

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News

Trainloads of wheat have been pouring east from area elevators during November and December, with some cash flowing back to area farmers.

That's not unusual, but this winter's shipments, for one elevator at least, have been larger than normal, influenced by higher wheat prices and a better harvest than in recent years.

It's not unusual to ship out wheat at this

time, said Lynn Hoelting, general manager for Mueller Grain Co.; the industry ships more wheat between corn harvest and winter than other times of the year.

But more than usual is on the move. This year probably saw a 15-20 percent increase, Hoelting said. There was more wheat sold earlier than usual, he said.

A better-than-average harvest east of here means more to ship, Hoelting said, and better wheat prices and farmer cash flow also influence how much wheat is shipped.

The price is good, he said, and farmers don't want to miss out on that. And with year-end approaching, they are making decisions for next year and scrambling to be in the best position for income taxes.

"If you haven't made too much as far as income," Hoelting said, "you can afford to sell more."

And now is a good time to buy for next year. Hoelting said farmers often get discounts for buying seed early, and sometimes for buying or committing to fertilizer

early. It's the year-end scramble.

Not all farmers work on a calendar year, he added, but many do.

And when they sell the grain they store, elevators want to ship it out.

"If the producer sells the grain," Hoelting said, "we can't collect storage."

Then it is usually in the elevator's best interest to ship it out, he said, to sell it if they can get a good price. And now seems to be the time to do that.

"Prices are as good as we've seen them

in several years," Hoelting said. The price Monday was \$3.56 per bushel in Goodland, compared to \$2.67 July 1 and \$3.78 a year ago.

Brad Cowan, manager of Frontier Equity, said the co-op has shipped about the same amount as normal for this time of year.

A receptionist at Collingwood Grain, which is owned by Archer-Daniels-Midland, said the manager there does not release that type of information.

Owner wonders why he'll pay for trash hauling

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

Gary Mosbarger says he thinks the city is picking on him.

He told city commissioners Monday that he has used a metal quonset building at 1002 E. Business U.S. 24 to store farm equipment and old cars since 1958, paying residential rates for power and nothing for trash service.

Then this fall, someone at the city noticed the hut was not a home, and reclassified it as a commercial property. His electric bill jumped and he said he heard he would start getting a bill for trash pickup, though he hauls what little trash he has there off himself.

Eventually, city staff said, the account was reclassified to storage and the minimum power bill was cut in half. Under current ordinances, though, the owner still may have to pay for trash service. And that did not make him very happy.

Mosbarger, 307 Washington, said he bought the building in 1958, and that it has been listed as a residential property for utilities since he installed three lights.

tested that the ordinance was written for the whole town, and that this is an exception which does not fit the definitions.

Mayor Rick Billinger agreed, telling Mosbarger that the city was doing what it had to do based on the current ordinance.

The owner said he was upset about how the change was handled. He said he felt he was being picked on by the city.

Volk said he should see a credit on his next bill reflecting the change from commercial to storage.

"This should not have been listed as a commercial in the first place," she said. "It has been that way (residential) for a long time, and when the question was raised, we realized it was not listed properly."

Mosbarger said he could do without the trash service, as he hauls his own, but that he needed the few lights in the building because there are no windows.

Plain and fancy jumpin'



The Skip-It Jump Rope team from Boulder, Colo., entertained Topside Tipoff crowds between games on Friday and Saturday. On Saturday, the group was joined by four local youngsters, Brit-

tany Medrano, Samantha Raymer, Jade Herl and Ashley Archer. They were among more than 50 area kids who took part in a rope-jumping clinic on Saturday. Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Star-News

Flu fills hospital as national outbreak spreads

FLU, from Page 1

Debbie Hickman, director of patient care services, said the hospital had a peak census of 26 patients and had 28 in the hospital at one time that day.

The flu season has kept everyone hopping. Though the hospital is normally staffed to care for 12 patients, Hickman said, it has had an average of 20 since Dec. 1.

Some days, she said, nurses had trouble getting a break or finding time to eat. There have been between one and five flu patients since Nov. 26, she said, and the hospital has restricted visitors and taken other precautions to try to contain the outbreak.

Hospital workers have been telling visitors to wear masks, she said, and to wash their hands before leaving.

For now, the flu seems to be settling down. The hospital has two flu patients, Hickman said Monday, and the census is 15.

But since flu season lasts through May, it is still early.

"It's going to be a bad year," said Dorendo Harrel, Sherman County health director.

Harrel said her department has run out of vaccine and doesn't anticipate having more for the general public. The department may have

some vaccine for children six to 35 months after Jan. 1, Harrel said, but she doesn't want to count her chickens before they hatch.

"I hate to plan on anything," she

said, "until I have it in the refrigerator. Hopefully, we'll get that pediatric shipment."

Since it takes two weeks after getting the shot to build up immu-

nity, she said, some who have had the shot may still have gotten sick. Those who do get sick can get drugs that will help, Harrel said, if they go to the doctor right away.

Goodland
Regional
Medical
Center

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Call for Appointments 785-890-6030

January
Consultant Schedule

Allergist	Jeffrey Rumbyrt, M.D.	January 8
Audiologist	Sherri M. Beck, M.A., CCC-A	January 2, 16 & 30
Cardiologist	Barry Smith, M.D.	January 14 & 28
Dermatologist	Charles Ruggles, M.D.	January 7 & 15
Ears, Nose, Throat	Alfred N. Carr, M.D.	January 2, 16 & 30
Endocrinologist	Gerald Poticha, M.D.	January 2 & 22
Gastroenterologist	Jeffrey D. Huston, M.D.	January 19
Gynecology	Laura Rokosz, M.D.	January 8 & 29
Neurologist	Steven J. Gulevich, M.D.	January 7, 21 & 23
Obstetrics/Gynecology	David Forschner, M.D.	January 21
Oncology/Hematology	Martin Rubinowitz, M.D.	January 6
Ophthalmologist	David Pfoff, M.D.	Wednesday thru Friday
Ophthalmologist	Kent Bashford D.O.	
Orthopedist	Theodore J. Clarke, M.D.	January 5
Orthopedist	Tim Birney, M.D.	January 12
Orthopedist	Armond Hatzidakis, M.D.	January 12
Orthopedist	James Holmes, M.D.	January 19
Orthopedist	Edward Parks, M.D.	January 26
Pediatrician	Raymond Ketting, M.D.	January 27
Pediatric Cardiologist	Warren Toews, M.D.	January 4
Psychiatrist	John C. Faul, M.D.	January 2
Podiatrist	Erik Ouder Kirk, D.P.M.	January 14 & 28
Plastic Surgeon	Greg Buford, M.D.	January 21
Pulmonologist	Ken Weisiger, M.D.	January 8
Pulmonologist	Tim Clark, M.D.	January 21
Radiologists	Professional Radiology Services	Week Days
Rheumatologist	Karl Chambers, M.D.	January 15
Speech Pathology	Vicki Transue, M.S.	Monday thru Friday
Substance Abuse Dir	Fred Waters, CADC III	Monday and Tuesday
Urologist	Darrell D. Werth, M.D.	February 17
Urologist	Carl T. Newman, M.D.	January 6
Urologist	Kevin R. McDonald, M.D.	February 3
Urologist	Wallace Michael Curry, M.D.	January 20

Christmas

ON US

\$2,000 Drawing*

Saturday at 1:30 p.m. (MT)

11th Street between Main and Center.

The
Goodland Star-News

1205 Main, Goodland, Kan. 785-899-2338

*Need to be present to win

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