

**weather report**



**34°**  
 noon  
 Monday

**Today**

• Sunset, 5:12 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
 • Sunrise, 6:50 a.m.  
 • Sunset, 5:13 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

• Soil temperature 30 degrees  
 • Humidity 75 percent  
 • Sky cloudy  
 • Winds north 14 mph  
 • Barometer 29.65 inches and rising slowly  
 • Record High today 74° (1963)  
 • Record Low today -22° (1982)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High Sunday 48°  
 Low Sunday 9°  
 Precipitation none  
 This month none  
 Year to date 0.12  
 Below normal 0.34 inches

**The Topside Forecast**

Today: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of light snow in the morning, a high near 30, winds out of the north 15-25 mph and a low around 13. Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of light snow in the evening, a high in the upper 30s, a low around 16 and winds out of the southwest 10 mph.

**Extended Forecast**

Thursday: Partly cloudy with highs in the upper 30s and the lows in the lower 20s.  
 (National Weather Service)  
 Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
 \* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**



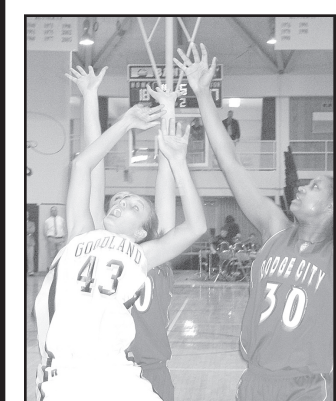
**Noon**

Wheat — \$9.54 bushel  
 Posted county price — \$9.19  
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
 Corn — \$4.75 bushel  
 Posted county price — \$4.65  
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
 Milo — \$4.50 bushel  
 Soybeans — \$11.96 bushel  
 Posted county price — \$11.58  
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
 Millet — \$7 hundredweight  
 Sunflowers  
 Oil current crop — \$17.90 cwt.  
 Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
 Confection — \$30/\$20 cwt.  
 Pinto beans — \$25 (new crop)  
 (Markets by Scouler Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**inside today**



More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News



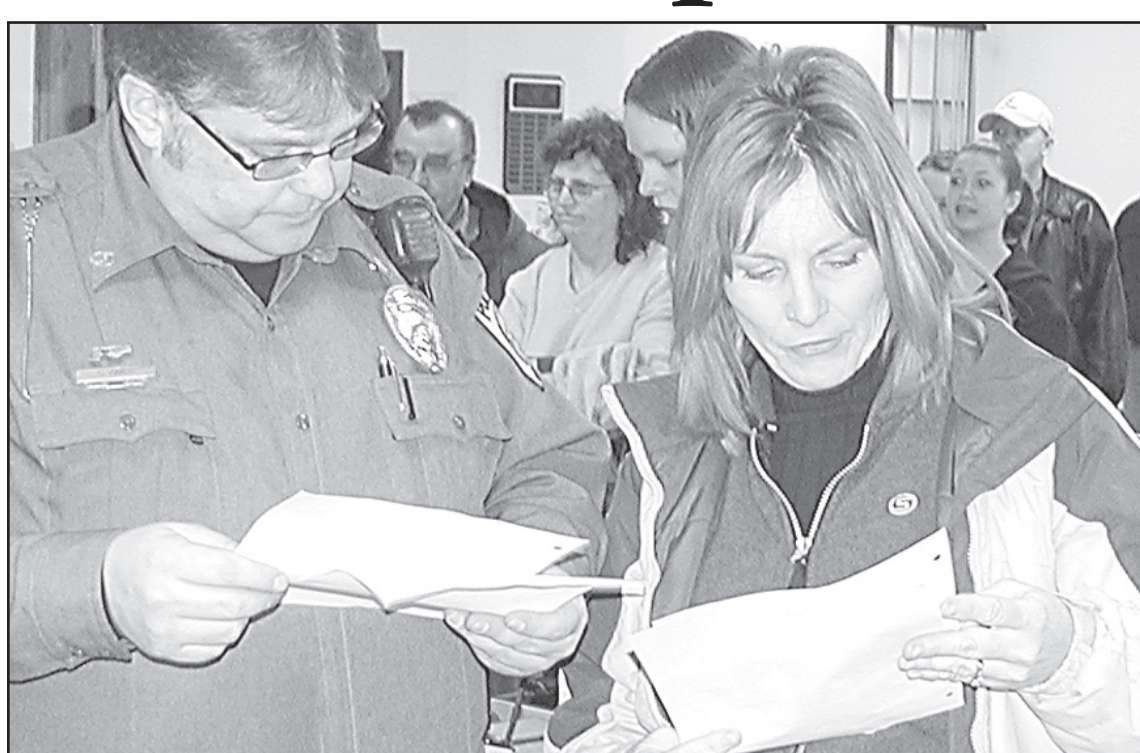
**Cowgirls split games**

Freshman Ashley Archer took an inside shot against the Lady Red Demons of Dodge City on Saturday afternoon at Max Jones Fieldhouse. The Cowgirls lost 57-28, but won at St. Francis, 64-44 on Friday. See story, photo on Page 11.



Jason and Lori Unruh's gymnastic students showed off their skills for those attending the Sherman County Health Fair on Saturday morning at the Goodland Activities Center. The Unruhs hold their student gymnastic classes at the center. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

## Health fair packs activity center



City of Goodland Police Officer Cary Amos looks at his blood profile with Shelly Terry at the health fair. The Goodland Activities Center was full of overflowing with people attending the fair on Saturday.

By Pat Schiefen

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The Sherman County Health Fair on Saturday was packed, with more than 250 people through the doors in the first hour.

People who had had blood draws earlier got the results during the fair, from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Goodland Activities Center, and everyone had a chance to get screenings for lead, cancer and blocked carotid arteries.

Doctors from the University of Kansas Cancer Center did cancer screenings. Two urologists offered digital rectal screenings for prostate cancer, which in combination with a prostate specific antigen test (offered for \$15 extra with the blood profile), is considered the best method of early detection.

A dermascan, showing sun damage, and a bone density screening were offered as well. The cancer center also distributed materials explaining the screenings and other issues, including breast cancer

early detection and colorectal self screening.

The Goodland hospital's diagnostic imaging department conducted the artery screenings. The hospital had representatives on hand from several departments, including occupational therapy, nutrition, obstetrics and volunteer services. Free blood pressure checks were offered.

Booths included the Sunflower Extension District; Prairie Land Food; Meier Clinic (a Christian-based clinic in Goodland); several insurance companies; the University of Kansas Medical Center's video game "Dance, Dance Revolution," which shows kids how long they have to exercise to burn off certain foods; Relay for Life; Wheat Acres Retirement Community; the Total Look Salon; the Burlington Veterans Affairs Clinic; Courier Drug of Atwood, which does diabetic shoe fittings and customized

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## Dems caucus in Oakley for Super Tuesday

By Tom Betz

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The stakes are high as the field of candidates narrows, and Kansas Democrats among 22 states selecting delegates in a presidential primary or statewide caucuses today as part of "Super Tuesday."

Democrats will hold a presidential caucus in each state Senate district. In District 40 — which includes Sherman County — the meeting will be held at 6 p.m. (Mountain Time) at the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center, 703 W. Second in Oakley.

Tim Peterson, Democratic Party district chairman, said the doors will open at 5 p.m. for registration, and anyone who wants to participate must be at the meeting before it opens at 6 p.m. The caucus is open to any registered Democrat, including those who declare a party affiliation at the door, he said.

Republicans from Sherman, Sheridan, Rawlins, Decatur, Cheyenne, Wallace and

Thomas counties will gather at the Colby Community Building, 285 E. Fifth, (Little Theater) at 9 a.m. (Mountain Time) on Saturday to participate in the Kansas Republican Presidential Primary Caucus.

Sherman County Republican Chair Roxie Yonkey said she will be at the caucus in Colby to help the credential committee by checking in people from Sherman County. She said check-in begins at 8 a.m.

Yonkey said to participate in the Republican caucus, a voter must have registered as a Republican, and be prepared to show a state-issued identification such as a driver's license.

On the Democratic side, the candidates have thinned out to the two top runners in Sen. Hillary Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama.

Seven candidates were to be on the Kansas Republican Caucus ballot, but a few of those have dropped out, leaving five: Sen. John McCain, Rep. Ron Paul, former Govs.

Mitt Romney and Mike Huckabee, and Alan Keyes.

**Democratic caucus rules**

To participate in the Kansas Democratic caucus, a person must be a Kansas resident, a registered Democrat — an independent or Republican can register or change their registration status at the door — and be eligible to vote (18 years old) by Nov. 4.

Once the caucus begins, voters will break into groups supporting each candidate or "uncommitted." To gain delegates, a candidate must gather at least 15 percent of those at the caucus. Members of any candidate group with less than 15 percent get a chance to switch.

After the final groups are set, the number of delegates for each candidate is determined. The candidate groups then elect delegates to represent their candidate at the 1st Congressional District Convention on Saturday, April 12, in Hays.

Under the state Democratic party plan,

six delegates and alternates selected at the Senate district caucuses will be certified to attend the congressional convention. The state delegation to the national convention has to be balanced between men and women, and the district convention will elect two men and two women as delegates and select one man as an alternate.

Kansas will have 40 delegates and five alternates at the national convention in Denver Aug. 25-28. Of the total, 21 are to be elected from the four district conventions.

**Republican caucus rules**

The Republican caucus is open to any registered Republican in the 1st Congressional District, Yonkey said. It is not limited to precinct committee members. Electioneering is encouraged. You may openly support your candidate with signs, buttons, whatever.

Voters may check in until the caucus starts.

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## Conservation Reserve burning window opens

By Tom Betz

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The skies over Sherman County could be a bit more smoky over the next two months as farmers burn off about 7,500 acres of Conservation Reserve Program lands under federal regulations, county commissioners learned on Thursday.

Dennis Mote, county executive director for the U.S. Farm Service Agency; Fred Wedel, district conservationist for the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service here; and Ted Houser, conservationist from Wallace County, met with the commissioners to explain the burning program and what to expect.

Mote said the burning, part of

a program to enhance the grass mixture on the land, should make the plantings more vigorous. Conservation Reserve land is taken out of production and leased to the government to prevent erosion. Farmers can plant trees or native grass.

He said the federal program sets Feb. 1 through April 15 as the time to do the burning, but it is up to the county commissioners to declare a burn ban because of drought or dry weather.

"We abide by their decision," Mote said, "and we would reschedule those for a different year. We have approximately 7,500 acres this year and the total over the next four or five year is in the range of 21,000 acres."

Mote said across the county, the burn program would involve about 39 farms and that some of those might have multiple fields. He said that is a few of the roughly 920 farms in the county.

He said Sherman County has just over 60,000 acres in Conservation Reserve land, and they will be burning about 12 percent of that each year. He said that is just a fraction of the 519,064 acres of total crop land in the county.

"It is a burn that is going to be conducted in as controlled a situation as possible," Mote said, "but we know what happens when you strike a match. We know people will do their best to keep the fires from getting away."

"We encourage farmers to do burn plans with the help of the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and to have their fire breaks done."

Mote said aerial maps of the areas to be burned are available from the district office, and that the county is flown and photographed every year — usually in August — to be as current as possible.

He said there are some regulations for fire breaks, but that a farmer can clean till up to 30 feet around the area and can mow an area of up to 300 feet wide as short to the ground as possible to keep the fire from getting away.

"A burn plan is a good tool to have," Mote said. "That way people come out and look at the situation

to consider things that might not be thought about."

He said another thing that helps is neighbors helping neighbors, especially if there are several in an area who have to burn.

Wedel said the Conservation Service can help with the burn plans. He said the grass mixture is for rare and declining short-grass prairie habitat. He said the areas to be burned are as small as a pivot corner, about 25 acres, up to a quarter section of 160 acres.

"The burn is required because of the types of grasses," Wedel said, "and it encourages the growth of the grasses, which is a benefit to

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