

## 52 receive diplomas on Saturday

By Pat Schiefen

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Beautiful weather was the icing on the cake for the 52 Goodland High School seniors who graduated Saturday afternoon at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

The speaker for the ceremony was Dr. Tim Leavitt, a Denver cardiologist and a 1963 Goodland High School graduate. Dr. Leavitt said he was still proud to be a Goodland High School graduate and wouldn't have wanted to graduate from anywhere else.

Dr. Leavitt wanted the students to have "a radical life" and Believe, be Prepared, be Passionate, ask for Help, Read and Love (BPPHRL).

He said to stand up for what you believe. Think of the difference if Abraham Lincoln did not know what he believed in.

Be prepared, he said, to have a radical life. Follow your passion if it is not illegal and immoral.

"Be passionate about what you do everyday," he said. My partner exudes passion and that has spurred me to be passionate about my profession. If you don't have passion you can develop it.

"Asking for directions does not reduce your testosterone," he said especially to the young men. "Don't be afraid to ask for help." He gave the students his cell phone number and if they didn't have anyone else to ask for help call him.

"Call me I'm old and I'll not remember what we talked about," Dr. Leavitt said.

He told students to take a week off after graduation and then read a lot. Read for fun. Read to keep ahead in your field. When you wait in line take a book and read.

Love the people you work with, be nice. To be a good doc love your patients. He said the first 15 years of being a cardiologist all you could do for someone who had a heart attack was give the morphine for pain and a cold cloth. Now he said arteries can be opened up and people are out of the hospital in a few days and back to work.

The last thing he told the graduates was to "never, never, never give up."

Student Council President gave U.S. Flags to foreign students



Goodland High School graduate Steven Buller gives a thumbs up as he parades out of the commencement ceremony held Saturday afternoon at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Goodland High School graduated 52 in front of a large crowd of friends and family.

Photos by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

### weather report

73°

noon  
Monday

#### Today

• Sunset, 8:02 p.m.

#### Wednesday

• Sunrise, 5:25 a.m.

• Sunset, 8:03 p.m.

#### Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 59 degrees
- Humidity 42 percent
- Sky clear and sunny
- Winds northeast 12 mph
- Barometer 29.85 inches and falling

- Record High today 96° (1911)
- Record Low today 34° (2002)

#### Last 24 Hours\*

- High Sunday 81°
- Low Sunday 48°
- Precipitation none
- This month 1.16
- Year to date 5.96
- Below Normal .94 inches

#### The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy with a 70 percent chance of showers, a high near 66, winds out of the east at 5 to 10 mph switching to the north and a low around 49. Wednesday: Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 58, winds breezy out of the north at 15 to 30 mph and a low around 43.

#### Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high near 71 and a low around 49. Friday: Mostly sunny with a high near 72 and a low around 52.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

### local markets

#### Noon

- Wheat — \$8.45 bushel
- Posted county price — \$8.40
- Corn — \$7.01 bushel
- Posted county price — none
- Milo — \$6.75 bushel
- Soybeans — \$12.57 bushel
- Posted county price — none
- Millet — \$5 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$32.10 cwt.
- Confection — no bid
- Pinto beans — \$28

(Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

### inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



### Cowboys going to state

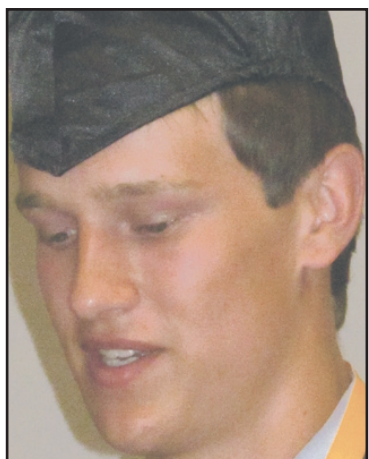
Cowboy Kelly Pearson qualified for the state track meet in high jump. The Cowboys qualified two relay teams and Pearson and Brock Wilkens. See photos, story on Page 10.



Dr. Tim Leavitt



Sharon Hall



Brock Wilkens



Nathan Deeds

George Bellani Orvid from Italy and Buntita Luangjan from Thailand. They in turn gave him the flags from their countries.

Orvid said he has one more year to finish high school in Italy as high school is five years there. He stayed with Brenda and Max Linin.

Luangjan said her host family was like her real family. She had lots of friends. The first time to see snow, go

skiing, go to a dance, join the basketball and track teams. She stayed with Tina and Curt Goodwin.

Dale Schields for the Sherman County Alumni Association announced the winner of the Outstanding Educator Award. The winner was Sharon Hall. She received \$250 and a plaque. Hall also received the award in 2001 and 2006.

With the help of students and

colleagues she has been able to maintain her passion for teaching she said. She left them with "Live the life you have imagined," by Henry David Thoreau.

Susan Hall and Travis Witman were also nominated for the award.

The Salutatorian was Brock Wilkens. He said sports have been great throughout the years but that they

also had a few bun bums.

The Valedictorian Nathan Deeds said it was a great day to graduate and he urged his fellow classmates to take on the world with confidence and determination.

Those graduating were Ashley Michelle Archer, Orvid, Alexandra Christine Alyse Borders, Stephen

See GOODLAND, Page 5

## Graduates told good attitude key to success

By Tom Betz

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Friday afternoon was a beautiful day as 147 Northwest Kansas Technical College graduates, family and friends gathered at Max Jones Fieldhouse for the 46th Annual Commencement.

College President Dr. Ed Mills welcomed the graduates and audience and introduced those on the platform. Peggy Berls sang the national anthem. Dick Short, area board vice-chairman welcomed the students and those in the audience. Frank Otter, area board chairman introduced the speaker.

Mark Smith, owner of Pleasant Valley Ranch in Wallace County, and a former graduate and member of the area board for 30 years spoke to the graduates about the values he felt were embodied in Northwest Tech.

Smith said the first thing he realized is having the right attitude is as valuable in success in the world as the credentials the graduates were to receive that day.

"I will take someone who is a little less of an expert if they have the right attitude," he said.

He said he felt there were certain values reflected in Northwest Tech.

The first of those was honesty. He said it was important to be honest dealing with people and sometimes telling them what is best for them and may not what they want to hear.

The second value was to be responsive to the needs of the customers and to who you are working with.

He said Dependability is another important value. "People who are



Mark Smith

dependable can always be counted on. Always do what you say you are going to do in your business and your community.

Professional is what he said the graduates need to remember they are professional and need to keep that in mind no matter what they are doing.

He said this is a set of principles that should guide us. "Be a person of principle," he said. "Follow those principles in whatever you do."



Cosmetology students decorated their mortar boards (top) and three cosmetology students performed (above) their song "The Climb" at the Northwest Tech College graduation on Saturday.

He told the students they needed to start saving assets today, an to start saving to have the successful life they want to have.

He told them they need to volunteer and give back to their community. He said it did not matter in what

capacity through a church, public service or community organizations it is important to give back.

Smith told the graduates to give some back to their associations and to find ways to continue to learn through their associations. Another

association to give back to, he said, is the Northwest Tech Alumni Association.

Following the speech three Cosmetology graduates Amber Bougher,

See COLLEGE, Page 5