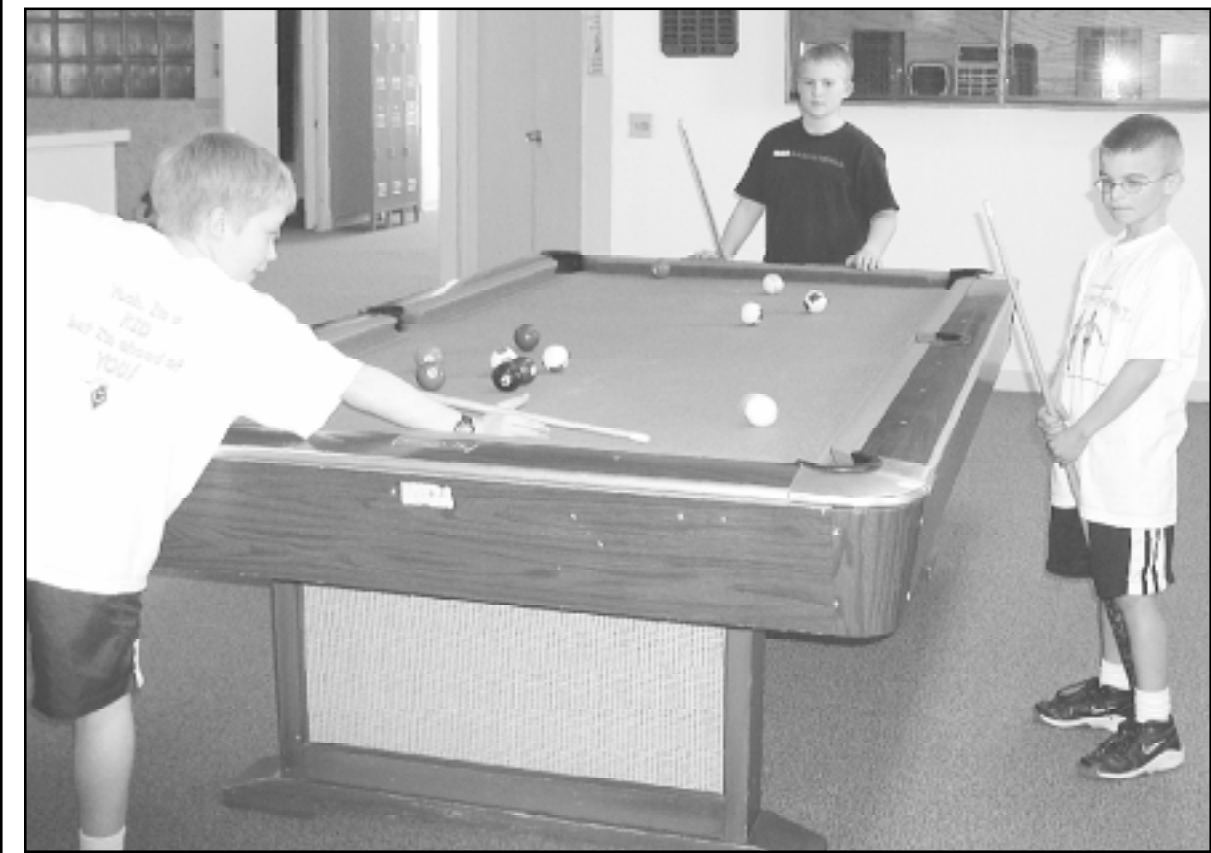


Pool sharks



Jonathan McClung shot a ball while playing pool Monday afternoon with Jason Krayca (center) and Dustin Zelfer at the Goodland Activities Center. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Businesses might lose thousands

ROADWORK, from Page 1

...dirt-moving machines on the road." Business owners say last summer's K-27 project — which had a September deadline but ended closer to December — may have cost them thousands in revenues, and so might this one.

"Sales were down 37 percent," said Mary Humrich, manager of the Taco Bell/Kentucky Fried Chicken chain on K-27. "When I figured that up I was not a happy camper."

She estimated the store will lose 20 percent of its business when the highway is closed this summer, adding that one employee has decided to temporarily move from St. Francis, in Cheyenne County, to Goodland to avoid commuting hassles.

"I've screamed and ranted and raved and signed a petition," Humrich said, "but nothing has happened."

She said she and other business owners complained to Rep. Jim Morrison last year, but he hasn't responded.

"It's like we don't count out here," she said.

Other business owners say that al-

though it does mean less money, the roadwork is necessary.

Stanley R. Weilert, owner of the Comfort Inn on K-27, estimated the hotel lost 10 percent in revenues last summer due to roadwork. While most of the hotel's customers come in off Interstate 70, he said, this summer's closed road could mean less business again.

But, Weilert said, that's the price you have to pay for good roads.

"In the long run," he said, "it'll be very good for the area. We need good, solid roads."

McDiffett said the state is offering the contractor picked for the job big incentives to finish early. He said officials opened contractors' bids on Wednesday, but won't have one picked for a couple of days.

McDiffett said the state will pay the contractor \$5,000 for each day the job is finished before deadline.

If the work is done 10 days before deadline, he said, the contractor will get \$50,000.

He added that the contractor will be fined \$5,000 for every day the job goes past the deadline, which is about 10

times higher than the state's normal penalty.

The state rarely offers a bonus for finishing early, McDiffett said, and usually charges contractors about \$600 each day they are late. He said Smith Sand and Gravel, the Garden City contractor who worked on K-27 last summer, was fined \$925 for each day it went past deadline and wasn't offered an incentive to finish early.

McDiffett said Smith is not one of three contractors picked on Wednesday as finalists for this summer's K-27 job.

City Manager Pickman said city officials plan to work with state and county officials to coordinate roadwork this spring and summer. He said the city wants to make sure motorists have access to downtown Goodland.

The state's official detour will be on K-25, which runs through Colby, but the county has built up gravel roads for "local access" from St. Francis. Pickman said even with the local access road, Goodland businesses are bound to lose some customers.

"No one likes to wish time away," he said, "but I wish this was over."

Voters have choice of three

ELECTION, from Page 1

ers that I have the right values and skills for the job," Horinek said. "Also there has been a lot of negative publicity about our school and community. I believe the good far outweighs the bad. I hope to foster optimism and teamwork by promoting honesty and mutual respect."

Shane Benham, 38, a registered nurse with a bachelor's degree in animal science, said she doesn't have an agenda if elected to the Brewster School Board.

Benham said she just wants to make the best decisions, along with the rest of the board, to make sure all of Brewster's children get a good, quality education.

"Several people within the community have asked if I would consider running for the board," she said.

After talking it over with her husband Harvey, she said, they both believed she had a responsibility to become more involved in children's education by promoting that quality education.

Shane and her husband have two

boys: Joe, 12 and Jacob, 2.

One of the reasons she said she believes people encouraged her to seek the school board position was because of her children's ages. "We have one in junior high and one coming through, which would mean that we would be involved in almost all areas to know what's going on within the district."

"I don't have an exact agenda of this and this," she said. "I certainly want to gather up as much information and knowledge as possible to make wise decisions, which is not to say the current board has made mistakes."

Courthouse boiler has problems

COUNTY, from Page 1

at things and asked if they could then schedule a meeting.

William McKnight, county building supervisor, talked with the commissioners about the boiler at the courthouse since someone from the state boiler inspector's office had come out and found problems.

McKnight said a manual low water switch on the boiler and a secondary shutoff switch inside the boiler room door needed to be installed. He gave the commissioners bids from Shad's Electric for the electrical work, from McClure's Plumbing and Heating, which included the cost of electrical work by B and B Electric and from American Boiler.

Commissioner Chuck Frankenfeld

asked if having this work done would get them a boiler safety certificate. McKnight said the inspector would probably have to come back to check the work and then they would be issued the certificate.

McKnight said he felt comfortable with what McClure's and B and B Electric would do to fix the boiler.

Rasure moved to have McClure's do the work at a cost of \$840.

Frankenfeld signed the bid from McClure's Plumbing.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked McKnight if he had heard anything from the elevator company about doing the work on the courthouse elevator.

McKnight said the elevator company was supposed to be here next week. He said Mike Miller of Miller's Construction, who was general con-

tractor on the handicapped restroom and elevator project at the courthouse, wanted to be present when they came and so did he.

He said the elevator company had received the part last Friday and called Miller to tell him they would be here next week.

On an update on a new sound system for the grandstands at the county fairgrounds, McKnight said the county won't have to buy it. He said the Sherman County Fair Board had bought it.

Sheriff Doug Whitson and Road and Bridge Supervisor Curt Way met in closed sessions with the commissioners for employee evaluations.

The commissioners will meet again at 8 a.m. Wednesday in the commissioner's room of the courthouse.

club news

Business and Professional Women's Club

The Goodland Business and Professional Women's Club exchanged valentines at their February meeting.

The club met Feb. 5 at the home of Myrtle Murphy. Seven members were present.

President Nina Mersch opened the meeting. The members recited the club collect and then the flag salute.

Roll call was answered with "What kind of gifts did you receive for Valentine's Day?"

March is the month we choose a young careerist.

Shawna Anderson made a motion that we pick Vonda Kaup as our young careerist for this year. It was seconded by Murphy and the motion carried.

Anderson will contact Kaup and get all the information we need before our next meeting.

The treasurer's report was given and filed for audit.

The theme for this meeting was Valentine's Day. Each person brought a valentine to exchange. Some of the gifts were gorgeous. Others were useful, as well as pretty. Everyone was satisfied.

Hostesses Velma Holste and Murphy had gifts for each member. Numbers were passed around and then you received the gift that went with your number.

A motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Cindy Robben and Beulah McClung will be in charge for the next meeting

which will be at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 5. The topic will be foundation. There will be more to follow in March on our young careerist.

Until next time, may God be with you all.

Mary Schippert, secretary



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