

# Hockey player caught driving drunk, speeding on I-70

By Kathryn Burke  
*The Goodland Star-News*

A former major league hockey player caught driving drunk and speeding on I-70 last month apparently had illegal steroids in his car.

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 Trooper Joe Greene of the Kansas

Highway Patrol.

Black is facing charges in Sherman County District Court of driving under the influence of alcohol, a class B misdemeanor; possession of steroids and possession of drug paraphernalia, both class A misdemeanors; speeding 92 in a 60 mph construction zone; and following too closely.

Greene said he picked up Black after a call came into the Sherman County dispatch

office about an erratic driver.

He clocked Black's 2003 Chevy Tahoe going 92 miles per hour in the westbound lane of I-70 near milepost 11. Greene said he followed him into a construction zone, where Black didn't slow down.

He said Black was driving at a high speed and nearly ran into the back of a mini van about the time he caught up to the vehicle.

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

He suspected Black was driving drunk and smelled alcohol, he said. He did a field sobriety test and took

Black into custody, escorting him to the 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 Hockey League) minor league team.

The car, he said, was full of

hockey gear and Black told him he was a player.

Since the arrest, Greene said, he has taken calls from Black's manager and coaches and the head of security from the Blues.

Black had his first appearance in court and pleaded not guilty. He was released on \$7,500 in bond after spending three days at in the Bastille.

The Blues web site said Black was signed on March 20, 2003, to play as a forward. He was in his fourth season with the Seattle Thunderbirds of the Western

Hockey League. A native of Surrey, British Columbia, Black was the team's assistant captain and had a record 63 points — 36 goals, 27 assists — and 203 penalty minutes in 71 contests that season.

He is not listed on the St. Louis roster this season. The league did not play last year because of a labor dispute.

A check with the Alaska Aces did not show Black on their roster, and officials said they did not know anything about Black being sent from the Blues to be on their team.

## Water breaks free



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

## 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.

Superintendent Marvin Selby told the board he and Bob Harkins, 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 to dump used oil.

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

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

from the buses and vehicles at the barn.

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 maintenance," she added.

Selby said the heater should use between 15 and 18 gallons per day.

The board agreed to buy the larger heater.

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.

## corrections

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