

DECA students compete at state conference

The Marketing Education and DECA programs at Goodland High School have been a part of this community for more than 30 years, and both continue to do well at state competitions.

DECA is a program dedicated to teaching students about marketing, management and entrepreneurship.

Each year in early March, the Goodland DECA chapter travels to Overland Park, to compete in the Kansas State Career Development Conference.

Goodland High School sent 12 students to the conference this year. Students attending were:

Jacob Terry, senior, Ryan Fisher, senior, Buntita "May" Luangjan, senior, Kaitlyn Lammers, senior, Blaine Varney, senior, Tyler Fisher, junior, Mikail Freeman, junior, Page Seeger, junior, Corey Davis, junior, Carly McCracken, sophomore, Elizabeth Wellmann, sophomore and Josh Whisnant, sophomore.

These students competed against close to 700 other students from Kansas High Schools.

"There is no doubt we are the smallest school that attends the conference," says Chase Topliff, Goodland High School DECA sponsor. Goodland, classified as 3A, is the smallest school that competes at

State. The majority of the other 31 are 5A and 6A schools from the Wichita and Kansas City areas.

The Goodland Chapter was honored as one of a few schools for reaching 100 percent membership, which means they met or increased membership from the previous school year. Goodland was one of three schools awarded the H.D. Shotwell Chapter Service award to honor clubs who are involved in community service.

A few individuals found their way onto stage for the Grand Awards Session at the conclusion of the conference.

Seeger placed Fifth in role play

No. 1 for Quick Serve Restaurant Management. She just missed placing in the overall top 10.

McCracken, who competed in the Apparel and Accessories Individual event, placed Ninth overall. This event consists of a 100 question comprehensive exam and two situational role-plays presented to a judge.

Terry, Fisher and Freeman competed in the Entrepreneurship Promotion Project. They had to plan a project that would promote entrepreneurship in the community. They are currently still working on their "GHS Entrepreneurship Scholarship." They had to write a 30-page

paper about their project. They had to make a formal presentation to a panel of judges.

"These guys have been working on this project for a while now," Topliff said. "They ran into some problems along the way, but they did their best and were able to persevere and get a solid finish at State."

These students finished Second overall, and qualified for the International Career Development Conference to be held in Orlando, Fla., in late April, he said.

"I am privileged to work with a great group of kids," Topliff said. "We took a nice mix of DECA veterans and some new students as

well. I am very proud of all the kids who went. They competed hard and represented themselves, Goodland High School, and the community of Goodland very well.

"We will be losing a great group of seniors, but I am pleased to say we have a very encouraging younger group of kids who should be back to compete next year.

"I want to thank Vera Beneda, Johnny Mercer, Gregg and Sandi Terry, and Tammy Freeman for their help and participation at State."

Lutheran pastor likes the area

By Pat Schiefen

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The new pastor, Darian Hybl, for the Emmanuel Luther Church, 222 W. 13th, Goodland, says he likes the area.

Pastor Hybl and his wife, Michele, moved to Goodland from Barcey, Va. He grew up in Southside, Va., a rural farming area without a stop light in the county. Crops grown in area were tobacco, soybeans and hay. Michele grew up in California, and was raised in Ohio and North Carolina.

The couple met while he was a graduate student and she an undergraduate student of Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, N.C. They have a daughter, Sara Grace Hybl.

Michele Hybl is a medical technologist. She previously worked at Duke University Medical Center in the Special Coagulation Laboratory.

Pastor Hybl said he and his wife made the decision for her to be a stay-at-home mom. They felt it was important that their daughter would have family there for her.

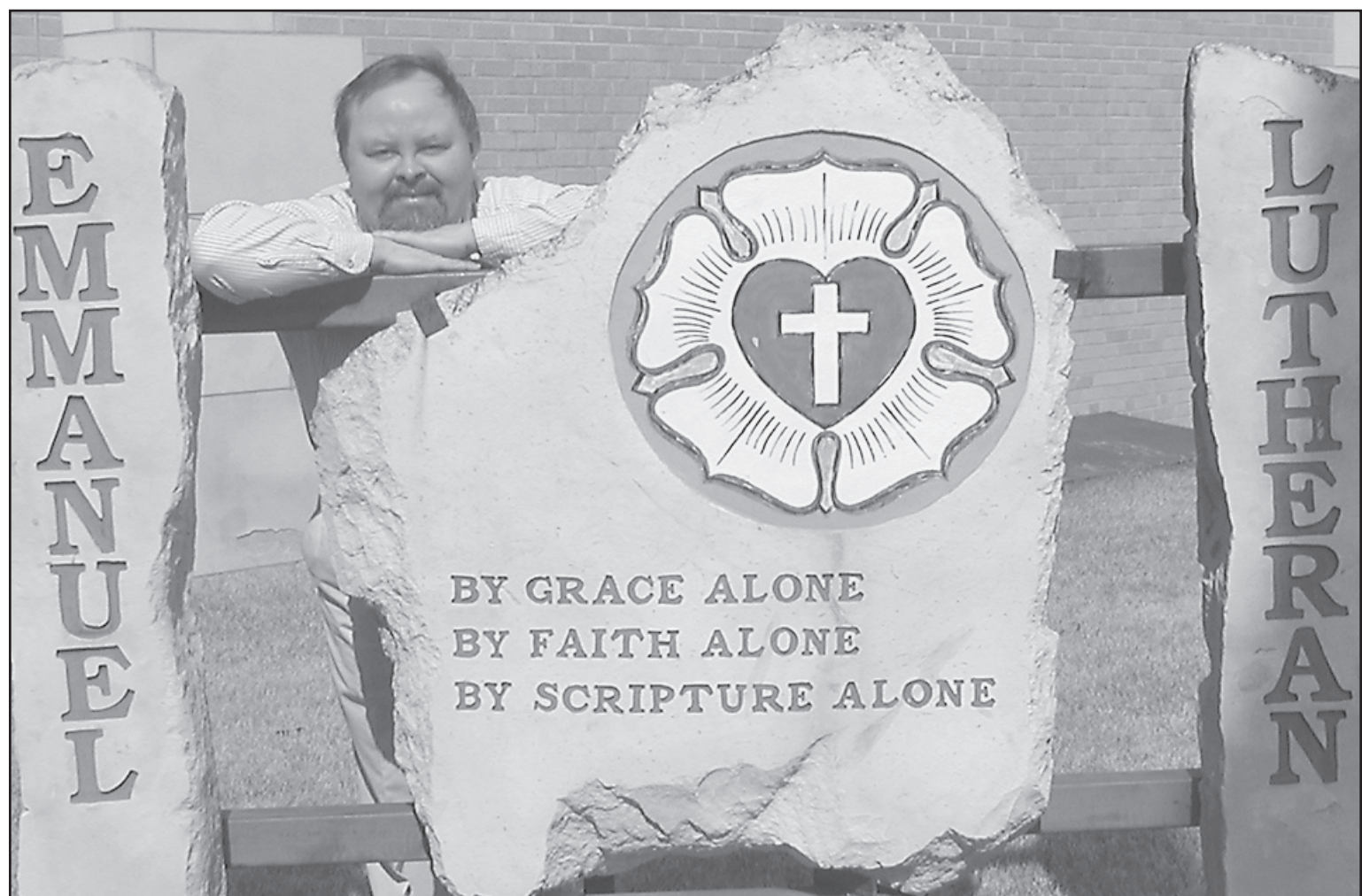
Pastor Hybl says he enjoys the

connection the area has to its history and to the immigrants that settled here. The ties to immigrant roots are important in the attitudes of people toward their lives and faith. Older immigrant groups would stress that children learn English and become part of American society. Children were often times not taught the "mother" tongue or the traditions. A real change, he said, has occurred in the fact that some immigrants now work hard to keep their identities.

He said the first Lutheran Church for Goodland was a sod church southeast of town.

The Goodland church is in the process of changing its association from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Last year they voted to join Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. The church took the first vote in January and will vote on the issue again in May.

The Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ is more conservative in its approach to same sex marriage and ordination of practicing gay or lesbian clergy like other national groups of Lutheran churches, such as the Wisconsin Evangelical



Pastor Darian Hybl stands in front of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 222 W. 13, Goodland. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Lutheran Synod and the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

Pastor Hybl said one of the strengths of Goodland is its Min-

isterial Alliance. Since he is new in town he said he has noticed how the school bond issue has divided people.

He said he wants to encourage his congregation to learn about their history and their Lutheran heritage.

"I want to see people grow in their faith and journey in Christ with a better idea of who and whose they are," Pastor Hybl said.

Documentary to feature Tech College, Goodland

Tom Betz

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City commissioners heard from Ben Coumerilh, director of technology at Northwest Technical College. Ben has heard from Apple and the company will be coming to Goodland in the next month or two to film a documentary about the iPad program at the college.

Coumerilh said he had been in conversation with Apple last week,

and the company representatives confirmed they are moving ahead with their plan to do the video documentary. He said representatives will be coming to town on a scouting mission the first part of April, and the filming will be in May.

"We are really excited about this for the Tech College and for the community and the region," he said.

He said the video documentary

will be profiled on an Apple web site that is one of the top web sites in the world.

He said there are other ideas about what the college and community can do, and knows Apple wants to involve the community in the video project as well.

City Manager Doug Gerber said one idea was to do as Topeka did last year and for a time rename the city as "iPad" or "Apple" for a short time.

Coumerilh said this gives lots of ideas about what types of things we want to do in Goodland to put the town and college on the map.

"Now people look at us as technology," he said, "but Goodland is an ag community, and it is technology that has allowed us to do with one farmer what it took many farmers to do 20 years ago. We can brainstorm about how technology can help us in other ways.

"We might think of something like 'Tech Town' for a week. We need ideas of what we can use to make noise out there. The video is a catalyst, and it adds credibility to what is going on out here."

A commissioner asked where the Apple people would be coming from.

Coumerilh said the crew will be out of Cupertino, Calif.

Gerber said the video is going

to generate good image and press for the city, and the city ought to get out and generate some "of our own buzz."

Coumerilh said he is working with a lot of people around the community, and they are doing great things to add to the iPad project. He said the college is moving ahead on the App Development program, and expects that class to begin in August.

Please vote for Jessica Cole for USD 352 School Board

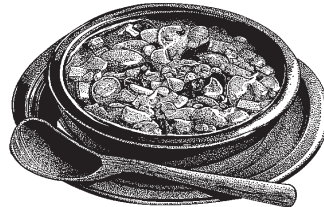
- * Lifetime Goodland resident
- * 1987 GHS Graduate
- * Mother of 3 children attending Goodland schools

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Paid for by Jessica Cole for USD 352 School Board.

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