

# Special coach, teacher influenced many lives

COACH, from Page 1

lege, the family went to some of their games but not all.

"They needed to play because they wanted to," she said, "not because we were watching."

Luke said as he was flying home after he got the news about his dad, he was thinking of an experience from Little League.

"I had asked Dad, 'Can I punt?'" he said, "and Dad said, 'Not in this league.' Tige was in high school and an umpire, and I asked him, and he said I could."

"Dad pitched me the ball, and I bunted, and Tige was allowing it, but Dad was in the city/county recreation — he knew the rules. He was so mad, and I was out. He sacrificed the win to teach me that we follow the rules."

Mr. Stone loved to watch sports on television and in person, and when he went to games, he always had to be early, the kids said, really early.

The joke was that Dad wanted to get to the game while they're still blowing up the balls, Seth said.

"We didn't get back to Goodland a lot," he said, "but we were always running into each other at games. I keep thinking the next time we run into each other at a game, it's gonna be a big one, and he just got there early."

Mr. Stone was the football coach when Tige played, and they finished second at state. He coached the track team that won state with Tige on the team.

"We won unconventionally," Tige said. "He coaches in a way that (winning) didn't define him, but the state picture at Max Jones, he really appreciated that."

The last two years, Halli has been the football team's trainer and has ridden in the van to games with her father and the other coaches and Courtney Sheldon, the team manager.



Coach Dennis Stone talked with fellow teacher and coach Don Smith.

"Courtney is a junior," Halli said, "and we'd always be around each other, and I guess I said 'Dad' weird, and she'd start calling him 'Dad,' mocking me, and then it became more. She was really looking forward to next year and said she'd get to know him better and be the daughter he doesn't have here."

"Dad would tell her stories about her dad (electrician Shad Sheldon) when he was in school, and she was glad he could do that."

Mr. Stone's family said he loved to laugh and to make others laugh.

He had a joke he always told, Seth said, and every time he thought of the punch line, he'd start laughing so hard he couldn't finish. It took on a life of its own, where you could just ask him about the joke he couldn't finish, and he'd start laughing.

"He'd try to spank me," Seth said, "and I'd run or hide, and I'd start laughing and get him to laughing so hard he couldn't spank me, no matter how mad he was."

Mr. Stone sacrificed everything for his family.

"He wanted little," Karen said, "and didn't like to shop for clothes or anything. We had an 18-year-old TV and he wanted to update."

The family bought him a big flat-screen television for Christmas, she said, and he got to enjoy a few games on it before he was gone.

"He sacrificed everything for us," Seth said. "It kind of sucks the only thing he got from us in 30 years was the last."

The family told stories of disagreeing with Mr. Stone about what to do on trips. When Tige played defensive tackle in the Alamo Bowl for Kansas State University in 1998 — they went to San Antonio, Texas, to watch.

"We just wanted to go shopping," Karen said, "and he got mad. He wanted to go to the Alamo."

He missed out on seeing a lot of what he wanted, the family said, because they went shopping. When they went to Alaska when Jayci was in college there, they went to a museum. He could have stayed all day, Halli said, adding she wanted no part of that.

When they went to the Grand Canyon, Halli remembers, she about fell in. The family also remembers that Mr. Stone wanted to linger, and his family was in a hurry to get to Phoenix.

"We were snot-nosed kids who didn't appreciate what we were doing," Seth said. "He wanted to go to the Alamo and go the long way around the Grand Canyon, and we complained."

They did have a lot in common, though, especially when it comes to sports.

"KU basketball, the Chiefs and the Royals — that was our family time," Tige said. "We became passionate fans."

Did their dad have hobbies? "His hobby was us," Jayci said.

"It was coaching," Seth said.

"He read to us," Jayci said.

"We would find him asleep with a book on his face," Luke added.

He read himself to sleep, Jayci said.

He was born in '46 and prided himself on being one of the original Baby Boomers, Karen said, adding that she had bought him "Boom," by Tom Brokaw, for Christmas, but he didn't get a chance to start reading it.

The heart attack was a surprise, but the Stone family said they weren't completely unprepared.

In 2006, Karen said, he had two seizures, allergic reactions to a painkiller with a sleep aid. He took it one night, she said, and had a seizure the next day. The doctor didn't think it was related, she said, so he took it again another night and had a seizure at school the next day.

The seizures and heart attack weren't related, Karen said, but the seizures did prepare the family for what happened.

"Having that happen made us realize how fragile life is," she said.

Mr. Stone's influence on others included his wife.

"I know being married to him, he made me a better person," Karen said. "He kept things in perspective."

"I teach school, and I would wonder, 'Why are other people's kids always so perfect?' And he said, 'They're not — they just have parents who think they're perfect.'"

Mr. Stone was born Aug. 19, 1946, to Garth and Norma Jean (Perry) Stone at Kansas City, Kan. He graduated from Wyandotte High School in 1964 and from Emporia State University.

On Dec. 22, 1973, he and Karen Adams were married at the Church of the Magdalen in Wichita. The couple made their home in Chase, where he taught and coached for three years, before moving to Goodland in 1979.

Mr. Stone had taught accounting, keyboarding, computer applications and financial literacy. He coached cross country, football, track and basketball during his years at Goodland High School and was concerned about the future of the school. He was more of a mentor to the other coaches than a coach the last two years, Halli said; he wanted them to succeed.

He belonged to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus and the Parish Council.

Preceding him in death was his father and a brother, Jim Stone.

Other survivors include his mother of Kansas City, Kan.; and a sister, Janet (Richard) Land of Topeka.

The funeral was at 10 a.m., on Monday, Jan. 14, 2008, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, 307 W. 13th, Goodland with Father Norbert Dlabal presiding.

A community vigil and visitation was held Sunday evening at the church.

Memorials to the Dennis Stone Memorial may be left at the church or mailed to Koons Funeral Home, 211 N. Main, Goodland, Kan. 67735.

# County Road 16 construction bids to be opened in February

ROAD, from Page 1

"I am sure there will be some grumbling," Tiede said.

The commissioners agreed to the timeline that DeBoer was putting in the bid package, with the understanding that if Venture was the contract winner they would be asked about doing Road 16 first.

DeBoer said that would be up to the contractor.

Chris Bauman of Aquila was at the meeting to sign the utility agreement, and said he did not feel there would be much of a problem with the gas lines. He said the only area of concern would be on the north end of Road 16 at the intersection of Road 65.

DeBoer said he did not see a

problem there.

He said the utility agreements with S&T had been signed, and that the lines are along old U.S. 24.

He said the utility agreement with AT&T has been approved and the lines will be relocated at not cost to the county.

DeBoer said Midwest Energy would move the power poles at their cost.

Tiede asked if Midwest was going to use the existing poles or put in new ones.

DeBoer said it will be with new poles, and that Midwest said the section needed to be updated anyway.

The commissioners approved the utility agreements as signed.

Rasure asked when Midwest would move the power poles.

DeBoer said it would be in February or March, and that he would stake the right of way for them. He said he has some benchmarks out there he wants to get staked before the poles are moved.

Rasure asked if Kyle Railroad had been contacted about the crossing.

DeBoer said they had agreed to put in a new concrete crossing, and that it would be scheduled for the spring. He said Kyle would provide the labor, and bill the county for the materials.

DeBoer asked about the right of way agreements that had been presented to the landowners along Road 16 where the road is to be moved 20 feet to the east.

Rasure said all have been signed. He asked about talking to the land-

owners about the driveways.

Curt Way, public works manager, said the plan was to talk to them after they know who gets the bid and when it will be scheduled.

DeBoer said he has only talked to the landowners who the county is purchasing property from.

DeBoer said he would advertise the Road 16 project in the contractor's weekly and in the *Goodland Star-News*.

The commissioners approved payment of the four right of way agreements on Road 16. Rasure said the total of the four is under \$8,000.

DeBoer said it would be necessary to hold a pre-construction meeting on the Road 65 project, and expected that would be in April. He

said they would invite the landowners along Road 65 to that meeting.

He asked County Clerk Janet Rumpel about the next payment deadline on the bonds, which is coming up the middle of March.

Rumpel said she thought they were close to what needs to be paid, but would check.

DeBoer said the county could prepay Venture for some of the materials that are stockpiled for that project to make sure the needed amount is paid.

A question was raised about what happens if the bond money is not paid out on schedule.

Rumpel said the problem is that the county could lose part of the more than \$400,000 in interest being earned. She said it is an Internal

Revenue Service regulation to keep governments from simply making huge amount of interest on bond money without spending the money for the intended projects.

A question was asked about where that leaves the final project on Road 14.

Tiede said he had some news on that with a letter from the Kansas Department of Transportation saying the Road 14 project, which has an \$800,000 economic development grant, was being moved up to be awarded in August. He said the county can meet the final payment deadline by prepaying part of the Road 14 project to the state highway department.

# Grader payment missed in 2006 matters of record

PAYMENT, from Page 1

looked and did not see that the payment had been made.

Rumpel said the payment money would have been part of the yearend carryover from that year.

"Where did that money go," Way asked. "What if there is a penalty. Who is going to pay that?"

"I don't know what happened," Rumpel said.

"Is there any way a check was issued and not delivered," Thomas

asked.

Rumpel said Way had asked Deputy Clerk Mary Ann Sneathen, and she could not find that a check had ever been made for that payment.

Way said his secretary Paula Geist remembered talking to Sneathen and had a note that the payment was to come out of the 2005 money.

Sneathen said she had checked and there was no payment made either from the 2005 money or in 2006. She said the county records show a

payment in 2005 and one in 2007, but not anything in 2006. She said the purchase order to make the payment from Way is in the file, but no check was ever written.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said it would have to be paid, and the county would have to make two payments this year to catch up.

Way said he would probably not pay the lease off as he had previously planned, because he was not sure how this would effect his budget.

**Sherman County Bastille**  
The following people were booked into the Sherman County Bastille:

**Dec. 28** — 11:44 a.m., Drake Mario Navarro, 20, Lancaster, Texas. Arrested for reckless driving and speeding. Bond supplied. Arrested by state trooper.

**Dec. 30** — 3:21 p.m., Brenda Francine Gilliland, 30, Goodland. Driving while suspended, second conviction. Released on personal recognizance bond. Arrested by city police.

**Jan. 3** — 5:21 p.m., Nicholas E. Slusher, 19, Goodland. Was transferred to another facility after

being arrested on Oc. 26, and has been returned to Sherman County.

Arrested for probation violation. Court pending.

**Jan. 4** — 9:53 a.m., Peter Dennis Twist, 46, Denver. Arrested for theft, value unknown. Court pending. Arrested by state trooper.

**The Goodland Star-News Ad Deadlines**  
For Tuesday papers  
Friday Noon  
For Friday papers  
Wednesday Noon  
For Country Advocate  
Friday Noon  
You may call the ad in to (785) 899-2338 or stop by the Star-News at 1205 Main.

**Non-surgical treatment of hemorrhoids.**  
**John D. Ferris, MD**  
will be at:  
291 15th Street  
Burlington, CO

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For information or appointment, call 1-800-593-0009

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**MILL BAR ANGUS**

**Mick Cox**  
Performance-Tested/Carcass-Evaluated  
**PRODUCTION SALE**

**JANUARY 25, 2008 • 1 P.M.**  
**Tri-State Livestock Auction, McCook, Nebraska**  
**300 Angus Sell**

**Lot 20**  
BW +3.3  
WW +57  
YW +95  
Milk +25  
\$B +39.11  
205 Day Wt. 837  
WR: 119

**Mill Bar MC 2500 5036**  
Sire: MC 2500  
MGS: BCC Bushwacker 41-93

**Lot 11**  
BW +2.1  
WW +56  
YW +98  
Milk +24  
\$B +43.08  
205 Day Wt. 765  
WR: 108

**Mill Bar In Focus 5018**  
Sire: In Focus MGS: GAR Grid Maker

**Lot 30**  
BW +2.5  
WW +55  
YW +94  
Milk +26  
\$B +49.25  
205 Day Wt. 810  
WR: 115

**Mill Bar Precision 1023 5062**  
Sire: Precision 1023  
MGS: Alliance 6595

**115 Power-Packed, Performance-Tested, Carcass Evaluated Bulls**  
Big, stout, January and February yearlings. Sons of: Schurgene MC 2500, E&B Precision 1023, Mytty In Focus, OCC Emblazon, Boyd On Target, GAR Grid Maker, Sitz Tradition, SAV 8180 004, Sitz Alliance 6595. Mill Bar will keep and feed your bulls until April 1, 2008, at no charge and deliver to adjoining states after having them fertility tested in March.

**85 Fancy, One Iron, Bred Commercial Angus Heifers**  
AI synchronized, ultrasound tested, and bred to **SAV Final Answer**. Due to start calving February 20. These heifers will weigh 1050-1150 lbs. by sale day. Strictly top shelf genetics from Kevin Fornoff and Mill Bar Angus.

**100 Fancy, One-Iron Angus Replacement Heifers**  
These heifers will weigh 700-750 lbs. by sale day. These will be some the fanciest heifers to sell in the West this year.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** The Mill Bar commercial herd has continually produced large numbers of home-raised steers that have consistently achieved a 50% acceptance rate for Certified Angus Beef while grading 92% USDA Choice and Prime.

View our catalog online @ [www.millbarangus.com](http://www.millbarangus.com)