

Union Pacific steam train rolls across the plains



Train crew members from the Union Pacific steam locomotive No. 844 carefully walked the train along the elevator siding in Sharon

Springs on Friday. The historic train was completing the second day of a 35-day 10-state tour.

Photo By Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

TRAIN, from Page 1

of McAlister.

A service truck and spare crew car follow the train, while another group lives on the train to man the souvenir car at every stop. One woman said it was fun to make the trip, but that it can be a long day from stop to stop.

“We are extremely proud of our collection of historical railroad equipment, which is the largest of any U. S. railroad, especially our steam locomotives,” said Steve Lee, Union Pacific’s manager-operating practices and locomotive engineer.

A Global Positioning System satellite transmitter is installed on one of the rail cars that travels with No. 844, linked with a map on Union Pacific’s Web site at www.uprr.com. A schedule shows where the train will be each until it returns to Cheyenne.

No.844, built for passenger and fast freight service during World War II, returned to service in 2005 after one of the most extensive steam locomotive overhauls in the United States since the 1950s. The work began in 2000 and affected its running gear, pumps, piping, valves and springs, along with replacement of its firebox and extensive boiler work. The cab interior was refurbished.

No. 844 was delivered in 1944. As a high-speed passenger engine, it pulled such widely known trains as the Overland Limited, Los Angeles Limited, Portland Rose and Challenger.

When diesel-electric locomotives took over all passenger train duties, No. 844 was placed in freight service in Nebraska between 1957 and 1959. It was saved from being scrapped in 1960 and held for special service.

No. 844 has run hundreds of thousands of miles for UP’s Heritage program. It has made appearances at Expo ’74 in Spokane, the 1981 opening of the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento, the 1984 World’s Fair in New Orleans and the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Los Angeles Union Station in 1989.

Today, the steam powered train is in Herrington. Wednesday, the train travels south through Hutchinson and will overnight in Pratt. Thursday the train will roll through Liberal and overnight in Guymon, Okla.

The schedule takes the train into New Mexico and down to El Paso, Texas, before turning back north and crossing Texas to Little Rock, Ark. It will re-enter Kansas at Coffeyville on Sunday, May 28, traveling north to Kansas City. The route turns back to the west through Onaga and Marysville before stopping at Fairbury, Neb. On May 30, the last stop will be in North Platte, Neb. The trip will end on June 1 when No. 844 returns to Cheyenne.

About three weeks later, No. 844 will travel down to Denver for the annual Denver Post Cheyenne Frontier Days special.

Photos of the historic train and the visit to Sharon Springs can be found on *The Goodland Star-News* web site nwkans.com/gldwebpages/gsmmain.html.

School board hires West principal, high school football coach

SCHOOL, from Page 1

Family Community Career Leaders of America members Andrea Grieve won a gold at the Creed contest and Taylor McLemore won a silver. Morgan Titus won a bronze in national programs.

The senior parliamentary procedure team of Michael Smith, Lea Shores, Kerek Mason, Ashley Cebula, Jena McCall, Jared Hall and Sandy Johnson won a gold at the state meeting.

The junior parliamentary procedure team of Courtney Sheldon, Shelbi Herl, Rory Kling, T.J. Freeman, Julica Bonsall, Chelsi Gausman and Brennen Clouse won a top gold and a trip to nationals in July.

Aaron Duell won the Member of the Year for district A at the state meeting. Teacher Sarah Short won an award for being a state sponsor.

Michael Smith was approved by the state membership to run for national office and was selected as a state board member.

In science olympiad: Aaron Duell received a fourth in scrambler, participated in circuit lab, food science and rocks in minerals. Kali Rietcheck received a fifth in tower building, sixth write it do it, participated in physics lab and designer genes.

Matt Rohr received a second in fermi questions, third in practical problem solving, sixth write it do it and participated in wright stuff.

Derek Fenner participated in

Wright stuff, physics lab and chemistry lab. Jared Hall got a third in storm the castle and participated in compute this and don’t bug me. Molly Witzel got a fourth in remote sensing and scrambler and participated in rocks and minerals. Jon McClung got a fourth in remote sensing and participated in compute this and robot ramble. Devin Mangus got a third in practical problem solving and partici-

ipated in circuit lab, astronomy and ecology. Dallas Price got a fifth in tower building and participated in food science. Adam Duell participated in robot ramble, astronomy and dynamic planet. Heidi Yonkey participated in designer genes, disease detective and health science. Sarah Borneman got a sixth in forensics and participated in health science and chemistry lab. Mack Witzel got a

sixth in forensics and participated in dynamic planet and ecology.

• Honored teachers receiving 25-year teaching awards from Kansas University, Elaine Felver, Wallace Hansen, Stephen McCall, Gaylene Shank and Marilyn Sowers.

• Accepted the retirement of Virginia Palmgren, a fourth-grade teacher at Central Elementary School.

• Accepted the resignations of Dennis Friedrichs as National Honor Society sponsor and Marshall Squires as night custodian.

• Hired Jeff McCall as a math teacher at the high school; Joseph Sramek as high school math teacher, and assistant football, wrestling and track coach; and basketball coach Jon McLean as summer strength and conditioning coaches.

Adding fruit, grains district wellness goal

The Goodland School Board adopted a wellness policy on first reading last week, covering how the change will improve meals to include a more healthful diet, including more fruits and whole grains.

The wellness committee, made up of school employees, Goodland Regional Medical Center’s dietitian, teachers and a school board member, stressed that the district is meeting basic federal guidelines when it reported at a school board meeting on Monday, April 24. Dietitian Sara Linton said she has been working with Food Service Director Bonnie Smith and the cooks to make the menus better.

Linton said they are trying to use more whole grains and fruits, as well as keeping the cost down. The committee said it did not recommend removing the vending machines from the high school but said

the schools should try to sell more nutritious items and make the machines unavailable for an hour after lunch.

In the grade school, they thought that kids should not be punished by not allowing them recess, when they can get exercise.

One goal of the committee is that elementary students should be able to relax and eat. The schedule presently is not consistent during the week and varies between schools, they said.

“We want all students to have at least 20 minutes to eat in elementary school,” said Smith.

The committee includes Linton, Smith, elementary teacher Sandy Burr, school board member LeAnn Friedrichs, cook Sherry Keith, high school teachers Connie Livengood and Gwen Cebula, and students Cody Engel and Chelsie Gray.

Biology classes compare muscles of humans, rats

The rats took center stage in a presentation given by Cheryl Carson’s advanced biology students to the Goodland School Board on April 24.

Carson’s students formed three groups to compare muscles between humans and rats. Each group had a laptop computer to use as a source of information.

The school board met at the high school cafeteria and this was part of the high school’s presentation to the board. All of the groups showed pictures of their rat dissected to show a particular muscle.

The first group compared the upper thorax, neck and upper limb muscles between the rat and humans. Jena McCall, daughter of Susan and Steve McCall, did the computer presentation for her and Jake Kling, son of Brian and Rochelle Kling. They used a swamp shack as a backdrop their show. It had music,

but the board did not get to hear it.

The next group’s presentation, by Sarah Borneman, daughter of Bill and Donna Borneman, Beverly Albers, daughter of Gary and Brenda Fisher, and Whitney Dautel, daughter of John and Coleen Dautel. They compared the front and back muscles of the rat’s trunk to the muscles in a human trunk

The group of Aaron Deeds, son of Robin and Carol Deeds, and Andrew Pettibone, son of Jay and Janelle Pettibone, was in the form of a streaming video. Music played and titles spiraled in and “Hobbs,” the rat, was on. This group concentrated on lower limb muscles, including the abdominal and down the legs to the feet.

All of the students gave credit for their information sources.

The board told the students they appreciated their efforts.

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