

# Fate of historic hanger not decided

6 Story No. 6 for 2006 involves the fate of the historic barrel hanger at the Goodland airport, which is yet to be determined.

The 72-year-old hanger was built by the Works Progress Administration project during the Depression and used by Army glider pilots at Renner Field during a few months of training in the summer of 1942.

The city decided the hanger is unsafe and was planning tear it down, but a family that called the hanger home from 1946 to 1966 begged officials to reconsider. Then a business owner offered to work out a deal to save the hanger.

John Topliff, owner of Mr. Jim's His and Hers Shop and vice presi-

dent of flight operations for a company in California, wrote to the city asking to buy and repair the hanger to store airplanes.

Preliminary estimates indicate it would cost about \$150,000 to replace the roof and fix the doors. The city is waiting for structural integrity reports and estimates on the cost of repairs from Darin Neufeld, engineer at Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates before trying to reach an agreement with Topliff.

Topliff said in November he thinks the hanger can be saved.

"It is a matter of money and what can be worked out," he said. "The objective is not to lose the 8,000 square feet of airplane storage. I am ready, willing and able to proceed,

but there are things that have to be done.

"I think John Collette, who has a lease with the city, should have an opportunity to do what I am doing. I would be doing this on my own for storage of airplanes."

Judy Vignery of Goodland, owner of Judi's Pre-school, and Susan Elliott of Hillsboro, Ore., recall the days when their father, Watson Hevner, managed the airport from 1946 to 1966. They want the hanger saved because it was their home when they were growing up.

"It was the only home I had growing up," Elliott wrote in a letter to City Manager Wayne Hill. "My sister Judi and I did not live in a house;

we lived in the apartment on the east side of the hanger and our bedrooms were actually rooms in the big hanger. We went to bed with the beacon shining in our windows and woke up to the sound of small planes flying overhead.

"I would hate to see the hanger demolished. It would be wonderful if the city can find a way to save it."

Vignery and Elliott have fond memories of growing up at the airport and remember it being a popular gathering place.

"I wanted to let you know that the hanger in Goodland is more than just an old building," Elliott wrote. "It has a wealth of memories for a lot of people, even though it was not a home to them."



Sgt. Kevin Cameron from the provost marshal's office at Fort Riley worked his dog around a door before going through in the administration building at Northwest Kansas Technical College on Thursday.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

# Bomb scare forces students into the cold

7 Students at the Northwest Kansas Technical College got the day off Friday, Dec. 1, after cleaners found a bomb threat scratched on the wall of a restroom stall.

Goodland Police Chief Ray Smee said he got a call about the threat on Thursday morning, and the department treated it seriously.

Smee said the note was found by the college cleaning crew Wednesday evening in a bathroom stall in the electrical and carpentry building and reported to Paul Chaffin, director of student services, Thursday morning.

The scratched message said, "There is a bomb Friday. Bye f\*\*\*\*\*."

Chaffin said Thursday the college staff searched the buildings, calling police for assistance. He said after talking with President Ken Clouse by phone, they decided to close the college early on Thursday and to keep it closed on Friday.

"I think it is a hoax," Smee said Thursday evening while waiting for bomb-sniffing dogs to arrive from Topeka and Fort Riley, "but we are taking it seriously. I hope we find out who did this so we can send them the bill for the time and effort

to make sure there is not a real bomb."

Smee said the search was completed about 10 p.m. Thursday night, and the dog teams headed home by 11 p.m.

One team was handled by Lt. Kyle Moomau and Tech Trooper J.T. O'Grady of the Kansas Highway Patrol. Handling the Fort Riley dogs were Staff Sgt. Michael McGann, Sgt. Corey McDonald and Sgt. Kevin Cameron.

"I hope we do find out who did this," Smee said. "We expect the cost of this to be several thousand dollars, and it could be over

\$10,000. If we do find someone, we would certainly be asking for restitution."

"This was an unfortunate event," said Clouse, who was caught in a winter storm in Topeka. "My staff did an outstanding job of handling the situation and kept me informed. You can't take anything for granted, and we did not want to treat this as insignificant. We have to be serious and vigilant about a situation like this."

"I appreciate Chief (Ray) Smee's involvement to acquire the assistance of the Highway Patrol and the army from Fort Riley.

# Young man killed while trying to 'surf' on car hood

8 The No. 8 story of the year brought a city problem to a rural area, as a young man was killed and another injured while trying to "surf" on the hood of a moving car.

Gage Allen Cloyd, 20, was killed and Corey D. Schulte, also 20, hurt while "surfing" on the hood of a 2002 Mercury Mountaineer near Kanorado. The Colorado State Patrol reported that Kelley Dwight Faylor, 26, St. Francis was driving south on Kit Carson County Road 59 about .4 of a mile north of County Road FF at 3:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 4.

Faylor was taken to the Kit Carson County Jail in Burlington and charged with vehicular homicide, driving under the influence and assault. The case is pending in Kit Carson District Court.

Patrol Cpl. Kirk Preston of Burlington said witnesses told him Cloyd and Schulte climbed out the sun roof of the sport utility vehicle and slid down the windshield to the hood. Cloyd fell off and was run over by the truck. Preston said Faylor tried to slow down without having Schulte fall off, but he was run over, too.

Both were taken to Kit Carson

County Memorial Hospital in Burlington, where Cloyd was declared dead at 4:52 a.m. by Dr. James Perez. Schulte was flown to St. Anthony Central Hospital in Denver.

Dr. Anthony Olaiz, Kit Carson County coroner, said Cloyd had multiple trauma to his chest, ribs and pelvis.

"This is just a shocker," he said. "This is the first of this kind of accident. We hear about this in the metro areas. We want to bring this to the young people's attention so we don't have another accident like this."

Five other people in the car wit-

nessed the accident, said Preston: Tomi Leigh Windell, 20; Amber Lee Peterson, 21; and Malcom Joshua White, 20, all of Goodland; and Kristi Marie Boyce, 21, and Matthew Allan Windell, 22, both of Kanorado.

Cloyd was born July 9, 1985, the son of Greg and Tammy Cloyd of Goodland. He attended school in Goodland, graduating from high school in 2004. He graduated in 2005 from North Central Kansas Technical School in Beloit and was a certified welder for Advance Tanks of Wellington, Colo.

# March brings blizzard, May rain, June tornado

9 People always talk about the weather, and with blizzards early and late, record rains and a tornado, it ranks as Goodland's No. 9 story of 2006.

Spring started with a foot of snow, May ended with a record deluge, a tornado and more rain came in June, and the year ended with two major ice and snow storms.

A spring blizzard brought over 10 inches of snow to Goodland on Monday, March 20, closing I-70 from Hays to Denver for 17 hours and closing the Sherman County courthouse, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Center, the Goodland Activities Center, the city office, banks and some stores.

Scott Blaier, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service forecast office here, said the storm was the third-heaviest on record for March. It brought 13.5 inches of snow with 1.73 inches of moisture,

taking the county from a deficit of moisture for the year to a plus.

A lack of rain in May became a surplus overnight, as a thunderstorm dropped 2.42 inches on Wednesday, May 31, eclipsing the old one-day record of 1.37 set in 1957.

Wind-driven rain mixed with hail from pea to marble size pelted the town beginning about 5:45 p.m. The first storm moved north from Wallace County, bringing most of the rain and hail. A second wave of storms moved in from the west, lasting until 9:15 p.m.

Street flooding was reported in several parts of town, but the worst

was at 17th and Main and on Broadway from 15th to 17th. Hank's asked the city about sand bags, and cars stalled out in the high water at 17th and Broadway.

Two tornadoes skipped across the area Friday, June 16, one about 15 miles southwest of town, which stayed in open country, and one that hit the west edge of town.

The tornado was rated as a low F1 on the Fujita Tornado Damage Scale, said the weather service, with winds from 73 to 112 mph. Damage was at the F0 range near the end of its path, a forecaster said.

Seven inches of snow fell in

Goodland Tuesday through Thursday, Dec. 19-21, with accumulations of 10 inches in Kanorado, 8-10 inches in Burlington and 10-12 inches in Idalia.

To close out the year, Goodland got 17.7 inches from Dec. 29-31, while surrounding areas got as much as the 32 inches that buried Sharon Springs.

# Sports start up again Thursday

Classes start Wednesday for students of the Goodland School District, and sports teams will be back in action the next day.

Wrestling action starts with a meet at 5:30 p.m. Mountain Time Thursday in Colby. The meet has been moved from the Community Building to the Colby High School gym.

The C basketball teams will play Syracuse Christian at 6 p.m. that day in the Goodland High School gym.

Friday, the girls and boys basketball teams will play at Lakin starting at 3:45 p.m. Mountain Time. The girls varsity game should start about 4 p.m. and the boys about 6.

The wrestling team will be at Liberal for the Southwest Classic, with action starting at noon Mountain Time on Friday and 8 a.m. on Saturday. The junior var-

sity wrestling team will be in WaKeeney on Saturday starting at 8 a.m.

The last action for the wrestling team was the Holiday Classic Tournament at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Saturday, Dec. 16, where the Cowboys finished third. The team had five undefeated wrestlers, Brett Schields, A.J. Stephens, Ryan Taylor, Josiah Goodley and T.J. Hawkins.

The Cowboys have won four and lost one on the basketball court. Their last action was on Friday, Dec. 15, when they lost 80-44 to the Hays Indians.

The fourth-ranked Cowgirl team is undefeated at 5-0.

Goodland High Activities Director Don Smith said because of the snow, the teams have had sporadic practices since the first legal practice date on Thursday.

# Town welcomes home soldier

10 People turned out for an impromptu parade in November to welcome home a Goodland National Guardsman injured by a mortar attack in Iraq, making his story the No. 10 for the year.

Staff Sgt. Ernie Gonzales, 46, said he was surprised by the parade. "I did not know it was going to happen," Gonzales said. "I was surprised. It was not something I was expecting. I appreciate everybody doing it for me."

Gonzales was recuperating at the home of his parents, Mary and Marcos Gonzales, and he is back at Fort Gordon, Ga., for tests and possibly surgery on his left arm.

His mother said on Monday her son is getting physical therapy on this arm. She said he told her they have not done any surgery yet, and will wait until he is better. She said he will be back in Goodland in about two weeks, and will be working part time with the Goodland National Guard unit.

She said it will be a slow process for his arm to heal, but she said he is alive and she is glad to have him back.

**SHORT & SON INC.**  
SINCE 1934  
Hwy 24  
Goodland, Kansas  
(785) 899-2592  
1-800-242-6939

**The INSURANCE AGENCY Inc.**  
1020 Main  
Goodland, KS  
(785) 899-5011  
(785) 899-5201 - fax  
Roxann Kling Susan Duke

Quality Care  
Ford Mercury  
"Where Service is an Affair of the Heart"  
**DAN BRENNER**  
FORD-MERCURY, INC.  
222 W. Hwy. 24  
I-70 BUSINESS LOOP  
GOODLAND, KS 67735  
(Toll Free) 800-636-8770  
(Business) 785-899-2316  
(Fax) 785-899-2317

**HIGH PLAINS Office Supply LLC**  
1118 Main Street  
Goodland, Kan. 67735  
Phone: 785-890-6900  
Fax: 785-890-6902

**AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE**  
All your protection under one roof  
Chandra L. Ruhs Agency, LLC  
516 E highway 24  
Goodland, KS 67735  
Office 785-890-7337  
E-Mail cruhs@amfam.com  
©1997 American Family Mutual Insurance Company and its Subsidiaries  
Home Office - Madison, WI 53783  
www.amfam.com NA-07497 Rev. 1/03

## School calendar for January 3 to January 9

- Wednesday:** CLASS RESUMES - Monday Schedule @ HS, Elementary Bank Day, PDC Meeting 3:45 p.m.
- Thursday:** Gold Day, JH Scholars' Bowl @ Oakley 2:30 p.m., HS Scholars' Bowl @ Oakley 4:30 p.m., C BB @ Greeley Co 5 p.m., V-JV WR @ Colby 5:30 p.m.
- Friday:** Black Day, V-JV-C BB @ Lakin, 3:45 p.m., V WR @ Liberal 12 p.m.
- Saturday:** JV WR @ WaKeeney 8 a.m., V WR @ Liberal 8 a.m.
- Monday:** Board of Education Meeting, JH Scholars' Bowl @ Quinter 3 p.m., HS Scholars' Bowl @ Colby 4 p.m., C BB @ Decatur Co 4 p.m.,
- Tuesday:** Black Day, West Site Council Meeting 4 p.m., 8th BB (H) Burlington 4 p.m., 7th BB @ Burlington 4 p.m., V-JV-C BB (H) Quinter 3:45.

**102.5 FM KKCI**  
Best of the 70s, 80s, & 90s  
**KWGB 97.9**  
**KLOE 730 am**  
Full Service Radio

**Nor'West Press**  
1205 Main  
Goodland, Kan.  
785-899-2338

**Aflac**  
Aflac Insurance,  
Fred Hall  
111 W. 12th,  
Goodland, Kans., (785)  
890-8335

**The Goodland Star-News**  
1205 Main Goodland, Kan.  
67735  
785-899-2338

**Pizza Hut**  
1803 Cherry  
Goodland, Kan  
(785) 899-3661

**102.5 FM KKCI**  
Best of the 70s, 80s, & 90s  
**KWGB 97.9**  
**KLOE 730 am**  
Full Service Radio