

Smash crunch, crumble

Charlie Thorson in the 66T station wagon (right) pushed the yellow 55 car driven by Kris Krayca toward an opening in the berm during the third heat of the Kiwanis Demolition Derby on Friday. Krayca's car lost an axle. Thorson went on to win the derby main event. Second place went to Jarod Smades driving the pink 43J car, and Marshall Hoppe was third driving the 11 car. Hoppe won the aggressive driver award, said Kiwanis announcer Jeff Mason. Tod Barnett of Brewster in the 4T (below) was part of a squeeze play on car 26 in the first heat. Barnett received the Gage Cloyd rookie driver award. Mason said there were 18 cars in the derby, down a bit from previous years. He said some people who planned to enter cars apparently did not get them ready in time.

Photos by Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News



Fort Hays State University placed ninth in coaches' poll

The Tigers of Fort Hays State University placed ninth in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association football coaches' pre-season poll while the Lady Tigers volleyball team was picked eighth.

Fort Hays State joined the Mid-America conference on July 1 after nearly 40 years in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference. The league has 10 teams, including all four NCAA Division II schools in Kansas. The other six are in Missouri.

For football, Northwest Missouri State University, last season's national runner-up, was picked No. 1 with five first-place votes. The Gorillas of Pittsburg State University,

where former Goodland Cowboy Brock Lohr is on the roster as an inside linebacker, was picked No. 2 with one first-place vote.

The Ichabods of Washburn University in Topeka finished third with one first-place vote. Washburn went 7-1 in conference play last season, winning its first football title.

Central Missouri State University was fourth getting two first-place votes and Missouri Western State University fifth with one top vote. Emporia State finished sixth, Missouri Southern State seventh, Truman State eighth and Southwest Baptist University 10th.

Guiding the Tiger football again this fall is Coach Kevin Verdugo

entering his second season. Last year, Fort Hays State finished 2-8 overall and 2-6 in the Rocky Mountain conference.

Freshman Macy Sexson, a 2006 Weskan High graduate, joins the Tiger roster as a defensive lineman. Sexson was a first-team All-Western Kansas Liberty League pick as both a guard and defensive lineman his junior season as a Coyote.

In the volleyball poll, only two teams got first-place votes. Truman State had six of the votes and was favored to win the conference title. The Lady Blues of Washburn got the other four and were picked No. 2. The Blues went 15-1 in the conference last season, earning the

regular season title.

The poll has Central Missouri State third, Emporia State fourth, Pittsburg State fifth and Missouri Southern sixth. Missouri Western finished seventh with Northwest Missouri State ninth and Southwest

Baptist 10th.

Coaching the Lady Tigers is Steve Smith, also entering his second season. Last year he guided the team to a 16-15 overall record, finishing 10-9 in conference play.

Oberlin's Lydia Karnopp, a 2006

graduate of Decatur Community High, joins the team, which opens its season on Friday, Aug. 25, at a tournament in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Karnopp made the All-Northwest Kansas League volleyball team her senior year.

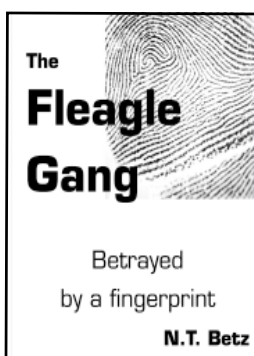
Kansas' earliest CSI story Fingerprint ends nationwide '20s manhunt

Another great review posted on Amazon.com

Excellent job on the Fleagle gang, June 5, 2006

M. Koch "Mike" (Oklahoma)

Mr. Betz tells the story of the Fleagle gang in a creative writing style, with the use of various reporters of the time period, which made the book very readable and flow well. Betz also goes into the various law enforcement techniques of the time period and various changes in forensic science used to solve crimes and prosecute criminals. This is one book to read if you like the gangsters period of the 1920s. I highly recommend it. Mike Koch, Author of "The Kimes Gang."



Ranked in top 20 true crime, burglary and robbery on Barnes & Noble

Author Tom (N.T.) Betz, editor of *The Goodland Star-News*, has spent a lifetime in journalism and on the Great Plains.

"The Fleagle Gang" details the robbery/murder case which hinged on a single fingerprint — precursor to today's CSI shows — found on a murdered Dighton, Kan., doctor's car. The fledgling FBI plays a crucial role in turning the fingerprint into solid forensic evidence used to find, arrest and convict members of the Fleagle Gang. The FBI credits the Fleagle case as the first time a single fingerprint was used to identify and convict criminals.

The Fleagle Gang robbed banks in Larned, Kinsley, Marysville, Ottawa and McPherson Kan., Lamar, Colo., Eugene, Ore., and countless others of over \$1 million in the 10 years they operated.

"The Fleagle Gang" is available at the **Big Timbers Museum** in Lamar, Colo., the **Holly Library**, Holly, Colo.; the **Lane County Museum** in Dighton, Kan., the **Fick Fossil and History Museum** in Oakley, Kan., the **Finney County Museum** and **Hastings** in Garden City, Kan., the **High Plains Museum** in Goodland, Kan., the **El Cuartelejo Museum** in Scott City, and the **Colorado Prison Museum** in Canon City, Colo. It is available on-line from the publisher **Authorhouse.com**, Linda Knott's web bookstore **knottjustbooks@spreadtheword.com**, **Amazon.com**, **Barnes and Noble** and other major book stores.

Check out "The Fleagle Gang" web site at: nwkansas.com/home/fleaglegang.

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