

# Rules, signs, fence needed to open skate park

By Tom Betz  
ntbetz@nwkansas.com

Issues with the city insurance company caused problems for the kids' skate park over the past few weeks, but Monday the commissioners agreed on a list of rules and the city will help erect a chain-link fence to allow the park to be open to use.

Kim Bohme, co-chair of the Shine On Sherman County Youth Committee, presented a list of rules to the commissioners, and said they had been reviewed by the committee and the kids.

"They are not happy with some of them," she said, "but this protects the city as much as possible."

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks asked if City Attorney Jeff Mason had seen the rules. City Clerk Mary Volk said the rules came straight from the insurance company. Commissioner Josh Dechant said he was

wondering why they had to erect a fence. Bohme said she would like to talk about that, but asked the commissioners to review the rules first so the signs can be made that will allow the kids to use the skate park.

"I guess if the insurance company approves these we can do it as well," said Mayor Rick Billinger.

The other commissioners indicated they were OK with the rules.

Dechant asked about the one that says the skate park is open from dawn to dusk. He said that when Bohme and the committee had come to the commission there was a suggestion about erecting lights for night use.

Bohme said this was being done to get the park open, and that if lights are added later the signs would have to be changed. She said the insurance company recommended the park have scheduled hours and agreed dawn to dusk was pretty broad.

"These rules are to protect the city," she said. "I know the kids aren't going to read them. I know the kids are using the concrete slab now. The idea is to have a place they can go without being told to get out, and we have to follow the insurance rules."

Volk said the city has a sign maker and would make the signs, and post one on each entrance.

Bohme said the kids have \$30,000 for equipment for the park, but she got a call saying the insurance company is requiring a six-foot chain-link fence around the park.

"We do not have the money for that and the equipment," she said.

She said the insurance company person said the fence has to be up before the equipment is put in. She said he told her they don't have to put gates up on the entrances, but can leave a three-foot opening for the entrances.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said having a fence seemed absurd, and not putting gates up was even more absurd.

Commissioner Dave Daniels asked how other towns have been able to do skate parks without fences.

Volk said it was the city's insurance company that was making the recommendations, and she did not feel it was right to risk the city insurance by not following their recommendations.

City Manager Wayne Hill said if the fence is paid for the city has the expertise to get it installed.

"We can get the fence up," Billinger said. "This is just to protect the city," Bohme said.

She said the fence should be here in about a week and needs to be put up about five weeks to be ready when the equipment arrives.

The rules for the skate park include:

- Open from dawn to dusk.
- This is an unsupervised skate park; therefore the City of Goodland will not be held responsible for accidents. Know your ability and skate at your own risk.
- Helmets are required for ALL participants; elbow and kneepads are strongly recommended.
- In case of emergency dial 911.
- Use of tobacco, alcohol and illegal substances if STRICTLY PROHIBITED!
- NO activity is permitted when the surface is wet or icy.
- This facility is for skateboards ONLY!
- Use of other items such as benches, tables, homemade ramps, or other objects is STRICTLY PROHIBITED!
- Participants under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult.
- No spectators allowed in the skating area unless supervising a participant.

## Baseball club wants to grass infield

By Tom Betz  
ntbetz@nwkansas.com

Members of the Goodland Baseball Club approached the city commission Monday about putting grass on the infield at Memorial Field, and said they would pay for the installation and maintenance.

The city commissioners agreed to work with the baseball club, and would approve the grass infield under the condition the club install, maintain and mow the grass.

Roxanne Kling, spokesperson for the club, said the group had been talking about installing a grass infield, and had received \$1,000 from the American Legion for that purpose and recently received an anonymous donation of \$3,000 for a grass infield.

She said the donation came with a letter asking that the money be used for a sprinkler system, and that the baseball club contact former team members who have played for Goodland baseball teams to get donations.

"This will include me," the anonymous person wrote, "and if you get all the names of the various teams who have played here. If I get the letter I will know you are trying to get this done."

Kling said they are working with the Goodland Alumni and several other teachers and former coaches to get letters out asking for donations.

She said they know it will take a lot of steps to get it done, and think it will cost about \$20,000 on the low end, but expect it to be closer to \$30,000.

She said the club would be asking the city for some financial help.

"We have put in awnings, trees and wind screens," she said, "and purchased a new batting cage this year."

She said the reason for the grass infield is to get more teams to be willing to come play in Goodland, and that with a dirt infield they are having more trouble getting teams to come to play.

Billinger asked if the baseball club was talking about grass and sprinklers.

Dr. Gary Smith, a coach and club member, said the grass is heartier than blue grass, but will need to have water when it is put in. He said they are getting some soil tests done to see if the infield will actually grow grass.

"We want to get the funding process going and get approval," Smith said.

Commissioner John Garcia asked if the estimated costs includes labor.

Kling said it did not, and the club members would be doing the labor.

Simon said they have answered most of his questions and he was OK with it as long as they were going to do the maintenance and mowing of the infield.

Charlie Bandel, electrical distribution superintendent, said they need a larger transformer at the field. He said the concession stand is blowing breakers frequently, and there is no room to add a sprinkler system.

"We have to update it anyway," Billinger said. "I think we are all OK with you putting in the grass."

## Gov. Palin steals show, hearts

SPEECH, from Page 1

mander in chief. I'm just one of many moms who'll say an extra prayer each night for our sons and daughters going into harm's way.

"Our son Track is 19. And one week from tomorrow — Sept. 11 — he'll deploy to Iraq with the Army infantry in the service of his country.

"Track is the eldest of our five children. In our family, it's two boys and three girls in between - my strong and kind-hearted daughters Bristol, Willow, and Piper.

"And in April, my husband Todd and I welcomed our littlest one into the world, a perfectly beautiful baby boy named Trig. From the inside, no family ever seems typical.

"That's how it is with us. Our family has the same ups and downs as any other... the same challenges and the same joys.

"Sometimes even the greatest joys bring challenge. And children with special needs inspire a special love.

"To the families of special-needs children all across this country, I have a message: For years, you sought to make America a more welcoming place for your sons and daughters.

"I pledge to you that if we are elected, you will have a friend and

advocate in the White House."

Turning to her lack of experience Palin had some comments for the news media people who have been asking questions since she was picked last Friday.

"I'm not a member of the permanent political establishment," she said. "And I've learned quickly, these past few days, that if you're not a member in good standing of the Washington elite, then some in the media consider a candidate unqualified for that reason alone.

"But here's a little news flash for all those reporters and commentators: I'm not going to Washington to seek their good opinion - I'm going to Washington to serve the people of this country. Americans expect us to go to Washington for the right reasons, and not just to mingle with the right people."

Discussing her two years as Alaska governor she said she has taken on the special interests and put the state back into good financial shape.

"I came to office promising major ethics reform, to end the culture of self-dealing," she said. Today, that ethics reform is the law.

"While I was at it, I got rid of a few things in the governor's office that I didn't believe our citizens should have to pay for. That luxury jet was

over the top. I put it on eBay.

"I also drive myself to work. And I thought we could muddle through without the governor's personal chef — although I've got to admit that sometimes my kids sure miss her.

"I came to office promising to control spending — by request if possible and by veto if necessary. Our state budget is under control. We have a surplus.

"And I have protected the taxpayers by vetoing wasteful spending: nearly half a billion dollars in vetoes."

She said she has taken on the oil and gas companies in Alaska to make the process fair for a new \$40 billion natural gas pipeline the state is building to carry the resource to the south into the rest of the United States.

"As governor, I insisted on competition and basic fairness to end their control of our state and return it to the people," she said. "And when that deal was struck, we began a nearly forty billion dollar natural gas pipeline to help lead America to energy independence.

"That pipeline, when the last section is laid and its valves are opened, will lead America one step farther away from dependence on dangerous foreign powers that do not have our interests at heart."

## City sets hearings on two unsafe houses

HOUSES, from Page 1

another one of the houses on my list."

Criswell said the house on Washington was recently bought by Harvey DeLaRosa, and that he had been asked about the house by DeLaRosa

before he bought it.

The floor in the back is gone and it is not livable Criswell said. He said it has no plumbing or electrical service.

He said DeLaRosa had indicated he would probably tear the house down and keep the garage.

Dechant asked Criswell about other homes on the list.

Criswell said he has been to court with a few, and some have been taken care of, but there are others that have not been taken care of.

Criswell said some have disappeared, but that others have popped up.

## SPORTS TELEVISION SCHEDULE

<b>Saturday</b>		freeze Indy 300 at Chicagoland Speedway in Joliet, Ill.									
9 a.m.	7/11 CBS 2008 U.S. Open Tennis Tournament Men's Semi-Final from Flushing Meadows, New York	2 p.m.	7/11 CBS 2008 U.S. Open Tennis Tournament Men's Championship from Flushing Meadows, New York								
10 a.m.	22/28 ESPN College Football Teams TBA	6 p.m.	22/28 ESPN MLB Baseball Philadelphia Phillies at New York Mets from Shea Stadium								
1 p.m.	30/27 FXSP College Football Brigham Young Cougars at Washington Huskies from Husky Stadium	6:15 p.m.	8/8 NBC Sunday Night Football Chicago Bears at Indianapolis Colts from Lucas Oil Stadium								
1:30 p.m.	4/6 ABC College Football Regional Coverage - Teams TBA	<b>Monday</b>									
23/29 ESPN2 College Football Teams TBA	3/9 NBC College Football San Diego State Aztecs at Notre Dame Fighting Irish from Notre Dame Stadium	5 p.m.	22/28 ESPN Monday Night Football Minnesota Vikings at Green Bay Packers from Lambeau Field								
2:30 p.m.	22/28 ESPN College Football West Virginia Mountaineers at East Carolina Pirates from Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium	8:15 p.m.	22/28 ESPN Monday Night Football Denver Broncos at Oakland Raiders from Network Associates Coliseum								
5 p.m.	23/29 ESPN2 College Football South Florida Bulls at Central Florida Golden Knights from Florida Citrus Bowl	<b>Tuesday</b>									
30/27 FXSP College Football Louisiana Tech Bulldogs at Kansas Jayhawks from Memorial Stadium	99/39 WGN MLB Baseball Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim at Chicago White Sox from U.S. Cellular Field	5 p.m.	23/29 ESPN2 WNBA Basketball Phoenix Mercury at Detroit Shock from The Palace of Auburn Hills								
5:30 p.m.	4/6 ABC NASCAR Sprint Cup Chevy Rock & Roll 400 from Richmond International Raceway in Richmond, Va.	30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Colorado Rockies at San Francisco Giants from AT&T Park	6:05 p.m.	99/39 WGN MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at St. Louis Cardinals from Busch Stadium							
6 p.m.	7/11 CBS 2008 U.S. Open Tennis Tournament Women's Championship from Flushing Meadows, New York	9 p.m.	30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Colorado Rockies at Atlanta Braves from Turner Field								
22/28 ESPN College Football Miami Hurricanes at Florida Gators from Florida Field	8:15 p.m.	23/29 ESPN2 USA Soccer Trinidad & Tobago at United States from Bridgeview, Ill.	<b>Wednesday</b>								
20/37 USA 2008 U.S. Open Tennis Tournament Women's Doubles Final from Flushing Meadows, New York	7/11 CBS NFL Football Kansas City Chiefs at New England Patriots from Gillette Stadium	5 p.m.	22/28 ESPN MLB Baseball Teams TBA	30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Colorado Rockies at Atlanta Braves from Turner Field							
11:05 a.m.	99/39 WGN MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati Reds from Great American Ball Park	6 p.m.	23/29 ESPN2 USA Soccer Trinidad & Tobago at United States from Bridgeview, Ill.	<b>Thursday</b>							
12 p.m.	25/38 IND MLB Baseball Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim at Chicago White Sox from U.S. Cellular Field	5 p.m.	23/29 ESPN2 MLS Soccer CD Chivas USA at New England Revolution from Gillette Stadium	30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Colorado Rockies at Atlanta Braves from Turner Field	5:30 p.m.	22/28 ESPN College Football North Carolina Tar Heels at Rutgers Scarlet Knights from Rutgers Stadium					
1 p.m.	30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Houston Astros at Colorado Rockies from Coors Field	7 p.m.	23/29 ESPN2 High School Football Old Spice Showcase Rider (TX) vs. Sulphur Springs (TX) from Gerald Prim Stadium in Sulphur Springs, Texas	<b>Friday</b>							
1:30 p.m.	4/6 ABC IndyCar Series Peak Anti-	10 a.m.	23/29 ESPN2 NASCAR Sprint Cup Practice New Hampshire	1 p.m.	23/29 ESPN2 NASCAR Sprint Cup Qualifying New Hampshire	5 p.m.	22/28 ESPN MLB Baseball Teams TBA	6 p.m.	23/29 ESPN2 College Football Kansas Jayhawks at South Florida Bulls from Tampa Stadium	7 p.m.	30/27 FXSP MLB Baseball Los Angeles Dodgers at Colorado Rockies from Coors Field

## Crossword Puzzle

<b>ADDED DIMENSIONS</b>												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20								21				
			22			23	24	25				
26	27	28			29				30	31	32	
33					34				35			
36					37				38			
39				40					41			
42				43					44			
			45						46			
47	48	49				50			51	52	53	
54					55	56	57					
58					59				60			
61					62				63			

American Profile Hometown Content 080831 © Macmillan's Inc.

<b>ACROSS</b>	1. Blue Grotto's isle	6. Haul in	10. Gives a boost to	14. Risking everything, in poker	15. Ashe Stadium org.	16. Volt or watt	17. Touchdown follower	19. Genealogy chart	20. Bids a bon voyage to	21. Toy holder	22. Bank acct. accrual	23. "Ditto!"	26. "Goosebumps" author R.L.	29. Hard-hit baseball	33. Ice server	34. Contest submission	35. No-goodnik	36. Colonial bugs	37. Allow access to	38. Put aboard	39. Dent or scratch	40. Pinker inside	41. Singing Carpenter	42. Traveler's expense, perhaps	44. Watchful ones	45. Elevators, to Brits	46. Tenth of a sawbuck	47. Muscle Beach dudes	50. Toy racer	54. Sneaking suspicion	55. Semiconductor-based	58. Hats, slangily	59. Left speechless	60. Salon shade	61. Word with litmus or acid	62. Pure delight					
<b>DOWN</b>	1. Gowns' companions	2. Skin care ingredient	3. Ballet bend	4. Soap removals	5. Recites, in a melodic way	6. Dennis the Menace's dog	7. Round fig.	8. Broke the fast	9. Links scorecard figure	10. Novel producer	11. Concerning, on memos	12. Peters out	13. Proofreader's word	18. Toward the stern	21. Buffalo Bill	23. Coin makers	24. Missing nothing	25. Fork-tailed flier	26. Notary's need	27. Having a key, in music	28. Part of IV	29. Look over wolfishly	30. Words of compassion	31. Darth	32. Idyllic settings	37. Joke response, informally	38. Nursery outfits	40. Equestrian's control	41. Orson Welles's Wisconsin birthplace	43. Atlanta Braves' div.	46. Moth-eaten	47. Dagger part	48. Nicollette's "Desperate Housewives" role	49. Rx items, for short	50. Slaw or fries	51. Defeatist's word	52. "___ extra cost!"	53. Bring up	55. Lose firmness	56. Temple University athlete	57. F. ___ Bailey

The crossword puzzle brought to you by: