

Two vie for district seat

Retired coach seeks job in Congress

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News
Campaigning around the “Big First” Congressional District has been a rewarding experience for the retired coach from Garden City who is trying to unseat an incumbent congressman.

Democrat John Doll, a former coach and agribusiness man, is running against Republican Rep. Jerry Moran of Hays.

Doll agreed it is an uphill battle, but said the district voted for Gov. Kathleen Sebelius in 2002, and he thinks that means the voters are not as Republican as the registration figures might indicate.

“Jerry is a nice guy,” Doll said, “but he hasn’t had a vote that has helped the middle class for the past 10 years. He voted to cut education, Medicare and agriculture, and I felt that was enough. I felt I had to stand up.”

Doll said he grew up in Ingalls, between Dodge City and Garden City, and learned about agriculture working in his family’s feed yards and grain elevators. Later, he was a crop chemical applicator and crop insurance adjuster. Today, he operates a chemical application business in southwest Kansas.

“I have had a blast campaigning and getting to meet and talk to people,” Doll said Sunday. “I was in Pratt, Junction City and then Great Bend on Saturday. People ask if I am tired; I tell them it is a chal-

lenge physically, and with a week to go, I should be tired or I am not doing my best.

“I am happy I did this. I feel it is a good cause, and my only regret is that with all the research I have done, it might have been better if someone with more experience had run.

“I don’t feel like we are being represented,” he said. “That is the hardest I can be on Jerry. That is not our nature out here.”

Doll graduated from St. Mary of the Plains College in Dodge City and attended graduate school at Emporia State University. For 20 years, he taught history and government in Kansas schools. He said he loves sports and young people and was a coach in Scott City for most of his career.

Doll said his poll figures show he is not doing badly in the race, and he hopes to take advantage of the people who are fed up with Congress and the incumbents.

Talking about the size of the Big First as an example, Doll said the two parties have drawn the boundaries to give incumbents the edge in a majority of the races across the country.

“I taught government, and talked about gerrymandering,” Doll said. “I never knew that it would really affect my life.”

Doll thinks the people may surprise some incumbents this election, because the voters want representatives in Congress who look out for their real values.

“Many Kansans accurately sense that our government has been bought and paid for by powerful interests with deep pockets,” he

said. “They sense that our government’s priorities are being dictated by something other than the public interest. I will work without compromise to restore accountability, honesty and openness at all levels of government.”

Doll said he thinks the country needs to turn more to wind energy, which he said would help make the country depend less on foreign oil.

“Rising gas prices are squeezing middle class Kansans,” he said. “It’s just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the challenges facing our country’s energy policy. Our dependence on foreign oil has made balanced energy a matter of national security.”

Doll said the cuts in Medicare and plans to privatize Social Security are part of the reason he is running for office.

“Social Security faces a fixable financing problem,” Doll said, “but the president’s privatization plan actually makes that problem worse. Privatization is the real Social Security crisis. This is absolutely the wrong direction for our country. I believe we must honor our collective and historic commitment to senior citizens so that all Americans can retire with security and dignity.”

Doll lives in Garden City with his wife of 24 years, Janet, and their two children, Hayley, 20, and Ethan, 16.

“I have met a lot of people in the campaign,” he said. “None of the Moran people have been at the candidate forums, and I always end up with the discussion between me and Susan Wagle, who is running for Lieutenant governor with Jim Barnett.”

Incumbent has ten years of service

By Kimberly Davis

The Oberlin Herald
With 10 years of service in the United States Congress under his belt, Jerry Moran is seeking re-election in the 1st District of Kansas.

A Republican, Moran served eight years in the state Senate before being elected to Congress, including election as majority leader in the Senate. Moran said he had nine counties then, and he now represents 69.

Moran said his interest in Congress is to help improve the chances for rural America and make sure this part of the world has a future. He said people in rural Kansas need to be able to put food on the table every night, to save money for their kids to get an education and to save for retirement.

The question, he said, is what he can do in Washington to help keep towns like Oberlin, Norcatur and Jennings around for the next generation. The idea, he said, is to keep communities in Kansas viable so people can continue to live here.

Moran said his wife Robba and their two teenage daughters live in Hays. He said he likes living in Kansas and he wanted to raise his kids here. By living in Kansas, said Moran, he is able to stay in touch with the people.

His daughters are in school in the district, he said, which means he attends their events and gets to talk with people.

There are only about six or seven weekends in a year that he isn’t at home because Congress is in session or he is in a committee meeting, he said. During the times when he is at home, said Moran, there

isn’t one visit that doesn’t include him finding a farm, business, school, hospital or someone to visit.

On Monday, he was on his way to Herington to visit the hospital and he planned to be in Sheridan County on Tuesday for the funeral of Sheriff Jim Johnson.

Washington, said Moran, can change people in a way that they don’t want to be changed, and he tries to avoid that and stay close to his district.

Moran serves on the House Agriculture Committee, where he chairs the subcommittee on farm programs, and on the Transportation and Veterans Affairs committees. He said he also serves on the Rural Health Care Coalition, which works on health care issues affecting rural America.

Health care, he said, is important for maintaining the quality of life for people and saving their lives. It is important to people in Kansas. If a town loses its health care, then it can cause the town to shrink or disappear.

It is important for young families, the elderly and everyone in between to have access to a doctor and hospital where they can get care in their home town, he said. Health care is very much a federal issue, he added, because without federal programs like Medicare and Medicaid paying for services, it will be harder to keep health care in rural areas.

Moran said he voted against the No Child Left Behind Act because the bill, the centerpiece of President Bush’s education policy, has “a number of problems.” He said he is trying to introduce a bill that will work for the people in his district. In smaller towns, he said, it is hard to attract and retain teachers certified in every area that a district needs them to teach. For rural schools, he said, this can create a real burden.

Education, said Moran, should

remain more of a state and local issue. Education should be about a child who wants to learn, a parent who wants to help their child learn and teachers who want to teach, not federal regulations.

Congress passed No Child Left Behind over his objections — he was one of 40 Republican votes against the bill — but it is up for renewal next year.

He said people need to be able to renew their driver’s licenses in their county treasurer’s office. Moran said he is against the idea of taking that service out of hometowns and is talking with the Department of Homeland Security about keeping that service local. It hasn’t been decided yet, said Moran; they have two months to make certain that nothing bad happens.

The problem he faces, Moran said, and so do the people in his district, is the belief in Washington that lawmakers can pass one rule or one bill and it is OK for everyone. Kansas is unique, he said. His district is one of the largest in the nation with the fewest people per square mile. Some of those rules and bills will work in Washington, he said, but they don’t work in his district.

“I am always trying to represent rural America, the people and where they stand,” said Moran. “We see the one-size-fits-all government and it just doesn’t work for people in rural areas like my district.”

Sherman County Economic Development Board has openings for 2 Council members.

Council nominations should be turned into Tiffani at the Sherman County Economics Development Office at 104 E. 10th, Goodland no later than November 17th.

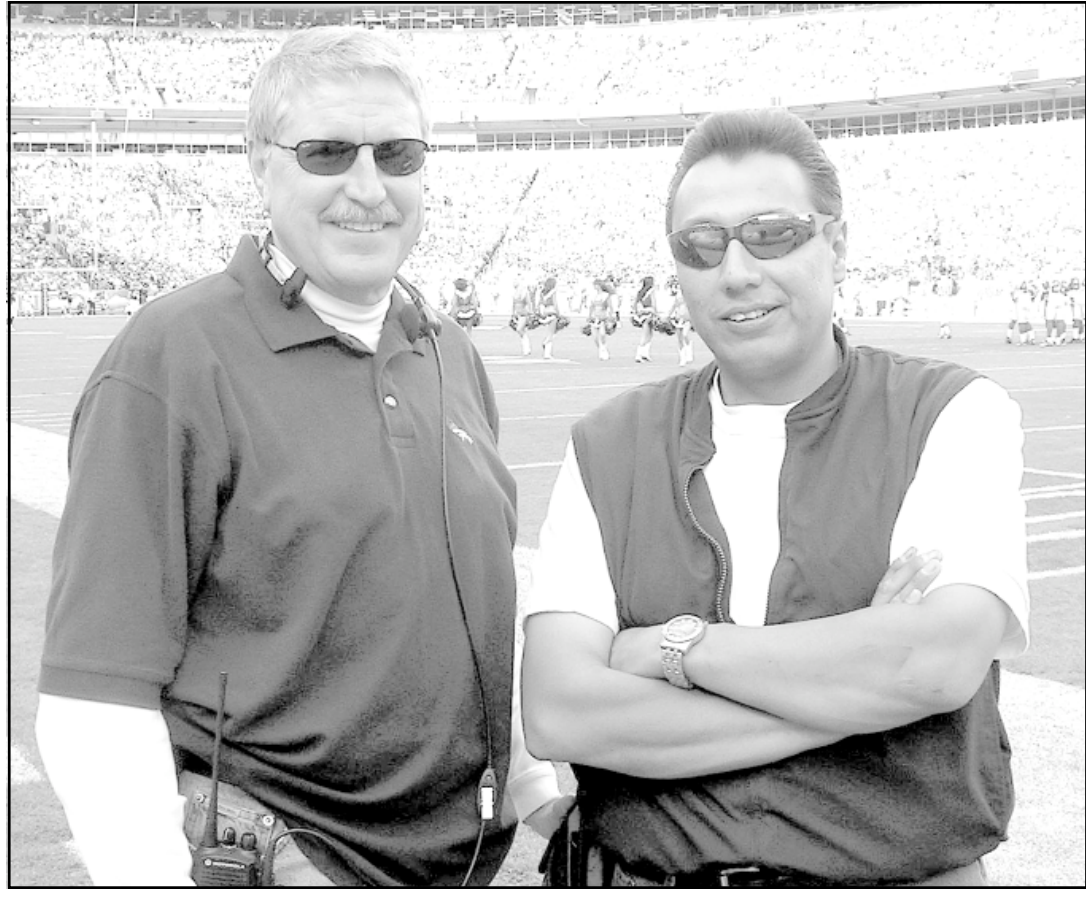
New members will be decided at the board meeting on November 21st.

Conrad Pettijohn

County Commissioner Veteran
30 years in Business
No Conflict of Business
Have plenty of time to devote to county business
Please feel free to contact me with concerns or comments.
Common Sense Approach.

Paid for by Carol Pettijohn Treasurer to elect

Bright lights and bangs



Ron Lucas, owner of Goodland Greenline, the John Deere dealership, got a thrill Sunday as he was on the field at Invesco Field at Mile High to help Joe Diaz, owner of Tri-State Fireworks, set off the a display for the Denver Broncos game with Indianapolis. Diaz said the fireworks they use at the Bronco games are the same as what Lucas has been setting off at Goodland Cowboys football games this season. Diaz said they set off fireworks as the team is announced, and after each score. Since the Broncos lost 34-31, Diaz said he did not get to set off the victory fireworks.

Photos by Tri-State Fireworks

Pheasant season opens

Saturday for hunters, dogs

Hunters, get your blaze orange out, clean your guns and make sure you have shells and a license for the opening of pheasant season on Saturday.

This year, said Randy Rodgers, small game biologist with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks in Hays, the pheasant season starts a week earlier than in recent years, on the first Saturday of November instead of the second Saturday. The season will close on Jan. 31.

Mike Hopper wildlife officer for Sherman, Cheyenne and Wallace counties, said the state decided to change the pheasant season to be

more competitive with the surrounding states of Nebraska and Colorado. He said the thinking was the state was losing out by starting a week later than its neighbors.

Last year, Rodgers said, was a good year as far as bird numbers go. This year, the population will down closer to average, but it isn’t a bad year.

He said the drought caused a poor wheat crop this spring, which means pheasants didn’t have good nesting cover. It also meant the birds had poor concealment from predators, so the birds moved to wheat stubble from the green wheat, and stubble is often disturbed by row

crop operations or tilling.

When the wheat crop ran out of moisture, it matured early, he said. That meant harvest occurred earlier and nesting birds had less time to grow.

Quail season, shortened this year, runs from Saturday, Nov. 11, to Sunday, Jan. 21.

Hunting licenses are available in Sherman County from the state Visitor’s Information Center on I-70 east of Kanorado and Wal-Mart, or on-line at www.kdwp.state.ks.us/news/license_permit_sales.

Resident hunting licenses cost \$22.15 and out-of-state licenses \$72.15.

matters of record

Real Estate

The following real estate transactions were reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

Big in the Middle, LLC to Gary Smith, Lot 21, Block 65, Original Town of Goodland.

Debra L. Miller, Secretary of Transportation of State of Kansas to Robert Hildreth and Marita S. Hildreth, a tract of land in S/2 NW/4 Sec. 29, T7S R39W containing .4 acre more or less.

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 want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

Debra L. Miller, Secretary of Transportation of State of Kansas to Timothy L. Armknecht and Shaunna J. Armknecht, a tract of land in N/2 NW/4 Sec. 29, T7S R39W containing 1.44 acres more or less.

TEXAS RED'S BAR-B-Q

Monday, November 6 thru Thursday, November 9

Frontier Equity Exchange in Goodland

Beef brisket • Turkey Breast • Chicken Halves • Sausages • Pork Ribs

Thank You

FOR YOUR HELP

Thank yous that need to be acknowledged

The Lion's Club members who drove pickups and gave up time to help during the day.

Coca Cola and the Deca club for donating cups for water breaks.

Goodland Star-News, KLOE/KKCI, Eagle Communications for advertising the event.

Western State Bank for a cash donation.

The City Commissioners for allowing the Goodland City work crew to pick up trash and leaves.

The City Work Crew for fine job of collecting and dumping of the trash.

The Sherman County Commissioners for the waiver of fees at the landfill.

The Sherman County Landfill, for accepting the yard waste that was disposed of and their efforts on keeping things sorted and weighed.

The Goodland School District and Board of Education, the High School Secretaries and the High School Staff for supplies, lunches and the opportunity for the high school to be able to organize such an event, and to allow the students to share and learn through a community service project.

The Bus Barn and Bus Drivers that hauled the students to the different locations to be cleaned. Thank you to all of the Goodland High School students who helped.

Thank you to all of the citizens for allowing us help clean yards, gardens, streets, and haul off any unwanted items.

And thank you to any other volunteer that gave assistance to making the fall clean up day a successful day.

Once again thank you to the Goodland Star-News for this ad.

Don't Forget To Vote

Goodland Elks #1528 encourages everyone to get out and vote on Election Day November 7th. Remember....every vote counts!!!

Classifieds work!

899-2338