

Commissioner wins re-election

COUNTY, from Page 1a

about average on his irrigated corn, and thinks the rains in October gave the wheat a good start.

"I think the rains helped change people's attitude," he added.

The write-in challenger, Neufeld, said was philosophical.

"I was disappointed," Neufeld said, "but that is the democratic process.

"There were a lot of people who helped me during both campaigns. I believe I ran good, positive races, and I don't think I could have done anything different.

"I truly hope Mr. Thomas listens to the fact that 55 percent of the vot-

ers in his district voted for a change.

"I hope anyone who met me would agree I am a person of high integrity. I do not believe in approaching any situation with negativity, whether it is in my personal, business, or in this most recent case, political life.

"I knew that by throwing my hat into the political ring, I was opening myself up to the political scrutiny of the community. It seems like national to local level, political campaigns have become increasingly negative based. I hope everyone realizes I kept my campaign featuring positive future outcomes.

"I will continue to work hard for this community, as it is our home,

and we will continue to make it the best place in northwest Kansas.

"Finally I thank my family, who have provided me with an unwavering, unlimited amount of support during the past four months of the campaigns."

The independent candidate Pettijohn, reached at his home improvement store on Business U.S. 24, said he wasn't surprised that he didn't win.

"It was an experience," he said. "I like experiences. It is different.

"I figured as an independent I would not get very far. I thought I would try it once or twice.

"I haven't given up. Why give up? You don't do that until you are

dead. I feel I am in good shape and have time to donate to other things than my business and family.

"I was surprised about some of the bias of the people who found out I was an independent. It was just little bitty things that I noticed. I figured I had the experience and wisdom to guide the community."

Asked if he might run for office again Pettijohn said maybe.

"I might run for the city commission," he said. "Will have to wait and see. I haven't taken a vacation for years. With a mom-and-pop store, if you close for a week, people think you are closing up. Both my wife and I are now on Social Security and I have more time."

Voting went OK; counting was slow

It was a long night Tuesday for Sherman County election officials, as counting machines balked, holding up the unofficial results, until almost midnight.

Clerk Janet Rumpel said the voting machines at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall worked well, but the counting machines at the courthouse gave her grief.

Unlike reports from other parts of the state, Rumpel said, there were not any long lines or delays for voters here.

She it was after 10 p.m. before they had the first results, from advance and absentee voting. It took until nearly midnight to get the preliminary tally, and it was early Wednesday before she finished checking and the numbers.

The election board had to check the write-in votes, which slowed down the process, but Rumpel said the biggest holdup was the counting machine. She said Crystal Wright, the county's computer person, had to call the company several times before the machine would run. Rumpel said

apparently one of the electronic cards in the machine was bad, but Wright was able to switch it and the backup worked.

She said 1,951 of 4,074 registered voters went to the poll, a 49 percent turnout. Four years ago when Commissioner Chuck Thomas ran unopposed, 51 percent turned out to vote and he received 580 votes in District 1. Voter turnout in the presidential election year two years ago was 67 percent, Rumpel said.

Sherman County commissioners will canvass the votes Monday morning rather than Friday, since the courthouse will be closed today for Veterans Day.

Rumpel said she has 25 provisional ballots, not enough to change any of the races. Provision ballots are given to people who want to vote, but aren't on the list because they may have moved from one place in the county to another without reregistering. She said the commissioners will decide on Monday if those votes will be counted.

Injured guardsman returns from Iraq

IRAQ, from Page 1a

"The convoys got to be about two to three miles long," he said. "We had 10 vehicles for security. There would be some sweeps before we left, but only to the city limits. We were on our own from there. We crossed our fingers."

He said they would leave Mosul at night and drive to the Turkish border, spending the day there and returning the next night. He said there is another route south of Mosul and then back to their base.

"We were pretty much on the road every night," he said. "I had 28 mis-

sions before I got hurt."

While in Iraq Gonzales said, he kept in touch with his Mom, daughter Erika, 15, son Alec, 8, and his fiancé, Stephanie Cochran.

He said he would e-mail his mother and daughter, and tried to call every other night.

Gonzales said he was born in Uvalde, Texas, but the family moved to Goodland and he graduated from Goodland High School in 1979.

He joined the Army and was an artillery man for nine years, stationed in Korea, Germany, Fort Stewart, Ga., and Fort Carson, Colo.

"I got out about six months before the Gulf War," he said.

Gonzales said he came back to Goodland and started driving truck with Ron Ketter of Tri-State Commodities. He then went to work driving with John Eisenbart as a partner. He said he got into the horse business and then got called up to go to Iraq.


Gonzales said he kept in touch with Eisenbart from Iraq.

"I think we are doing a good (in Iraq)," he said. "We are doing what we are supposed to do and we got a lot of cooperation from the civilians."

Thank You!!

Representative

JIM MORRISON



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DOWN

- Rummy cakes
- Really steamed
- 38th parallel land
- Musical talent
- "All for Love" poet John
- Nose-in-the-air type
- Ban- (shirt material)
- Like a big brother
- USPS part
- Potter portrayer on "M*A*S*H"
- Bell-ringing company
- Beatles meter maid
- Teen fave
- Issued orders, like a drill sergeant
- Roulette bet
- J.R. Ewing player
- Unified whole, in psychology
- Mekong River land
- Genesis victim
- Nautilus skipper
- He's no neat freak
- Narc's operation
- Scandinavian capital
- Old jalopy
- Actress Hatcher
- Boat on a boat
- Salt away
- Hair snarl
- Light switch, of sorts
- Prim and proper
- Big name in handguns
- Hair-raising
- Like an oboe's sound
- Something to pitch
- Funnyman Sandler
- Back of the neck
- Caen's river
- Rule, for short
- Part of a soccer match chant

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