

School board approves services

SCHOOL, from Page 1

electrical work and air conditioning installation next Thursday. While the two recommended on Wednesday that the board approve spending about \$277,000, members only said yes to part of the work, asking Superintendent Marvin Selby to review other recommended bids — mostly from Miller's construction company.

Miller Construction was recommended to complete demolition work, put up walls, install doors, frames and bathroom features and level the concrete floor on the east side for a total cost of about \$66,000.

Miller said he called other contractors and advertised in bulletins, but couldn't get bids because of the type of work and timing. Selby said to avoid problems, he will meet with Strait and Miller next week to review the bids.

The board gave him permission to accept the recommended bids if he finds they are legitimate.

Members also waited to accept a bid from Earhart Construction, a Denver-area company, for plastering over concrete block walls on the second floor for a cost of \$70,000. Strait said he and Miller haven't decided how much plaster is necessary and think they can find a contractor with a lower price.

The board approved buying equipment or services from four Goodland companies, including Ginn Masonry, masonry work for \$1,580; Dependable Glass Service, windows, framing, glass, glazing, \$40,761; Wane's Carpet and Drapery, floor coverings and removing old tile, \$36,906; and Med Enterprises, fire extinguishers, \$220.

Other contractors or suppliers from Kansas include, Cook Builder Specialties, Wichita, doors, frames, finish hard-

ware, \$15,890; Delbert Chopp, Salina, acoustical ceilings, \$16,965; McPherson Painting, McPherson, painting and finishing, \$16,132; Claco Supply, toilet compartments, marker boards, tack boards, projection screens, \$8,780; and Engravers Unlimited, signs, \$550.

At Selby's request, members approved Wane's Carpet's bid separately because it includes removing material that could contain asbestos. Selby said Miller didn't want to be involved in removing asbestos because of potential conflicts with state laws and licensing.

Strait said the material, which is in the floor tiles, has been tested and is not friable, which means easily crushed or crumbled, so it isn't likely to become airborne. Because of that, it shouldn't be a health hazard, he said, adding that state officials said a license isn't required to remove the material.

Ulysses man sentenced to prison

SYRACUSE (AP) — A Ulysses man has been sentenced to 70 years in prison for attacking a Syracuse teen-ager on a public golf course and shooting her three times, including once in the head.

A jury in March convicted Craig Fischer, 39, of attempted first-degree murder, attempted rape, aggravated kidnapping and unlawful possession of a firearm in the attack on 16-year-old Charity Maune.

District Judge Michael Quint on Wednesday sentenced Fischer in the middle range of sentences for the charges but ordered them to run consecutively, meaning Fischer will not be eligible for parole for about 60 years.

Prosecutors said Maune was golfing on Sept. 15 when Fischer approached and attempted to rape her. She was shot as she tried to flee.

Fischer also had been convicted in a

double murder in Colorado as a teenager but later was released.

Matt and Becky Maune, Charity's parents, testified Wednesday before Fischer was sentenced.

"We're very fortunate that we still have Charity," Matt Maune said.

The teen-ager underwent reconstructive surgery after the attack and she still has no feeling in her upper lip, giving her a crooked smile.

Iowa's ethanol plant gear up for California market

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Farm equipment dealer Warren Puck can recall the obstacles he faced last winter coaxing investors to finance the Tall Corn Ethanol Cooperative in Coon Rapids.

Some investors were concerned because California was seeking a waiver from clean-fuel standards that require gasoline in cities with smog problems to have an oxygen-enhancing additive such as ethanol.

The nation's ethanol plants pumped out 1.6 billion gallons of ethanol last year, but California alone will need an estimated 580 million gallons a year.

"The question of the California waiver would usually come up and it left

a big question mark in people's minds," said Puck, the company's president.

Eventually the plant, which will make 40 million gallons of ethanol, got its backing and is expected to open in August 2002.

With the Bush administration's denial this week of California's waiver request, similar plants could be popping up across Iowa.

"You're going to see the number of ethanol plants across the Midwest jump from the current 56 to over 100 in a few years," predicted Monte Shaw, spokesman for the Renewable Fuels Association in Washington, D.C.

Ethanol, made from corn, is an oxy-

genate that makes fuel burn cleaner.

California officials had argued the additives no longer are needed to meet the state's stringent air pollution requirements and could expose its gasoline market to price manipulation and shortages if ethanol supplies fall short.

Iowa has seven operating ethanol plants and two under construction. Eight more have been proposed, said Paula Chizek, spokeswoman for the Iowa Corn Growers Association. (Michigan has the most ethanol plants with 15).

If all the proposed plants in Iowa are built, they could pump an estimated \$1.8 billion into the state's economy and create 225 new full-time jobs.

Creativity at work



Jessica Geist, 9; Lauren Espinoza, 4; Emily Brown, 8; and Dane Frazier, 8, (left to right) made bracelets and necklaces with beads and pipe cleaners on Monday afternoon during a Come-and-Go craft session at the Goodland Public Library.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

Court says media may intervene in cases

Supreme Court says media must be allowed to intervene in Wichita cases < TOPEKA (AP) — Two Wichita news organizations must be allowed to intervene in the closing of criminal cases involving two brothers accused of killing five people, the state Supreme Court ruled Wednesday.

The Wichita Eagle and KWCH-TV, the city's CBS affiliate, sought to challenge an order from Sedgwick County District Judge Clark Owens sealing records normally open to the public. Owens denied their request to intervene.

Their parent companies, The Wichita Eagle Beacon Co. and Media General Operations Inc., then filed a petition with the Supreme Court.

In an unanimous, unsigned ruling,

the justices granted the petition, without ruling on the merits of a challenge to Owens' order. The court said the media organizations will be allowed to intervene only challenging Owens' order, adding, "Our opinion is a narrow

one." The Supreme Court said that before a judge seals records, he or she needs to consider "the societal interest the public has in open criminal proceedings and records."

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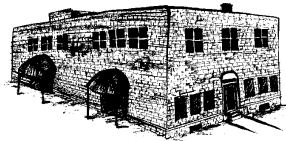
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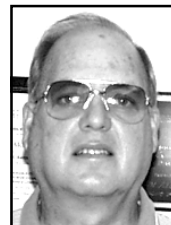
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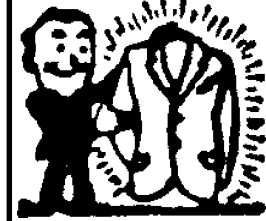
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