal may dry before the time is up, Simon said, but blocking the streets off for a full two hours will ensure they are OK to use.

Simon said they started at 6:30 a.m. last Tuesday on Kansas Ave., First to 17th, and planned to tackle 15,000 gallons of the fog seal, D'Lao, Eighth to the dead end.

A Denver contractor, Cobito, yards. provided the oil and the city did the actual spraying.

Simon said he wanted to start work on Kansas, a less-populated street, to get a handle on of how it works before moving to more ington and Harrison. heavily traveled streets like 17th.

Crews sealed 17th Street from the Clark

Commissioner Josh Dechant suggested placing a notice on the doors of Frontier Equity and Meuller Grain to let customers know to stay off of 17th. He said truck drivers bringing crops in would appreciate the advanced warning.

Simon said he contacted all of the businesses. The streets were open again, he said, as soon as they could let people back in.

He said they put down about enough to cover 146,663 square

Seventeen parts of streets in were be sealed, including Kansas, 16th, 17th, 10th, Second, Main, Washington, Center, Eighth, Grandview, Colorado, Arcade, Second, Wash-

Energy prices double for city

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News Energy prices for the City of bills.

City commissioners say citizens want to know why their city bills have skyrocketed.

"I can't even guess what the numbers will do from month to month,"

intendent.

late into the fall. The power plant has been run in September much less October, but the generators Goodland have more than doubled were on into last week. The generain the past year and city officials are tors run on natural gas or diesel and getting complaints about power the power they produce cost more than power the city buys from Sunflower Electric.

"If my calculations are right," Blake said, "I think the numbers are going to go up."

He said the highest price prosaid Rod Blake, power plant super- jected for natural gas was \$12 per saying fuel costs have only inmillion British thermal units creased recently. He said with the hot weather this (MMBtu) just a few weeks ago, but "I think we're all seeing it at the ear the city's generators have run has already gone to \$14 MMBtu

Commissioner Dave Daniels said the city is not to blame for the inflated power bills; Sunflower is the culprit. He said they were charging \$39 per megawatt hour at this time last year and that number has jumped to \$80 per megawatt hour this year.

"It's more than doubled," he said. "It's not the city that's raising the rate; it's Sunflower."

City Manager Wayne Hill agreed,

as pump, too," he said

corrections

Cold weather turns school's attention from air conditioning to heat

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News As the weather turns cold, the Goodland School District is worrying less about air conditioning and more about heat.

Air conditioning did linger in the back of school board member's minds Monday, though, as they agreed to seek bids in March to add air at West Elementary.

It was heat at the forefront, however, as they bought a used oil heater for the bus barn.

They accepted a bid from Malsom Welding and Repair Service for \$7,721 for a 650-gallon heater.

told the board he and Bob Harkins, barn. transportation supervisor, looked at two units, rated at 250 and 650 gallons

He said the smaller one is a standard heater and the other is made by Malsom. The larger one, he added, has a work table that makes it easier nance," she added. to dump used oil.

Selby said Malsom's would install the heater full of the oil and they could buy more oil from the larger heater. shop.

Selby said they could notify school employees that they were taking used oil and get some donations. Most of the oil would come

Superintendent Marvin Selby from the buses and vehicles at the

Board member Amy Sederstrom said she has an oil heater and advised the board to consider getting an oil storage tank. She said hers goes through oil pretty fast.

"There will be some mainte-

Selby said the heater should use between 15 and 18 gallons per day. The board agreed to buy the

As the temperature drops, though, teachers and students no longer have to sit in stuffy classrooms at the elementary schools and the junior high.

While the problem is gone for now, board members are looking towards adding air conditioning to all of the buildings.

Selby said at a board retreat last month, members had discussed a lease-purchase agreement to add air conditioning to all of the schools at

the same time.

After speaking with each board member individually, he said, the plan changed back to seeking bids to air condition West. The board was ready to do something this summer, but decided there wasn't enough time to get the work done before school started.

Board voted unanimously to get bids in March. Selby said the air should be in place as students arrive for school next year.

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