



Mike Boettcher, director of radiology at Goodland Regional Medical Center, stood next to the hospital's new high speed DXI spiral computed tomography scanner, better known as a "cat scan."
Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

Time-saving equipment put to use

SCANNER, from Page 1

moderate twice as many patients.
It would take at least 15 minutes to do one exam previously, said Boettcher, adding that with the new equipment it will only take about three minutes. He said the machine takes a three-dimensional picture of the inside of a patient's body and allows doctors to take a closer look at one specific area.
The hospital's old scanner basically did the same thing, explained Boettcher, but it was slower and limited doctors in what areas of the body they could view.
"If we had a trauma patient that had to be flown out," he said, "we would only be half way through the scan when the helicopter got here. Now we can complete the scan and send the film with the crew so diagnosis and treatment can be faster."
With the new cat scanner, doctors can

peer deep inside the heart of a patient, said Boettcher. He said it helps doctors diagnose a pulmonary embolism, which can be life threatening if it's not caught early enough.
A pulmonary embolism is when there is a blockage of the vessels in the heart, he said. To find it, doctors inject dye into the patient's arteries, Boettcher said, and the scanner takes pictures of the blockage by picking up where the dye has stopped.
He said the scanner will help orthopedic doctors pick one individual bone to look at up close. The bone can be viewed from all angles, he said, adding that the older machine wouldn't let doctors do that.
"The biggest advantage to the patients is in the time factor," said Boettcher. "Our staff can do a whole lot more in less time."
He said the scanner had been used on

18 patients on Monday and Tuesday.
The old machine would process about two patients a day, Boettcher said, but with the new scanner, doctors can see four or five a day.
Before a patient would have to go to Denver for certain exams, he said, like the diagnosis for a pulmonary embolism. Now the procedure can be done locally, Boettcher added, it will be more convenient for everyone.

Check out all the exciting activities going on at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair. August 7-12

County tax may be kept longer

COUNTY, from Page 1

of the sales tax may be the only alternative available.
Commissioner Kenny Davis said it might be a good idea to look at keeping the one-quarter cent sales tax for a longer period to handle this and to develop a fund for future work on the 35-mile road.
The commissioners agreed to participate in a Single Family Mortgage Revenue Bond Program through Sedgwick and Shawnee Counties.
The program has been offered for 10 years, but this year \$4,000,000 has been set aside to assist homebuyers in rural counties. There is no cost to the county, and first-time homebuyers who apply through local lenders may qualify for a grant of up to four percent of the mortgage amount to be used towards a down payment and closing costs.
Under the program, the homebuyers

would be staying in Sherman County, and the local lenders would receive a finder's fee for referring qualified borrowers.
In 1999, the program helped nearly 1,000 individuals and families buy homes.
The commissioners took a look at the proposed holiday schedule for 2001, and indicated they would move Martin Luther King Day and Columbus Day to give more time off at Christmas and New Years. A final decision was not made, but the commissioners said they would look at the calendar to determine which dates would be changed.
Appraiser Terry Ballard approached the commissioners for permission to advertise for an additional person for his office. The commissioners said they had no problem with this as long as costs remained within the office's budget.
Ballard said he thought the cost would

stay within the budget because the people in his office are now doing work which was formerly contracted out so these costs have dropped.
The commissioners held a 10-minute executive session with Selby on a personnel matter before recessing at 8:40 a.m. to travel to Edson for the road inspection.
After their return, they spent time looking at the various budget requests from the departments for next year. They tentatively approved what was turned in and asked County Clerk Janet Rumpel to put it together to see if it will fit with the anticipated revenue.
All county offices will be closed Friday afternoon to allow employees to participate in Family Fun Day at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair.

Work pays off for 4-Her

CATTLE, from Page 1

to know how much it should be eating. For example, when the animal weighs 750 pounds, it should eat at least 15 pounds of feed a day and at 1,250 pounds, it should be up to 25 pounds of feed per day. A steer has to eat and drink to look good at a show, they said.
When the Kansas Classic in Hutchinson came up, Jace went, but John didn't because of a school function. However, Jace's steer didn't like being separated from John's steer, so he wouldn't eat or drink for two days and looked bad. He placed 10th in his class.
Once the steer was back home, Jace said, he started eating again. At the next show, he won grand champion and beat the steer that won the competition at Hutchinson. That goes along with one of the Mosbarger's favorite sayings, "different judge, different day."

Two aspects of the project are conformation and showmanship. When an exhibitor competes in the conformation class, their animal is judged on how good it looks. While in showmanship competition, the exhibitor is judged on how good they show their animal.
At the National Junior Maine-Anjou Show in Enid, Okla., with 90 exhibitors in the junior division, John and Jace both did well in showmanship.
"It was so exciting," said Darla, their mom. "Both the boys made the top

cut."
She said Jace didn't have an animal entered in the show, so he showed someone else's and John showed his heifer, which is usually a handful.
John told his mother he didn't care how the heifer acted, he was just going to stay calm. He went on to win the showmanship competition.
Another saying the Mosbargers repeat is, "The harder you work, the luckier you get."
"We put a lot of time in on my heifer to get her ready for Junior Nationals," John said. "We worked with her three times a day, rinsing and brushing to get her ready."
At the show, a girl and her mother saw his heifer and wanted to buy it. John said it was a hard decision to make, but he sold her anyway.
"I know all of our hard work paid off because my heifer had a really pretty hair coat and that's what caught their eye," he said.

The Sherman County Landfill will be closed on Friday afternoon, August 11th from 1:00-5:00 PM.

Dan Stevens

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