

Goodland band teacher on the comeback trail

By Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News
Goodland High School's band teacher is on the comeback trail, recovering from a brain tumor, and says she plans to make the most of her second chance.

In September, out of desperation, her son took Deanne Spanier to University Hospital in Denver to try to find out why she had such terrible headaches and was deteriorating physically and mentally.

After some tests, the doctors found that Spanier had a brain tumor. Surgery was scheduled for Oct. 4. Spanier said she was in the operating room for 10 1/2 hours. The tumor was big, 4.9 by 4 centimeters (about 2 inches by 1 2/3 inches), but luckily was not a spreading type of cancer and she needed no chemotherapy. The tumor was on the right front, over the memory part of the brain, the doctors said.

Spanier said she expected to spend four weeks in rehabilitation regaining her motor skills. Surprisingly, she got to go home in eight days, but there was some trauma and swelling in the brain.

"My head and face were so swollen that I couldn't see for six days," she said.

She said the swelling is still not completely gone but should eventually go away.

Spanier's hands shake, but she



Deanne Spanier, a band teacher for the Goodland Schools, held her favorite instrument, the clarinet. Spanier is recovering from surgery for a brain tumor. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

says she can live with that, and the doctors think that, too, will go away in time. The tumor affected her heart rate, which has caused her to be in and out of the emergency room several times. She said she has to be careful not to get too tired. By February, though, she thinks she should be able to go at a normal pace.

The band teacher, who came here in August from Oberlin, said she has noticed a few other things. She can't smell anything and she can't taste onions or cinnamon.

Spanier has nothing but praise for the support and help she got from the faculty and staff at Goodland High. "They are nice people, a beautiful staff," she said.

Melanie Biel, the other band teacher, and Joey Nickols, a student teacher from Fort Hays State University, took up the slack, said Spanier.

Biel says it has been nice to get to know Spanier since she has been back.

"She's a completely different person and she's ready to get back to work with the kids," said Biel.

Principal Harvey Swager was out of the loop when his new band teacher fell ill.

"(Superintendent) Marvin Selby and (Assistant Principal) Steve Raymer handled the situation when Spanier became ill," he said, "as I was gone because of medical problems."

If they had not had a student

teacher, he added, they would have had to have looked for help for Biel.

Spanier said she was teaching at Oberlin when the school board cut her position from full time to half time. She applied for the opening in Goodland and was hired.

She said she went to high school in Garden City and went on to Garden City Junior College in accounting and worked for a legal firm.

"I was young, 17, when I went to college the first time," said Spanier.

Later she went back for cosmetology.

"After my children were born, I was a stay-at-home mom," said Spanier.

She was in her late thirties when she went back to Garden City Junior College to start work on a Bachelor of Arts so she could go on and get her teaching degree.

She went to Fort Hays State University to finish her degree when her sons were in the fifth, seventh and ninth grades. Her major instrument was a clarinet. She it certified teach music at any grade level, strings and band.

She has taught for eight years in western Kansas, most of it in the northwest, with stints in Atwood, Oberlin and Johnson City.

In March, while she was still in Oberlin, Spanier said, she started to have headaches. The doctors thought it was migraines and put her on steroids. Looking at it now,

Spanier says, she remembers very little of anything past July. Her son Shane decided to not re-enlist in the Marine Corps so he could be with his mother. It was hard for her to function, she said, much less know how sick she really was.

Finally, in September, he took her to Denver for a complete checkup.

Spanier's has three sons all live in Kansas.

Justin, 25, is in Garden City, attended the Northwest Kansas Technical School and was married by Tony Kafka, former pastor of Sonrise Christian Church here. He married Lindsey, daughter of Larry and Regina Woodard. He has a 2 1/2-year-old daughter, Macey, and a 2-month old son, Liam.

Shane, 23, was a musician in the Marine Corps, playing the piano. While in the military, his mothers said, he has played for every president now living. He has played for George W. Bush twice and for the Clinton Library Dedication. She said Shane is trying to break into studio work as a musician but might go back to school to be an optometrist.

Spanier's youngest son, Adam, 21, and his wife, Andrea, live in Lawrence, where he is on a waiting list to get in a program for training technicians for the recording industry.

"I am very proud of my family and am very thankful to be in Goodland," said Spanier.

Trial scheduled in drug case

A Kanorado garage owner entered a not-guilty plea to seven drug charges at his arraignment on Monday, Dec. 12, and was ordered to face a jury next month.

Judge Jack Burr set trial for Scott Baumfalk on the drug charges for 9 a.m. on Wednesday to Friday, Feb. 1-3, in District Court.

In a case that was split off from the drug charges, Baumfalk has a preliminary hearing Thursday, Dec. 15, for theft, a level 9 felony. Baumfalk was represented by Richard Dinkel, Sharon Springs. He will

be arraigned at 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 9, in that case.

The theft case was severed from the drug charges because of difficulties in scheduling the witnesses, said County Attorney Bonnie Selby. The stolen property was found during a search on July 1 at Baumfalk's home at 715 Center Ave., when police and federal officers were looking for bomb-making materials but found a drug lab.

At the preliminary hearing, Selby called Rita Billinger, Ramona Livengood, Dirk King and Police

Chief Ray Smee as witnesses.

The state's exhibits in the theft case included three silver dollars, five gold state coin sets, 30 \$1 silver certificates, a ruby-and-diamond necklace and a diamond necklace. The exhibits were worth more than \$500, Selby said, making this a felony.

Judge Jack Burr admitted the state's 12 exhibits. A defense exhibit was not admitted and the defense did not present any witnesses. Baumfalk was bound over for arraignment.

City has light agenda Tuesday

City commissioners have a light agenda so far for their first meeting of the new year at 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

City Manager Wayne Hill said the city has completed its part of an agreement with the county on the communication center, but is waiting for the county to review it.

"We haven't received anything back," Hill said Thursday. "If that comes in today, we will have that on the agenda."

The new agreement basically says the county will provide the dispatch services for the city in return for the city providing the space for the dispatch center in the basement of the Administration Building.

Hill said the city attorney asked to have a 10-year renewal included

in the agreement, and the county commissioners had asked the county attorney to add that.

Another item is an agreement between the city and the Goodland Activity Center, which Hill said has been completed and sent to the county and activity center for review. He said that could be on the agenda if the two boards respond.

The agreement is being reviewed by the county because it was part of the original City/County Recreation Commission which established the current system. The new agreement transfers all the recreation activities — except Steever Water Park — to the center. The City/County Recreation Commission will remain for the first few years to be sure the transition goes

smoothly. The agreement is for two years so everyone can evaluate how it works.

Other items on the agenda include appointments to the city plumbing board. Harold Gilliah is being recommended for reappointment of the plumbing board.

There is a request for payment to Sporer Land Development and Evans, bierly, Hutchison and Associates for work on the airport safety area, and a request for reimbursement to the city from the Federal Aviation Administration for the government's share.

The commission meets upstairs in the City Administration Building, 204 W. 11th. To enter the building, push the buzzer inside the first set of doors.

Offices, businesses to close Monday

Government offices, banks and schools will close Monday to mark New Year's Day, and Tuesday's edition of *The Goodland Star-News* will be printed a day later than usual.

Goodland city workers will have another long holiday weekend, as offices will be closed all day today and Monday for New Year's Day and reopen for regular hours, from 7 a.m.-4 p.m., on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

The regular City Commission meeting has been rescheduled for 5

p.m. Tuesday.

County offices will close at noon Friday, and will be closed Monday. The landfill will be closed on Monday as well.

The post office and federal offices will close Monday. There will be no mail pickup or delivery. State offices will be closed on Monday as well.

All banks will close for the holiday.

The Goodland schools will reopen Tuesday after the winter

break. The hospital will be open regular hours, and of course, the emergency room will be available 24 hours every day.

The Goodland Family Health Center will be open today and Monday. It will only close on Saturday for the holiday.

The newspaper office will be closed Monday. The holiday will delay the Tuesday paper one day; it will be printed on Tuesday and delivered in the mail on Wednesday.

matters of record

District Traffic

The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court: **Nov. 9** — Ray R. Dowling Jr. was fined \$255 for speeding.

Nov. 10 — Francis C. Altmeyer was fined \$117 for over weight limits on wheels and axles.

Thomas L. Day was fined \$138 for speeding.

Eduardo Monsen was fined \$89 for over weight limits on wheels and axles.

Andrew C. Polichio was fined \$231 for speeding.

Nov. 11 — Audrey A. Bartlett was fined \$168 for speeding.

Paul C. Clemens was fined \$126 for speeding.

Teresa M. Downey was fined for \$213 for speeding.

Jesus Duarte was fined \$159 for speeding and \$10 for not wearing a seat belt.

Cassandra A. Hovda was fined \$114 for speeding and \$10 for not wearing a seat belt.

Ben E. Jansma was fined \$186 for speeding.

Shawn M. Kari was fined \$126 for speeding.

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.

Alexis A. Schechter was fined \$114 for improper parking.

Nov. 12 — Jeremy D. Davis was fined \$120 for speeding.

Thank You

I want to send a special Thank You to my family and friends who sent cards for my 80th Birthday. They will be enjoyed many times over.

Bless you all.
Roberta Luckert



Kids collect food for Genesis



Pat Jordan accepted food for Genesis from Darby Seeger and Taveau Stockman, West Elementary School students on Wednesday. Students collected nine boxes of food as a service project. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Colby Community College — Goodland Outreach

Spring 2006

Goodland Enrollment:

Thursday, January 5th, 1:00-4:30 p.m. MT; Northwest Kansas Technical College Murray Center

Thursday, January 5th, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. MT, at the Goodland High School Cafeteria

Note: Please register in advance for ITV classes so textbooks and handouts can be made available.

Course Number	Course Name	Instructor	CR	Tuition + Fees	Place	Time	Start Date
MONDAY							
ML 237	Spanish Composition & Conversation --- ITV	Susan Hall	3	\$183	Murray Center	6:00-9:00 pm	1/23
TUESDAY							
HI 177	American History 1865 to Present	R. Walz	3	\$223	Murray Center	3:35-6:35 pm	1/17
AN 177	Cultural Anthropology — ITV	L. Davis-Stephens	3	\$198	Murray Center	5:30-8:30 pm	1/24
WEDNESDAY							
PH 103	Earth Science	D. Friedrichs	5	\$305	GHS Tech.Bldg.	6:00-9:00 pm	1/11
PH 103L	Earth Science Lab	D. Friedrichs	0	\$40	GHS Tech.Bldg.	6:00-9:00 pm	1/11
THURSDAY							
EN 176	English Composition I	L. VanLoenen	3	\$183	Murray Center	6:00-9:00 pm	1/12
EN 177	English Composition II	L. VanLoenen	3	\$183	Murray Center	6:00-9:00 pm	1/12
ED 108	Personal/Technical Writing	L. VanLoenen	3	\$183	Murray Center	6:00-9:00 pm	1/12
PO 176	American Government — ITV	T. Moorhous	3	\$198	Murray Center	5:30-8:30 pm	1/19
SATURDAY							
CO 176	Intro. to Computer Concepts & Applications	C. Ellison	3	\$183	Tech. Center	8 am - 6 pm	4/22
MONDAY / WEDNESDAY							
PI 276	Introduction to Ethics — ITV	M. McVay	3	\$198	Murray Center	3:00-4:25 pm	1/11
MONDAY / WEDNESDAY / THURSDAY							
HU 177	Human Relations	S. Calliham	3	\$183	Murray Center	3:35-4:30 pm	1/4
PS 176	General Psychology	S. Calliham	3	\$183	Murray Center	2:35-3:30 pm	1/4
MA 177	Intermediate Algebra	J. Oesterreich	3	\$183	Murray Center	2:35-3:30 pm	1/4
MA 169	Survey of Mathematics	J. Oesterreich	3	\$183	Murray Center	3:35-4:30 pm	1/4
PS 178	College Algebra	J. Oesterreich	3	\$183	Murray Center	4:30-6:00 pm	1/4
FRIDAY/SATURDAY							
SP 106	Interpersonal Communications (Meets 3 weekends of Feb. 3-4, 17-18, March 3-4)	S. Calliham	3	\$183	Murray Center	4:00-9:00 pm F 7am - 5 pm S	2/3
PS 112	Anger & Stress — ITV	L. Koon	1	\$71	Murray Center	4:40-10:00 pm F 7:00 am-5 pm S	3/31
TO BE ANNOUNCED (TBA)							
AL 105	Nurse Aide I	S. Pearson	2	\$122	GoodSam	TBA	TBA
AL 106	Nurse Aide II	S. Pearson	3	\$183	GoodSam	TBA	TBA
AL 110	Medication Aide	S. Pearson	4	\$244	GoodSam	TBA	TBA
AR 123	Intro. to Crafts — Stained Glass	C. Kickler	3	\$183	TBA	TBA	TBA
DUAL-CREDIT CLASSES AT GHS							
EN 178 A	English Composition II	L. Van Loenen	3	\$183	GHS-226	1:58-3:20 Black	1/17
EN 178 B	English Composition II	L. Van Loenen	3	\$183	GHS-226	12:33-1:55 Gold	1/17
SP 176	Public Speaking	Susan Hall	3	\$183	GHS-245	7:50-9:12 Gold	1/17
MA 178 A	College Algebra	J. Elliott	3	\$183	GHS-222	7:50-9:12 Gold	1/17
MA 178 B	College Algebra	J. Elliott	3	\$183	GHS-222	12:33-1:55 Black	1/17

Tuition indicated is for Kansas residents only. Refer to tuition note below for non-resident rates.

Tuition is \$61.00 per credit hour for Kansas residents; \$103.00 per credit hour for non-residents; \$74.00 per credit hour for special non-residents. Some classes have additional fees. **Special non-residents** are any residents of Colorado and Nebraska.

ITV classes require pre-registration and have an additional \$5.00 per credit hour fee. Contact Sharon Hall

A Colby Community College counselor will be available at both enrollments to answer questions on financial aid, graduation requirements, and career options.

For additional information contact: Sharon Hall (785) 899-5930