

# Board approves sweeping revamp of summer school

**By Steve Haynes**  
*The Goodland Star-News*  
The Goodland School Board on Monday approved a sweeping revamp of it's summer school program designed to give students a "jump start" before they return to regular classes at the end of August.

Under the plan, as presented by Superintendent Marvin Selby, summer classes would begin the

last week of July and continue through the first two full weeks of August.

Selby said principals were looking for a way to help students who are behind so they can meet requirements of the new education federal law, the No Child Left Behind Act. That law requires schools to bring all students up to certain standards.

The old summer program ran through the months of June, with

students in for work only 45 minutes a day. It offered great individualized attention, he said, but a lot of people just can't afford to drive their students into town and back, plus teachers thought a lot of the gains were gone by fall.

"It's hard to get a great deal of them to participate," Selby said.

With the Jump Start program, he said, kids would be in class three hours a day with a half-hour snack

break, and teachers would work four hours. Classes would focus on math, reading, science and test-taking skills.

Selby said the district would strongly recommend the program for students who are in any of the programs designed for kids who get behind or are at risk, such as Chapter I reading or math classes.

Asked if teachers would go for the plan, Selby said at least 15 have

volunteered. Teachers Tara Mull and Pam Hardy have agreed to head the program. He said classes might be scattered, because there are not too many air conditioned rooms in the four school buildings.

The program cost about \$15,000 last year, he said, and the cost for the new plan should be about the same. Last year, there were 50 students, and Selby said he expected more with the new schedule.

Board Member Ron Schilling, a rancher, asked what would happen with students who are in 4-H and need to be at the county fair. Selby said the schools would have to work with them, since they will need to miss some class time.

"As long as they'll work with the kids," Schilling said, it was OK with him.

The board approved the plan on a 7-0 vote.

## County to discuss trash bids

The Sherman County Commission will have a special meeting at 8 a.m. Tuesday in the county commissioner's room at the courthouse to talk about trash pickup.

This will be an informational meeting for those interested in subcontracting with the county to pick up trash.

The commissioners scheduled the session at their regular meeting Tuesday after discussing the need to have contractors lined up before signing the contract with the city to take over trash collection.

"We need to hold off on signing the city contract until we have at least one or two interested in this," Commissioner Mitch Tiede told Commissioner Kevin Rasure, "Otherwise you and Chuck (Thomas) are going to be out there picking up trash."

Rasure said the county's goal is not to make money picking up trash, but to keep the fees the same for now. Thomas said the county would set the fees unless the contractor wants to lower them.

## City to plan higher rates for water

The Goodland City Commission plans to take up a proposal to charge more for higher water use during droughts when it meets at 5 p.m. Monday at the City Administration Building.

The debate was tabled at the last meeting so commissioners could study the issues. The ordinance also would increase some water meter fees.

In other business, the commission will:

- Review a pay request from EBH and Associates for engineering work on the airport for \$1,423
- Decide on whether to replace the old wheelchair lift at the Carnegie Arts Center or build a ramp to provide handicap access.
- Hear the final report from the parks committee, which has been looking at use of the city's parks and was supposed to draw up a five-year plan for improvements.
- Review the city's membership in the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool, which costs about \$1,500 a year. The city can no longer draw power from the pool.
- Sign the annual assurance for the state Land and Water Conservation Fund that Steever Park is used for outdoor recreation. The pledge is tied to a grant many years ago for lights at the old ballfield.
- Open bids for security remodeling at the city building, including doors to limit access to some areas not open to public, and to create some office space.

## Household hazardous waste disposed



Roger Studer, a deputy sheriff working as a volunteer for the county's household hazardous waste program, emptied spray cans into a barrel Saturday. A total of 5,413 pounds of paint and chemicals, nearly three tons, was collected in that day. That included 3,391 pounds of latex paint and 340 pounds of used oil to be recycled, plus 542 pounds of oil-based paint, 368 pounds of blended fuel, 570 pounds of poisons, and 152 pounds of dry cell batteries, which were hauled to Hays.

Ninety-five people participated.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Daily News

## Insurance firm matches \$250 grant for farm safety

A Goodland insurance firm is matching a \$250 grant to put on a farm safety training program for emergency workers here.

Roxann Kling and Susan Doke, agents at the Insurance Agency, and their secretary, Judi Nemechek, applied for a safety grant from the Young Agents Committee of Kansas for the Northwest Kansas Ambulance Service to help pay for an AgraSafe program.

The grant is being matched by the Insurance Agency to help pay the training expenses of those who attend. There are two \$250 grants made in Kansas each year.

Greg Nemechek and Steve Evert, Sherman County farmers and members of the ambulance service, are in their third year of presenting these programs throughout the 18 counties of Emergency Medical Services Region 1 in northwest Kansas.

This is the third year of the AgraSafe program. A class was done in Sherman County two years



From left: Greg Nemechek, Roxann Kling, Steve Evert, Susan Doke and Judi Nemechek

ago with 88 attending. The class train law enforcement, firemen and emergency medical technicians how to handle farm accidents, and what they may face in arriving at a farm accident scene.

Nemechek said the \$500 should cover the cost of the program to be held later this year.

He said the grant makes attendance for all law enforcement, ambulance and city and rural fire fighters free.

The eight-hour program includes

simulated farm accidents to test the

emergency personnel as they face specific agricultural injuries which they have not have training for.

The program focuses on the need to plan for emergencies, ways to prevent physical injuries on the farm and ranch, the importance of first aid, safety features of agriculture equipment, how to recognize hazards and make the scene safer, assessment and treatment of agricultural injuries, techniques used in dealing with trauma patients and extrication tools necessary for rural emergencies.

## Star-News wins seven awards from Kansas Press

*The Goodland Star-News* won seven awards in the annual Better Newspapers Contest sponsored by the Kansas Press Association, including a first-place award for business writing and two awards for series or continuing coverage.

Competing for 2002 in the category for small daily newspapers, the paper was part of a near sweep of the series category by Nor'West Newspapers writers.



Hixson



Corcoran

Rachel Miscall, former managing editor, won third place for her three-part series on William Schlicher, a convicted murderer who was up for parole.

Schlicher was the only one of three youths present at the slaying of Wallace Patton, a service station attendant, to serve time. He was sent to prison in 1980, 10 years after the murder, when one of his friends confessed. Today, he remains in the Norton Correctional Facility, serving a life sentence.

The series recreated the long night of horror after Patton's kidnapping in gripping detail.

Fourth place, or honorable mention, in the category went to Society Editor Sharon Corcoran for her five stories on brothers who were spirited to Texas by the father, then returned by authorities, and the strains the kidnapping put on their family.

First place was won by Editor Patty Decker of the *Colby Free Press* for her year-long coverage of the battle between Citizens Medical Center and Dr. Victor Hildyard. The fight pitted, in some cases, the newspaper staff's doctor against their local hospital, and to a great degree, one part of the town against the other. It continues today, more than a year after it started.

For *The News*, Miscall won first place for business writing for a feature on Garrett's Liquor Store.

The paper won third place for Best Front Page and honorable mention for a special section, "Getting the Job Done," on women in the workplace.

Stories by Doug Stephens, the sports editor who disappeared last fall only to resurface at Christmas, won two awards. One was a third place for sports feature writing for a story called "A Baseball Life," about Ken Yoke, a Goodland man who toured the country as a minor league pitcher.

He won honorable mention for business coverage for a feature on Goodland's J.C. Penney store.

The awards were given at the association's annual convention Saturday at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Topeka.

Other members of the Nor'west Newspapers group also won awards in the contest, which covered the year 2002.

*The Oberlin Herald* won three. News Editor Kimberly Brandt won two second-place awards, for news photography and for agricultural writing.

Editor Steve Haynes took third place for editorial writing in the statewide competition. All the awards came in the class for medium weekly newspaper, those over 1,800 and below 4,000 circulation.

The *Colby Free Press* also won second place for local business coverage for a story about a bed and breakfast that boards horses as well as their owners.



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