

# Accordian player has many God given talents

PLAYER, from Page 1

ing in seventh grade when her grandmother, Joan, brought home an old button accordian. "She thought my sister or I would like it," said adding both her sisters, Valerie and Meredith are very musical. She said at first the accordian didn't attract her attention, but as time went by she changed her mind. "I thought it was kind of cool," she said. Smith already knew how to play

the piano, but she needed someone to teach her how to master the accordian. She started taking lessons in Denver. "At first," she said, "it was really, really hard." She said although the lessons aren't fun, she enjoys learning more about the accordian. In Denver, she is a member of an accordian band. In the summer, she tries to go to the city every Friday for a lesson and a chance to play in her band. Once a year, the band gets together to play in Octoberfest on Larimer Square in

Denver as part of an attraction called "Sea of Accordions Concert" featuring over 100 players. "That is just incredible," she said. "It's just awesome." She plays Christmas Carols in the winter at Wal-Mart, where she works as a cashier, but is relatively unknown for her talent in this area. She used to play once a month at the Samaritan Center, has visited Wheat Ridge Acres and was recently asked to play in St. Francis. Smith has a lot of music books and, she said, her catalog of songs

contains anything from children's music to patriotic songs. She is especially inspired by religious music. "I'm a strong Christian," she said, "and God has just blessed me so much." Among her other talents, Smith said she likes to sing, play the saxophone and play the flute. She played flute in high school and the saxophone in college in a music program she helped to start. Landmark College, an institution for students with learning disabilities near Putney, Vt., did not have a

music program until Smith got a group together to form a choir and a woodwind ensemble. She learned to play the saxophone and participated in the school's existing Jazz Band. "It was the best time of my life," she said about her college days. Smith likes to sing at karaoke and used to sing in church before she started working at Wal-Mart. "Singing is one of my God given talents," she said, adding she was singing before she even learned to walk. When she isn't involved in mu-

sic, Smith likes to write poetry and is working on publishing a book. She likes to share music with her fiancé, Edward Robson of London, England, too. Robson plays the piano. "We love to play our music together," she said. Smith is willing to play for anyone who wants to hear her. She said to call 785-852-4732. "If anyone wants me to play, I'll do it. I'm giving it back to God," she said. "It's just a really cool instrument."

# Citizens asked for money to finish park

PARK, from Page 1

pledges that were made over two years ago that could help narrow the gap, and wants time to raise the needed money. The commission discussed the options and decided to delay the decision to review the alternatives and to have City Manager Ron Pickman at the meeting to discuss where the city might find a portion of the money. Darin Neufeld of Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, the engineers for the city on this project, said there are three options the commission can consider. Neufeld said the three options are:

- Accept the bid from Miller and find the additional \$85,000 to complete the project as designed.
  - Let the project die, and tell the state Department of Transportation the city was returning \$210,000 from a Transportation Enhancement grant.
  - Narrow the project and then submit it for rebid. Neufeld said there are several items which could be eliminated or trimmed back to cut the cost of the project by about \$120,000.
- The park will feature a pavilion, information kiosk, phone booth, benches, and lights. There will be a walking trail following the outline of the park about a quarter mile long. The trail will lead to 18th

Street and when combined with a sidewalk there which will lead to Steever Park, will offer a total walking trail of about a half mile. Pickman said the project was first proposed in 1998 as a water runoff pool combined with a hike and bike trail and about a year later expanded into plans for a park. The original plans called for a lagoon in the park but because of the drought the past several years and the need to save money, it was eliminated and replaced by a field of buffalo grass. "The ugliness of the old wye was a mucky mess," Tromble said. "It will be replaced by beautiful Pioneer Park, and will honor the people who founded the city of Goodland on the treeless prairie.

"Pioneer Park will be a green tree-lined park with a 10-foot side concrete hike and bike trail around the perimeter. There will be benches located along the trail where people may sit and relax under the cool shade of the trees. A pavilion or roofed shelter with tables and benches will be enjoyed by families and groups who will be delighted to have a nice picnic area." Tromble may be a bit optimistic, but Monday the city commission will discuss the future of the project and determine which option to follow. Anyone interested in helping fund the final portion of the park project can call any of the financial advisors or Rev. Tromble at 890-7201.

# Edson gym sale awaiting final paperwork, money

GYM, from Page 1

and a day at the end of each nine weeks for teacher inservice. School next year will start three days earlier to ensure students get out before Memorial Day. Selby said even with the change, students will attend school for the same number of days next year. "It looks good," said board member Mike Campbell. Considered dismissing grade school classes when a large number of students are sick. Selby told the

board 40 students were absent from West School Monday. "It's getting around," he said adding the students might be better off if they dismiss. Hired Danyale Northdurft as a cook and custodian at Central Elementary. Northdurft started work on Monday, Jan. 24. Selby said she is well impressed everyone at the school and they are glad to have her on staff. Approved reports on Professional Development Council, a program where teachers earn credit for

workshops and inservices. Approved minutes from the last meeting, Monday, Jan. 10, and Monday, Jan. 17. Approved \$40,569.13 in bills. Board members reviewed a \$4,467.33 bill to Dependable Glass Services for new doors installed at the high school in November. Selby said the old doors didn't close right and weren't airtight. Approved transfer of \$35,000 from the local option budget, a budget made up of local taxes, to the bilingual fund, \$11,313 into the par-

ents education program and \$200,000 into the vocational education program. Selby said the transfers are common, but a change in tax laws delayed the money into the local account. Accepted a donation of \$650 from the Knights of Columbus to the school special education program. Selby said the group donates every year and Harvey Swager, high school principal, said the money is used for special books and rewards for the students.

# Health fair Saturday

FAIR, from Page 1

about 10 more than last year. Those who had blood profiles done prior to the fair can pick up the results, Jiminez said, and if they don't make it to the health fair, they can pick them up at the hospital. There will also be free blood pressure checks, Jiminez said, height, weight and posture analysis; colon cancer checks; and glucometer tests for children ages 10 and up with a family history of obesity and diabetes. Parents can get a picture ID for their children from the Goodland Police Department as part of the Ident-a-Kid program, and child care is provided during the health fair.

There will be hearing and vision screening, Jiminez said, prizes will be given out, and there will be other activities and information available from vendors. Those attending the health fair can learn about a pilot project the hospital is participating to improve future health care. The hospital is trying to have all who are participating in the Rural Health Works project represented at the fair, Hospital Administrator Jay Jolly said. It is time for the hospital to get some information out on the project, Jolly said, to help people see the importance of responding to the upcoming telephone survey to let those involved in the project know what they want from their health care.

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