

Museum says 'bye to Sue

HAYS (AP)—The cast of the fossil of a Tyrannosaurus Rex will be packed up and sent on to another museum in Ohio after completing a nine-week stay that drew more than 100,000 visitors to Fort Hays State University's Sternberg Museum of Natural History.

"This is like saying goodbye to an old friend," Fort Hays State President Edward Hammond said at a news conference Monday, standing in front of the cast of the fossil, known as Sue. The original is in the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

"This was a great project in terms of its educational value, but we shouldn't overlook the tremendous lift that it gave to our local and area businesses," Hammond said.

Museum director Jerry Choate had used attendance of 40,000 as the break-even point for the exhibit, and was pleased to announce the final figure of 105,713.

Visitors came from 103 of the 105 counties in Kansas, and more than 40 of the 50 states.

"This has been a tremendous boost to our economy," Hammond said, "but the impact on the university also is very important, and over time, it will show some real benefits."

"Thousands and thousands of young people got to visit Hays and our institution who may not have gotten to otherwise," he said.

The museum broke attendance records nearly every week as school groups and visitors of all ages swarmed in to see the famous dinosaur.

Despite 11 inches of snow the night before the grand opening, thousands of people showed up for a first look at the fossil. And the total for the exhibit's run exceeded attendance for the first seven months of the museum's operation after it opened at a new location in 1999.

"The best is yet to come," Hammond promised. "People didn't believe us when we said that two years ago after we opened. They said you'll never see numbers like that again. Maybe they'll believe us now."

Next up for the museum is an exhibit about monarch butterflies, running from May 25 through Sept. 6. The exhibit produced by the Canadian Museum of Nature details the life cycle and the 2,500-mile migration of the monarch butterfly.

"This has opened the doors to other kinds of events," Hammond said of Sue. "I think it has proven that Hays can be a destination site and not just somewhere to stop by on (travelers') way to and from somewhere."

Program encourages new ideas

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — One family experimented with raising sprouts to feed ostriches. Others found markets for organically raised free-range chickens. And farmers brought greenery to strip-mined acreage, using lambs and goats as natural spreaders of seed and fertilizer.

Fresh farming ideas are being nurtured through a state program aimed at reducing reliance on chemicals and encouraging better use of land.

The Missouri Sustainable Agriculture grant program was created in 1995, and nearly 170 projects have been helped through awards of a few thousand dollars each in state money.

The program has been so popular that the Legislature recently boosted the maximum grant amount for a three-year project to \$4,500 and authorized up to 30 projects annually.

While many farmers receiving the aid are experimenting with new ideas in agriculture, others are applying techniques that are as old as nature.

On one farm in central Missouri, coal strip mining half a century ago

rendered 25 of the farm's 40 acres virtually useless. With deep gashes carved into the land, any productive use seemed just a dream.

The owners, David Coplen and Carol Fulkerson, grew grass on the land and assembled a herd of lambs and goats. Then the couple supplemented the livestock's feed with clover seeds and minerals.

Nature did the rest. As the animals lumber through bare, uneven areas, they spread the clover seeds in their manure. Now green sprouts are showing, surrounded by natural fertilizer, and eventually the clover will serve as food for the livestock.

The process is both cost-effective and entirely organic.

"Agriculture sometimes receives a lot of negative press because of the environmental impact. It's refreshing to see where agriculture is reclaiming the land," said Bill Heffernan, professor emeritus of rural sociology at the University of Missouri at Columbia.

The farm is helping satisfy new de-

mands for lambs and goats from Missouri's growing immigrant communities.

"If you're going to have a sustainable system here, you've got to have a local market," Heffernan said. "There is an alternative to the large, standardized, globalized food system."

The state grants help producers figure out what doesn't work, too. The ostrich ranchers had problems growing sprouts until they figured out how to ventilate and cool a greenhouse.

There have been grants to help raise and market chili peppers, bush cherries, soybean wax candles, black raspberries, organic rice and catfish. The funding has assisted family farm experiments with wind and solar power, mothproofing wool with herbal extracts and evaluating Missouri apple varieties for use in hard cider.

"Farmers are able to try out their own ideas on their own farms and they are encouraged to share with other farmers," said Joe Francka, director of the plant industries division of the Missouri Department of Agriculture.

Emergency system to be updated

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from the wireless calls, including the longitude and latitude.

She said while the new software will provide this information the system has not been upgraded to translate the location, by longitude and latitude, into a real location.

"We are trying to get this off dead center, and we have proposed using Sherman County as a pilot location for Kansas," Messamore said.

Once the cellular phone companies upgrade their systems as part of the program, the county will need more equipment she said, and she hopes that between the state program and the current 911 fund there will be enough to pay for it.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said before purchasing the software, there

was \$45,312 in the special 911 fund, and that it is slowly growing because costs are below the income and the interest on the money is added to the fund.

Messamore said she has no estimate of the cost for the new equipment or when it will be needed.

She also asked the commissioners for permission to purchase a computer for her office which would allow her to network with the systems in the city administration building. The commissioners asked her to get some prices.

In other action, the commissioners:

- Approved signing a contract for an elevator at the Good Samaritan Center. The cost is expected to be \$118,000 with \$40,000 coming from the county.

Mike Miller is the contractor with Glenn Strait the architect.

- Approved a letter of support to Thomas County for their application to the state Department of Health and Environment for a storage building for the regional recycling program.

- Reappointed Mark Bantam and Kenny Sanderson to the Smoky Gardens board for three-year terms ending in April 2004.

- Approved monthly claims vouchers totaling \$93,251.

- Heard a request from Curt Way, road and bridge superintendent, to sell four pickups and to purchase two 1-ton pickups and a used four-wheel-drive pickup. The commissioners told him to draw up specifications.

The next commissioners' meeting will be 8 a.m. Tuesday in the meeting room on the first floor of the Sherman County Courthouse, Eighth Street and Broadway Avenue.

Philippine leader declares state of rebellion

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Police fanned out to arrest opposition leaders and the government declared "a state of rebellion" today after clashes between authorities and backers of jailed former President Joseph Estrada left at least four people dead.

"This is not just a demonstration. This is a rebellion," government spokesman Rigoberto Tiglao said.

He said the declaration by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo allows her to use the military to fight the protests demanding Estrada's release and make three-day arrests without warrants. Estrada was arrested last Wednesday on corruption charges. He was forced from office Jan. 20 amid massive protests demanding he step down.

Military spokesman Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan said security forces "broke the back" of the pro-Estrada protests today when they dispersed the lingering rallies in the afternoon. But he said the military may set up checkpoints and was discussing a possible curfew. Arroyo's rebellion decree was restricted to the capital, Manila.

"I can say to all of you that your government is in control," Arroyo said as she made several TV appearances aimed at easing public concerns. "The enemies are on the run."

"The police and the military are united behind the government and I thank them for their heroic deeds today. We don't have to panic, but we should also not be overconfident."

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez ordered the arrest of at least 11 key

opposition figures Arroyo accused of plotting to overthrow the government and install a junta, including senators Gringo Honasan and Juan Ponce Enrile, former Estrada spokesman Ernesto Maceda and former national police chief Panfilo Lacson.

Enrile, one of Estrada's most prominent allies, turned himself in today, as did Police Director Victor Batac and army Brig. Gen. Marcelino.

Thousands of Estrada supporters, armed with rocks and clubs, battled police around the presidential palace early today after arriving from a 10-mile march from a shrine to the 1986

"people power" revolt that topple late dictator Ferdinand Marcos. Fighting subsided in the afternoon after many protesters backed off, setting fire to a backhoe, four vans, a police car and a fire truck in their path.

Two policemen were killed and scores injured as the crowd forced its way through several police lines and stoned a policeman who already was laying injured and bloody.

One protester died after being shot in the face; no details were available on the fourth reported death. The reports were carried by radio and TV networks.

Checking it out



An open house was held Sunday afternoon at the new student fitness center at the Northwest Kansas Technical College. Rich Hoffman, vice president of the college, pointed out the time clock in the gym to Tehnee Ridder, Roger and Cindy Ridder, Ashley Cebula, and Gwen and Stan Cebula (left to right). Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Sunflower project faces obstacles

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Vincent Van Gogh's sunflower series. The former high school art teacher plans to complete the series of seven in Amsterdam, South Africa, Argentina and Japan. The paintings will go up in cities where sunflowers or the Dutch painter are important.

Of course, Neufeld said, no one knows when it's all going to happen.

"I don't have any idea at this point," he said, noting that he wants to hire a hole driller nearby to save on travel expenses. Neufeld is also the head of Sunflowers U.S.A., a group formed to raise money for the project.

The organization wants to build a gift shop near the painting, which will be across the street from a park the city plans to build this fall. If the city has enough money, the park will feature a walking trail, two ponds, trees, a lighted fountain, a bridge and other amenities.

Ron Harding, Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce director, has said after the attraction is in place, backers will organize a dedication ceremony. Cross, who lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba, says he may be too busy to attend.

The artist said he is traveling to Amsterdam at the end of May to meet with the city council and representatives of the Van Gogh Museum there.

Cross, whose first replica went up in Altona in 1998, said he is hoping to erect the fourth painting at a park outside Amsterdam, where a six-month flower show will be held next year.

"It will give the whole project a boost," he said, "to have the painting in a larger center."

The first three in the series are displayed in rural areas where sunflowers are a main crop. Cross said he's hoping to make connections in Amsterdam, but managed to make some in Goodland.

The painter said community leaders in Klersdorp, South Africa, have said "yes" to the project, but haven't signed the contract, and a couple from Argentina who Cross met in Goodland are helping to get a painting there.

Juan and Imelda Mottura, whose son came to Goodland in 1994 as a foreign exchange student, traveled here from San Guillermo, Argentina, in November, meeting Cross while he was working on his 24- by 32-foot painting.

Cross said the couple passed on information to the town's mayor, who the painter started sending e-mail to. He said he mailed a proposal to the mayor last week.

The artist said he doesn't know when all seven paintings will be finished, adding that it's taking a lot longer than he expected.

"I thought when I started that the whole thing would go a lot faster," he said. "It's amazing how long something can take."

Bill encourages restoring railroad tracks

TOPEKA (AP) — A bill encouraging the restoration of railroad tracks used for hauling grain from rural communities has cleared the House and gone to the Senate.

The bill provides \$10 million in income tax credits over 20 years, at a maximum \$500,000 a year, for paying off bonds for restore and repair railroad tracks.

House Transportation Chairman

Gary Hayzlett said the measure was intended to help Pittsburg-based Watco Cos., which recently agreed to buy 900 miles of short-line rail in central and western Kansas from Central Kansas Railway.


Much of the track was in danger of abandonment.

"The railroad company assures us that we will have rail service of the short lines to move grain and other

commodities," said Hayzlett, R-Lakin.

Watco spokesman Ed McKechnie, a former House member, said the company plans to spend \$55 million in the next 10 years to restore the Kansas lines.

Some of the track, notably between Salina and Osborne, is too lightweight to meet current industry standards, he said.



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Goodland Enrollment:
Thursday, May 3, 10-12 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. MT; Northwest Kansas Technical College, Murray Center (785-899-7632)
Thursday, May 3, 6:00-7:30 p.m. MT, Goodland High School Cafeteria

Course Number	Course Name	Instructor	CR	Tuition + Fees	Place	Time	Start / End
MONDAY							
SO 176	Introduction to Sociology — ITV	L. Koon	3	\$144	Murray Center	5:00-9:30 pm	5/21-7/30
WEDNESDAY							
SP 176	Speech I — ITV	L. Koon	3	\$144	Murray Center	5:00-9:30 pm	5/23-8/1
THURSDAY							
AR 114	Beginning Crafts (Stained Glass)	C. Kickler	3	\$129	Shop	5:00-9:00 pm	5/10
AR 215	Advanced Crafts (Advanced Stained Glass)	C. Kickler	3	\$129	Shop	5:00-9:00 pm	5/10
MON. - TUES. - WED. - THURS.							
BU 176	Personal Finance	B. Hartzler	3	\$129	Murray Center	3:30-5:00 pm	5/3-7/2
MONDAY-WEDNESDAY							
PS 176	General Psychology — ITV	G. Garrison	3	\$144	Murray Center	5:00-9:00 pm	5/7
MONDAY-THURSDAY							
EN 176	English Composition I	L. VanLoenen	3	\$129	GHS - 226	6:00-9:00 pm	6/4-7/23
THURSDAY-FRIDAY-SATURDAY							
CO 176	Introduction to Computers	E. Craghead	3	\$129	NWKTC	3:30-7:30 pm R 3:30-7:30 pm F 8-12, 1-4 pm S	5/17 5/18 5/19
FRIDAY/SATURDAY WORKSHOPS							
EN 219	Introduction to Literature — ITV June 8-9, 15-16, 22-23	K. Coplin	3	\$144	Murray Center	4:30-10:00 F 7:00-5:00 S	6/8-6/23
PS 162	Topics in Applied Psychology — Developing Social Skills — ITV	M. McVay	3	\$144	Murray Center	4:30-10:00 F 7:00-5:00 S	6/29-30
TO BE ANNOUNCED (TBA)							
BI 295	Microbiology w/Lab	T. Muhr	5	\$215	Hospital	6:00-9:00 pm days TBA	6/25-10/1
AL 105	Nurse Aide I	S. Pearson	2	\$86	Good Samaritan	TBA	TBA
AL 106	Nurse Aide II	S. Pearson	3	\$129	Good Samaritan	TBA	TBA

Tuition indicated is for Kansas residents only. Refer to tuition note below for non-resident rate.

TBA = To Be Announced; night and starting date will be determined by the enrollment GHS = Goodland High School

Tuition is \$43.00 per credit hour for Kansas residents; \$81.00 per credit hour for non-residents; \$51.00 per credit hour for special non-residents. Some classes have additional fees. Special non-residents are any resident of the following Colorado and Nebraska counties or a graduate of any high school located within these counties. Nebraska: Dundy, Hitchcock, Red Willow, Furnas, Harlan Colorado: Yuma, Kit Carson, Cheyenne

ITV classes require pre-registration and have a \$5.00 per credit hour fee. Contact Sharon Hall

For additional information contact: Sharon Hall (785) 899-5930

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