



J-Factor (above), from left, Tanner Oharah, Riley Oharah and Kade Sheldon, winners in the teen division, encouraged members of the crowd to rush the stage during the performance at the Flatlander Fall Festival Talent Contest. Braelyn Hoelting (below, left) and Demi Mitchek danced while singing Abba's "Dancing Queen." They were first in the pre-teen division. Jacob Ries (bottom photo) won the adult division as the only entrant.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Talent contest exciting

Close contests, within points, a tie-breaker and crowd pleasing returning competitors made the Flatlander Talent Contest exciting Saturday.

The newcomers gave the experienced talent a run for their money in the talent contest, one even forcing a tie-breaker to help the judges make a decision.

Jordan Knitig, new to the show, lent her beautiful voice and strong vocal cords to "Twisted" by Carrie Underwood competing in the teen category against last year's teen winners J-Factor, brothers Tanner and Riley Oharah along with Kade Sheldon. Also competing in the teen division were Jessica Klemm and then Jessica with her sister Emily Klemm.

Judges Tiffany Overstreet, who works in admissions at the Northwest Kansas Technical College and is a dance instructor with Jessica Kannady's the Right Combination Dance Studio; Mandy Johnston, publicity and event planning at the college; and Brooke Lenington, a Goodland High School student and the 2008 National American Miss Kansas Teen, were deadlocked on choosing the winner between J-Factor and Knitig and requested that each sing one song for a tie breaker.

Knitig sang "Twisted" again, and J-Factor performed "I Can Only Imagine" by MercyMe, a song they had not practiced together. But the lack of practice was not a factor, and J-Factor won. Knitig was second and Jessica Klemm third.

In the pre-teen division, last year's winner and experienced performer Demi Mitchek returned as a duo with Braelyn Hoelting. The girls sang "Mama Mia" and "Dancing Queen" by Abba.



They were challenged by Annika Linin with a tap dance number to "Play Time" and Sophia Williams singing "Our Song." The votes were close again, but Demi and Braelyn won, Annika was second and Sophia third.

The judges had an easy job with the adult category, as Jacob Ries was the only entrant and thus the winner. He performed Christian rock songs he wrote, playing guitar and singing.

Charlie Ihloff with Heartland Band from Hays provided sound for the event.



Andrew Wood, son of Brent and Jennifer Wood of Goodland, showed off his dog Sparky at the Scruffy Dog Contest Saturday at the Flatlander Fall Festival. Sparky was named Scruffiest Dog.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Scruffy Dog Contest draws many entries

The perennial crowd favorite Scruffy Dog Contest brought out the cutest, the scruffiest and the most talented dogs from near and far Saturday morning.

Several dogs from Goodland competed as well as one from Topeka in the contest sponsored by the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter. A few did tricks, some knew how but refused to brown-nose for the judges and others didn't know any tricks, but all got oohs and ahhs from the crowd.

When it was all said and done, the judges chose a Carin/Terrier cross named Sparky, owned by Andrew Wood of Goodland, as the scruffiest dog. "Baby Boy," a chihuahua owned by Raymond Atkinson of Goodland was the smallest.

A 5-year-old chocolate lab named Kiara, owned by Beverly Albers of Goodland, told her owner which tricks she would do and was named

the most talented dog, and there was no doubt she was also the biggest dog.

Pug pup Chloe, owned by Shaina Varney of Goodland, had the best personality, and Billie Bob the bulldog, owned by Ashley Engel of Topeka, was dubbed "A face only a mother could love."

A "Peek-a-Pom" owned by Mikki Ricker of Goodland was named Cutest Adult. Ricker adopted "Pom Pom" from the animal shelter four years ago.

Cutest puppy honors went to Shadow, a 4-month-old puppy owned by Jessica Johnson of Goodland.

The judges' choice and a crowd favorite was "Petey," a 13-year-old Pomeranian/Poodle mix, owned by Tammy Sanderson of Goodland. Petey lost a leg to cancer but trotted around just fine on three legs.

correction

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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.

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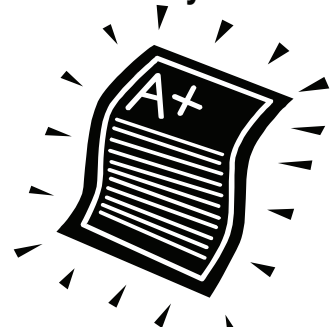
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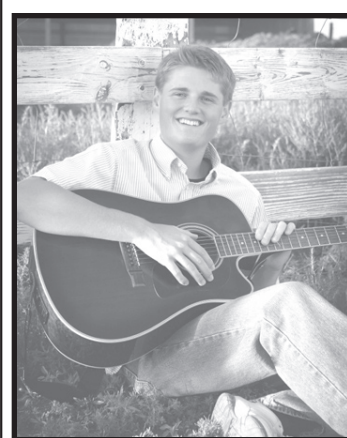
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student of the week



Name: Devin Mangus
Parents: Danny and Charlene Mangus
Grade: 12
Age: 18

We've nominated this student because: of his excellent performance in Calculus this year. Devin is a dedicated student, willing to work hard and is well-respected by his fellow students and the faculty at Goodland High. He is very deserving of this honor.

Student Comment: I will always remember the opportunities and experiences I had while at Goodland High School. My favorite aspect

of high school has been the lessons learned in and out of class. I will always remember the teachers and friends that pushed me to do my best.

Activities involved in at school: 4-H, band, X-Pressos, Musical, National Honor Society, Art, Golf and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

My choice of movies, books, and games: My favorite movies include: The Pirates of the Caribbean trilogy, Robin Hood Men in Tights, and October Sky. My favorite music is classic rock and country. My favorite book is The Great Gatsby.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to ...: go to Kansas State University and major in Agricultural Engineering.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be ...: starting a family, and be successful in whatever makes me happy.

Favorite Quote: "Don't tell me the sky is the limit, when there are footprints on the moon."-Anonymous

Brittney's Photography

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