

Stay in U.S. changed his life

By Pat Schiefen

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Chanuntuch Anutrapibal, a 17-year-old foreign exchange student from Thailand known as Eig, said "My experience has been life changing"

He has been living with Scott and Traci Waugh and children Ben, Day and Trace since last fall.

He said everything is different here, especially the food.

"We have rice at every meal and eat mostly stir fry," he said, adding that all kinds of food is available at home, but hamburger would be a special treat.

"I can't cook," he said when asked if he taught the Waughs how to cook Thai, "but Scott has been trying to learn."

Eig (pronounced eek) said his mother works for the government and his father is in import-export business. He has a younger sister who will be 15 in August.

He will finish his last year of high school when he gets back, he said, adding that his classmates have already been studying the subjects for this year.

The youth said he plans to major in business marketing in college. Eig said he likes math and engineering, but Thailand had too many engineers.

At home, he said, the first six grades are in the elementary school and the junior high and high school are together. The school year is the same length as in the U.S., he said, adding that in Thailand, they study 16 subjects. He said high school here is more like what they would study in college.

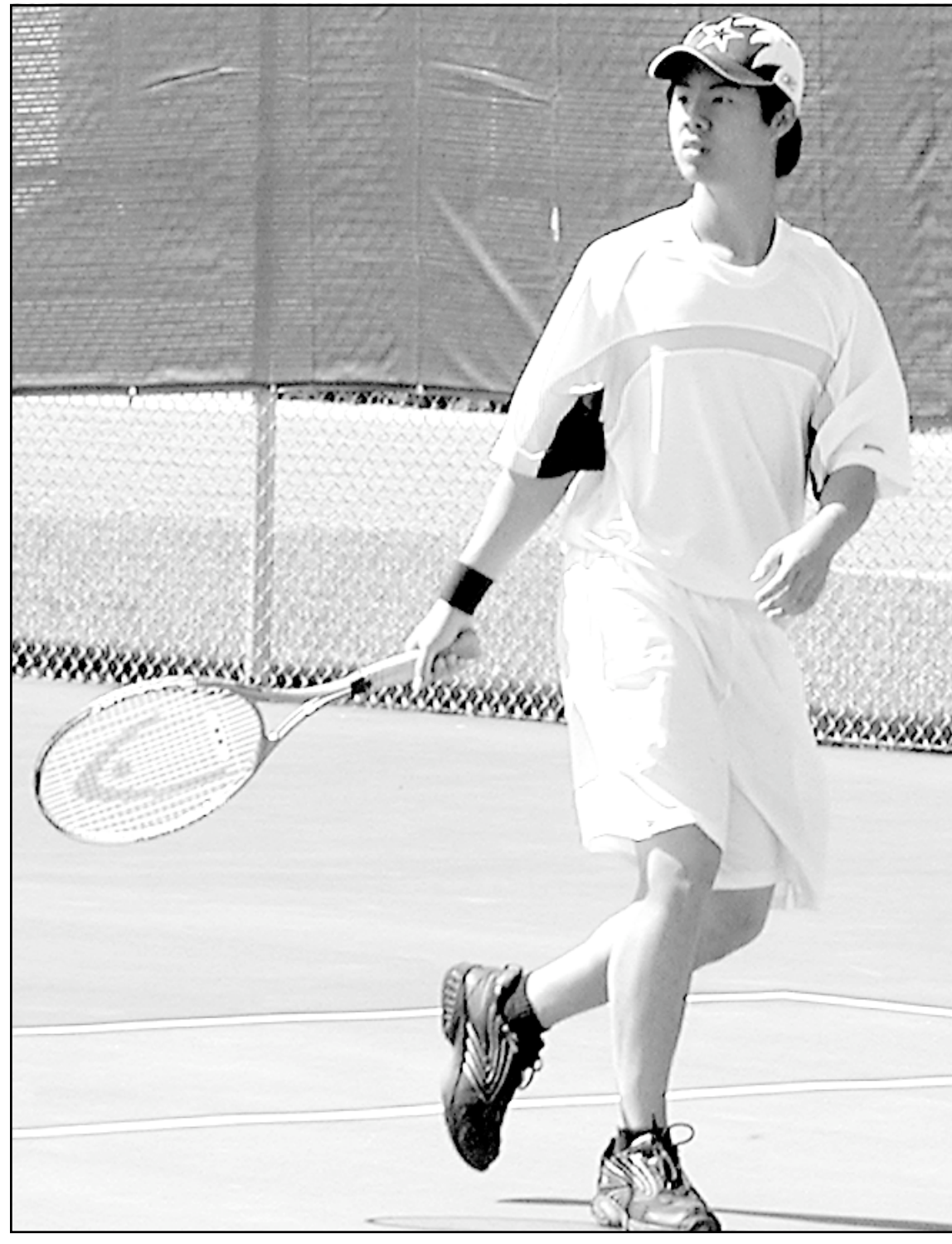
"I didn't have as much homework," Eig said, adding that he learned some of what he knows outside the classroom.

"I studied English for 10 years but got most at the movies," he said. "The movies were in English with subtitles."

"I had to pay \$6,000 to come, but it was a big opportunity. The hardest things for me were government, history and English."

"My city is mountainous and is known for mountains being all around it. There is not much flat land."

He said he lives in Ranong Province, which has a population around



Thai foreign exchange student Chanuntuch Anutrapibal played tennis in a doubles team at the Goodland Invitational on Friday, April 20. Eig, as he is known, had not played tennis before.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

100,000 people.

"Goodland has 4,000 people," he said. "Everybody had their own yard, lots of space and quiet."

Eig said he most enjoyed the activities, friends and sports here.

"We don't travel eight hours to compete in sports," he said.

He said when he and his American family tried to go somewhere, things always happened. They were stranded in a snow storm in South Dakota, he said, and for spring break in the mountains at Colorado Springs, the car tried to break down. Before he goes home, Eig said, he

plans on playing baseball and going on a mission by the Methodist Church youth group to New Orleans.

"He's a great kid," said exchange mom Traci. "He didn't talk much at first. Now he is one of our own kids."

Superintendent says district had strong finish

By Pat Schiefen

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Superintendent Shelly Angelos reported that the Goodland School District had a strong finish at the school board meeting Monday.

Then ending head count for the district was 981 with a full time equivalency of 932.3. On Sept. 20 the count was 991 with a full time equivalency of 925.4, said Superintendent Angelos. The numbers in the grade school stayed steady.

The elementary school summer school will start Monday, July 23 and run till Friday, Aug. 10 with 222 students, she said. Some were required to go others recommended.

In June a pilot program for junior high and high school students will be offered at the Goodland

Learning Center. They expect 10 students from the junior high and 24 from the high school.

"I am working hard to fill the vacant positions in the elementary schools and high school art," said Superintendent Angelos.

Board member Fritz Doke said the virtual school being set up by the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center in Oakley is moving forward.

Superintendent Angelos said they didn't receive a bid from Apple. So a motion was passed for the district to buy 150 off lease laptops from the Hays School District for a cost of \$28,500 or \$190 a piece.

There will be six high school students taking classes at the North-

west Kansas Technical College next year, said new high school principal Sharon Gregory. Two are contingent upon getting some of their credits.

Eryn Topliff, daughter of Randy and Jeanne Topliff, asked to graduate early.

"I would like to stay in high school but I want to go on," she said. "I have friends in high school but I want to be a nurse. It's been fun but I'm ready."

The board approved her request. Superintendent Angelos said that Kenny Studer has fixed a leaking underground two inch gas line at the high school

The board paid bills in \$20,004. The board went into executive

session for ten minutes before accepting the resignation of Tiffany Shank-Jones, fifth grade teacher; Lynette McLean, first grade teacher; and Jon McLean, high school teacher and coach.

corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

Natural gas rates go up today

Aquila customers will see a 3.6 percent increase in their July natural gas bills after a rate increase approved by the Kansas Corporation Commission.

The new rates went into effect today. The 3.6 percent increase equates to a \$5.1 million increase in annual revenue for Aquila's natural gas operations in Kansas. The increase applies to residential, commercial and industrial customers in the state. The company originally had filed in November for a 5.1 percent, or \$7.2 million, increase in annual revenues.

"We respect and support the process that is in place to set rates for our customers while considering increasing operations and maintenance costs and our responsibility to continue providing safe, reliable service to our customers," said Chuck Loomis, operating vice president for Aquila in Kansas.

For residential and small commercial customers, the new rates include an increase in the monthly customer charge and a decrease in the charge on volumes used.

The residential customer charge will see a raise from \$12 per month to \$16 per month. The small commercial customer charge will see a raise from \$17 per month to \$22.75 per month. For both customer classes, the per therm usage charge will decrease from \$0.15108 per therm down to

\$0.14524 per therm.

With the new rates, a typical residential customer using 735 therms (one therm equals 100 cubic feet of gas) a year will have an overall increase of about \$3.64 per month, or approximately 12 cents a day. Small commercial customers using 1,558 therms of gas a year will experience an increase of \$4.99 monthly, or about 17 cents a day.

Aquila will use the increased money to recover ongoing costs for operating and maintaining its distribution system, which reaches 54 communities across Kansas. On an annual basis, Aquila invests approximately \$6 million to \$7 million for system maintenance and improvements.

"The commission staff, Citizens' Utility Ratepayers Board, gas marketers, and customers actively participated in the case and the settlement was reached after a thorough review of Aquila's investment in its system, operating costs and revenues," Loomis said.

The new rates apply to the delivery of gas to Aquila customers and are not related to the gas cost portion of customers' bills. The gas cost portion typically comprises about 70- to 75-percent of a monthly bill. Aquila provides gas to its customers at the same price it obtains gas supplies.

Going, going, gone



More than 80 percent of the old K-Inn motel is gone, and the last pieces are expected to be removed in the next few days. The old motel on Business U.S. 24 near the Cherry intersection, was ordered demolished after more than a two-year court fight. The city is paying Goody's, owned by Mike Yarger, to remove the buildings.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Take Note Community Forum

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Monday, June 4
Goodland Elks Lodge

We need your input:
From the Community Conversation, which took place in October, your ideas were turned into goals. Action teams have been created to achieve those goals. Come hear about the progress and give us your input for the future!

LAND & WATER AUCTION
480± ACRE BAR ELEVEN RANCH
YUMA COUNTY, COLO.
Riverbottom, Grass, Improvements & Water Rights

WED., JUNE 13 - 1:00 P.M. MT
Wray City Hall (Roundhouse)
Hwy. 34. - Wray, Colorado

12 Tracts Republican Riverbottom Land & 2 Tracts Ground & Surface Water Rights offered in Tracts (or Combinations)

Also to be Auctioned June 13th:
✓ '02 Lindsay Greenfield, 930 ft., 9-tower elec. drive sprinkler
✓ 800 ft. Suroll side-roll sprinkler w/Briggs & Stratton motor
✓ 34 joints of 30 ft., 6 in. smooth main-line pipe.

Scenic Land, 4-Bdrm. Home & Improvements are on Highway 34, just 1.5 mi. west of Wray, Colo.

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Get auction details on website or call 800.476.7185 for sale bill

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66,000 BU grain storage for sale located on 4.5 acres 1 mile north of Goodland on Hwy 27. Includes 70' electronic Sooner scales, 46 x 56 storage building with finished office/scale house. Everything in excellent condition and ready for harvest. For more information or to view the property contact Terry Richardson 899-2328 or 899-8094.

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