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Dome statue traveling to Topeka

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News Flashing cameras lit up Main on Saturday morning, capturing the image of a 22-foot Kansa Indian.

There was a steady crowd around the statue, and traffic slowed down as drivers craned their necks, their eyes wide. Kids and adults stared in awe, asking questions of the sculptor and enjoying the display.

On Saturday, Goodland was the first city in Kansas to see "Ad Astra," the two-and-a-half ton depiction of a Kansa Indian slated to be placed on the capitol in Topeka. Later that day, Colby and Oakley got a look at it and Garden City and Dodge City saw the statue Sunday. Today it will spend most of the day in Salina.

The sculpture was placed on a flatbed trailer with its left hand pointing a bow and arrow into the sky, as it made its way home from a factory in Loveland, Colo., where it was finished.

A 14-year project is at its end. Salina resident Dick Bergen won the commission to create the silicon bronze statue in 1988, and said he expected it to be on top of the Capitol in a year or two. He was so sure he and his son, Rich, made a vow to not shave or cut their hair until the Indian went up.

"It got to be too much for me," Bergen said. "I gave it up within a year, but Rich is still going strong."

Rich, who once held a bow and arrow and modeled for his dad, sports a ponytail down his back and a full beard. He says he looking forward to, "finally running a pair of scissors through this stuff." After the sculpture goes up at the beginning of October, he said, it will be his first haircut in 14 years.

Bergen, his son and daughter, along with the rest of his entourage, stayed in Goodland Friday night and displayed the statue early Saturday in front of the old Alco building.

With police and sheriff's deputies around to control traffic, the 5,000pound green sculpture was admired by a steady stream of gawkers. During the two hours it was in town, hundreds of people stopped by to catch a look at the attraction, buy an "Ad Astra" T-shirt, and maybe get an autograph from the artist.

"I really didn't expect this kind of reaction," Bergen said. "I thought most people would drive by, maybe slow down, but then drive off. This response just floors me. It's wonderful." Goodland residents said they were glad they got the chance to see the statue on its road trip, before it's put on the Capitol. "Some people may never get to Topeka," said Donna Price of the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau, "and this might be the only chance to see it. We're the lucky ones, here in Goodland, we're the first in Kansas to get the chance.' It wasn't only Goodland people on Main Saturday. Bruce and Debby Johnson, from Baltimore, stayed the night in Goodland on their way to California and read about the statue in the newspaper. They decided to stay a day so they could catch its arrival. ture of the Kansas Capitol, we can say, 'yeah, we saw that Indian on a flatbed

Saturday. The artist, Dick Bergen spoke with John Golden (below), a

"Ad Astra," the 22-foot statue of a Kansa Indian (above) stopped on Main Goodland businessman and former state legislator, about how the sculpture was created. Photos by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Foundary that cast statue run by Goodland native

The sculpture which will stand on top that long," Workman said, "you're glad of the capitol dome in Topeka has a when its out the door. I'm glad we did it. It's something, knowing that a piece you worked on is going to be seen by so many people. It should look good up there on the capitol." Workman said he's been at the company for 15 years, first working at an industrial foundry after graduating from Fort Hays State University. He The artist, Salinan Dick Bergen, played football at Goodland High School and at college, and says he of clay, and Art Castings took it from comes back to town often to see his family and play a few rounds of golf. His parents, Diane and Ernie Workman, live here, he said, as do an assortment of aunts, uncles and other relatives 2,500 hours working on the sculpture. "I'm a Goodland boy, through and through," he said. "I'm glad I was raised there.' Workman said the foundry gives tours, so people interested in the statue have a chance to see how it was made. different, knowing that this time the For people who can't make an appointment to see the foundry in Loveland, the company has a web page which details "By the time you work on something the processes: www.artcastings.com.





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at noon Today Sunset, 6:44 p.m.

Tomorrow Sunrise, 6:36 a.m.

Sunset, 6:42 p.m.

- Midday Conditions
- Soil Temperature 64 degrees
- Humidity 35 percent
- Sky clear and sunny
- Winds northeast 15 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.33 inches
- and steady
- Record High 95° (1954) Record Low 29° (1946)

Last 24 Hours*

⊣ign	69°
_OW	38°
Precipitation	none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear, low mid 40s, winds southeast 10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: mostly sunny with 50 percent chance of rain in the evening, high upper 70s, low lower 40s.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: cloudy with chance of rain during the day, high mid 50s. Friday: partly cloudy, high lower 60s, low mid 30s. Saturday: mostly clear, high upper 60s, low mid 30s. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m



Wheat — \$4.30 bushel Posted county price — \$4.30 Loan deficiency payment — 0¢ Corn — \$2.52 bushel

osted county price — \$2.36 Loan deficiency payment - 0¢ Milo — \$2.22 bushel Sovbeans — \$4.84 bushel Posted county price — \$5.11 Loan deficiency payment - 0¢ Millet — \$13.00 hundredweight Sunflowers Oil current crop — \$10.45 cwt. Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢ Confection current — \$17/\$7 cwt. Pinto beans — \$25 (Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)



WASHINGTON - Lawmakers are close to giving President Bush the congressional authorization he wants to take on Saddam Hussein, saying they will limit the mandate to Iraq to satisfy Democrats' unease about Bush's request to restore security to the whole region.

On Sunday's television talk shows, Democrats also said Bush needs to more aggressively explain his plans in order to win domestic and international support for any action.

The administration has proposed a resolution that would authorize the president "to use all means that he determines to be appropriate, including force, in order to ... defend the national security interests of the United States against the threat posed by Iraq, and restore international peace and security in the region."



in Goodland, Kansas."

Bergen said although the support he got in Goodland was a surprise, he's glad to have it. The statue has aroused controversy about its lack of funding and the appropriateness of having an Indian represent Kansas. All in all, it's been a draining experience, Bergen said.

"I'm happy to say that my job is al-"I'm glad we did," Bruce Johnson most done," he said. "I, and my family, said. "This is really a kind of an historic have been through a lot in the past 14 happening. Anytime we ever see a pic- years. I'm glad it's almost finished, and this support here will help me get through the rest of what needs to be

done."

Although Bergen's daughter, Lori Bergen, describes him as giddy, he shrugs it off.

"I'm happy, yes," he said. "Giddy is a little strong, an exaggeration. I'm pleased this is coming to an end, and I'm happy people seem to be enjoying my statue, but I'm not giddy."

Later, after posing for a picture with two kids, he ran his fingers along his statue's bow, snapped his fingers, and did a little half-step skip and shuffle. Not giddy, indeed.

Goodland connection — the foundry which cast it is run by a man born and raised here.

Tony Workman is the general manager of Art Castings in Loveland, Colo., which casts items as small as a coffee cup to statues as big as, and larger, than "Ad Astra."

modeled the 22-foot Kansa Indian out there, from casting it to applying the final finish. Workman said the project was a lot of work, and he is glad his company had a hand in the historic project. He estimated employees spent over

His company works on other large sculptures, he said, including a current 40-foot boat for Philadelphia, so working on "Ad Astra," wasn't a strain for the foundries capabilities, but it was work would be on the capitol of his home state.

Emmys recognize Friends, NBC's West Wing

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Mostly overlooked for eight seasons, a resurgent "Friends" walked away with its first comedy series Emmy Award, while voters heaped more Emmy gold on "The West Wing."

JenniferAniston of NBC's "Friends" earned lead comedy actress honors for playing the pregnant Rachel after having previously competed in the supporting category.

"This has been the greatest nine years of my entire life," an emotional Aniston said.

"It was our time maybe," co-star Matt LeBlanc said backstage.

The venerable comedy, in its ninth and likely final season, had won only once before for Lisa Kudrow's supporting role in 1998. "Friends" had lost the comedy series trophy five previous times.

third consecutive as best drama series.



Aniston

creatively.

"Wow. We're just as surprised as you are," executive producer Aaron Sorkin said. "This is a terrific compliment for all of us."

The major networks dominated the 54th annual show, with quirky cable NBC's "The West Wing" won four fare such as "Six Feet Under," the HBO awards Sunday night, including its series about a family mortuary business, and the risque HBO comedy "Sex

and the City" getting shut out in the major categories.

"Six Feet Under," which entered the John Spencer Emmy competition with a leading 23 nominations, won only a directing nod for series creator Alan Ball on Sunday to add to four won in the creative arts presentations a week earlier. "Sex and the City" added just a directing Emmy on Sunday to its two honors in the earlier ceremony.

The night's lone upset came in the dramatic actor category. Michael Chiklis won as a corrupt cop in "The best season Shield," which airs on the FX cable network and has lost sponsors because of its gritty content.

> "It vindicates us tremendously," Chiklis said backstage. "I always said from the beginning if this were something vacuous and shocking for shock's sake, I wouldn't have done it."

> love to "Everybody Loves Raymond"

winner after three previous losses. Brad ing Emmy. Garrett, who plays Romano's long-suffering brother, and Doris Roberts, Romano's meddling mother, won supporting awards.

Romano was the last of the CBS show's five stars to earn an Emmy. Previously, Peter Boyle and Patricia Heaton had won.

"I'm not making it up when I tell you it's great and I appreciate it," Romano said.

NBC, which aired Sunday's threehour, 20-minute awards show, and HBO tied for most wins at 24 apiece, including the creative arts presentations a week earlier. CBS had eight and Fox won seven, while ABC was shut out Sunday night after winning five creative arts awards.

HBO's "The Gathering Storm" was named best TV movie and Albert The Emmys finally showed some Finney was honored as lead actor in a miniseries or movie for his portrayal of star Ray Romano, a best comedy actor Winston Churchill. It also won a writ-

"Band of Brothers," the 10-part HBO drama about World War II created by Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks, won awards for miniseries and directing.

"The Sopranos" was ineligible for awards because it sat out a season, but it managed to have an impact: A new episode aired Sunday on HBO in competition with the Emmys, and host Conan O'Brien joked that he would turn the numerous TV sets that decorated the Shrine Auditorium stage to "The Sopranos."

Colby debate set

Colby Community College will host one of the five gubernatorial debates at 7p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6, in the Cultural Arts Center on the college campus.

The Kansas League of Women Voters is sponsoring the event and will provide a moderator for the event. There is no charge to attend.