



Jacob Alander, Jordan Anderson and Kara Angelos sweltered in the heat in the Max Jones Fieldhouse on Saturday as they waited for the high school graduation to begin.  
Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

# Algebra teacher, coach outstanding educator

President Dale Schields presented the Sherman County Alumni Association's outstanding educator award to Don Smith at commencement ceremonies Saturday.

Other finalists were Nancy Farris and Jon McLean. Schields said the selection was based on several factors, including length of service, successful teaching methods and concern for students.

The senior class voted in May, he said, and chose Smith. Schields presented a cash award of \$250 and an engraved plaque to Smith after inviting his "classmate and friend" to come to the stage.

Smith said he had decided when he was a sophomore that he wanted to be a teacher and coach. One thing he likes most, he said, is when stu-

dents come back and honor their teachers with stories of their lives and how they're doing.

"Students often thank us," he said. "I want to turn this around and thank you."

Smith said he appreciated the times in class with students and the

greetings in the hall.

Smith teaches algebra and coaches, cross country, girls basketball and track. McLean teaches world geography and physical education and coaches, football, boys basketball and boys golf. Farris is the school counselor.

## Diplomas handed to 61

GRADUATES, from Page 1

have more questions than answers as they leave high school, but now they need to determine what it means to be successful.

Success is not measured so much by achievements, he said, as by the risks you take to live a full life. The

greatest hazard is to risk nothing, he said; to risk is to be free.

Don't just take, Kneud added, but put something back in the pot—vote, serve on a jury when asked, help a neighbor.

Don't measure success by how many toys you have, he said, but by how many times you help someone.

## Art center asks city for \$2,000

ARTS, from Page 1

more this summer.

"The arts council is fortunate it does not count on only one source for funding," she said, "but it does take the cooperation and support of a variety of help to keep our facility and programs at the present level."

She said the council has over 200 members, but the programs are open to everyone.

"We want to continue the long partnership with the city," Goodwin said, "and ask you keep the funding at the same level as in the past year."

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said the center is a real asset to the city and the whole area.

"I certainly believe we should continue to support the center," she said.

Mayor Rick Billinger thanked Goodwin for her presentation, and said he echoes Fairbanks' comments about the value of the art center.

Billinger said the request would be considered as part of the budget process that begins after the first meeting in July.

In other business, the commission:

- Heard a report from Ken Clouse, president of the Northwest Kansas Technical College and a member of the Goodland Chamber's Beautification Committee. Clouse thanked the city for its help in the citywide cleanup last month.

"We think this was absolutely a home run," he said. "It would not have been possible without the help from the city, county and In the Can. We have only begun, and more needs to be done."

"We feel the city needs to increase funding up to \$60,000 or \$90,000 to clean up properties under city ordinance. We will continue to clean up the city."

Clouse said over 100 volunteers had helped with the three weekend cleanups in April.

- Approved a contract with the Kansas League of Municipalities for \$4,166 to help with the search for the new manager. City Manager Ron Pickman said the word is getting out, as he had a few calls on Monday from people asking about details of the job. The contract includes about \$1,000 for advertising,

and the commission should have the top 10 candidates for consideration by June 20. Interviews are planned for June 24-25 and 27-28.

- Introduced Tom Armour of Hutchinson, a "rangerider" with the Kansas Association of City Management, who will be the interim city manager during the search to find a replacement for Pickman, who will leave the city next Friday.

- Pickman said the fuel adjustment increases are beginning and the power bills for June will be higher than this month. He said the fuel adjustment charge will be .02611 per kilowatt hour, and that a house that uses 650 kilowatts would pay \$16.97 extra.

He said the city was able to buy some to power from Nebraska for \$50 per megawatt, but the cost of producing power has risen because of the higher natural gas prices. He said the cost for the city to produce power was \$180 per megawatt, and the fuel adjustment could be higher for the rest of the year.

"It is not as high as a few years ago," Pickman said, "but it will be higher than in past months."

## County wheat crop needs some moisture

CROPS, from Page 1

helping contribute to other problems in the fields, including wheat streak mosaic.

Falk agreed, saying she has seen a lot of the virus around the county. She said the virus can't be treated, but plants that are bigger and more robust fare better.

She said the best way to prevent the disease is to destroy volunteer wheat, wheat that grows from fallen seeds after harvest.

"Just keep an eye on your wheat," she said.

Falk said some varieties of wheat, like the common Jagger, are more resistant to the virus.

Along with the mosaic, she said, many fields are showing signs of stripe rust. She said the disease, which produces long lines of orange pustules, occurs about every other year.

"It's pretty nasty stuff," Falk said.

She warns that she has already has seen some of the fungus in Sherman County, but the problem can be easily fixed with a fungicide spray.

"When the wheat is stressed," Townsend said, "anything that can happen, does."

Belshe said two freezes last month only caused slight damage.

Some farmers are looking towards summer crops like corn, sunflowers and beans. Belshe said most of the corn should be planted, and farmers are working to put in soybeans and sunflowers.

"I'm sure (the dry weather) has affected people's planing," Belshe said, adding they need rain throughout the growing season.

Townsend said his corn, soybeans and milo are already planted and starting to come up.

Belshe said harvest normally falls at the end of June or first of July. He said without moisture, like last year, some fields won't be har-

vested.

"I think we're gonna have some abandoned this year, too," he said.

Although Falk and Belshe both said the yield is in danger, neither is ready to give up.

Belshe said farmers aren't giving up, either.

"They're still hanging in there," he said. "There's still a chance at a good yield."

As for what they can do about it, both said there isn't much.

"Just pray for rain," Falk said. "There's nothing you can do."

"When it rains, it'll rain," said Townsend. "When it rains, we'll need it."

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