

weather report



32°

noon
Thursday

Today

Sunset, 5:15 p.m.

Saturday

Sunrise, 6:46 a.m.

Sunset, 5:16 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 29 degrees
- Humidity 45 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds southwest 11 mph
- Barometer 29.83 inches and falling
- Record High today 76° (1943)
- Record Low today -22° (1936)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Wednesday 34°
- Low Wednesday 4°
- Precipitation none
- This month 0.41
- Year to date 0.53
- Above normal 0.04 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 42, winds out of the west at 10 to 20 mph and a low around 21.
Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high near 42, winds out of the west at 10 to 15 mph and a low around 15.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: Sunny with a high near 38 and a low around 19. Monday: Mostly sunny with a high near 45 and a low around 23. Tuesday: Mostly sunny with a high near 49. (National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

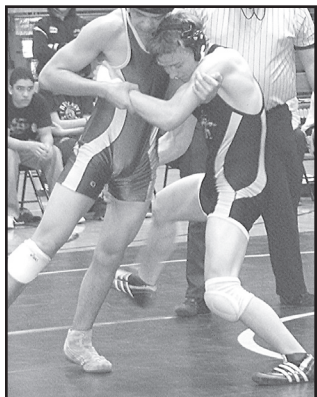


Noon

- Wheat — \$10.45 bushel
- Posted county price — \$10.17
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Corn — \$4.68 bushel
- Posted county price — \$4.68
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Milo — \$4.43 bushel
- Soybeans — \$11.72 bushel
- Posted county price — \$11.90
- 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



Indians beat Cowboys

Cowboys junior Keegan Smith beat Indians junior Jesse Pacheco 6-2 at 145 at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Friday. The Cowboys lost to St. Francis and are in Oakley for a match tonight. See photos, story on Page 9a.

Democrats turn out for Obama

By Tom Betz

ntbetz@nwkansas.com

Across Kansas Democrats turned out in record numbers for the Super Tuesday presidential caucuses, but a winter storm that dumped up to nine inches of snow held the numbers down in the northwest part of the state.

Tim Peterson, Senate District 40 caucus chair, said 34 people did manage to gather in Oakley on Tuesday, and a couple of people from as far north as Atwood made it.

"Despite the weather it was a real good turnout," Peterson said.

More than 37,000 Kansans turned out statewide for the caucuses. Unofficial totals showed 73 percent of Kansans Dems supported Barack Obama and 25 percent supported Hillary Clinton.

Peterson said the results were similar at the caucus in Oakley where 21 of those present supported Obama and 13 supported Clinton.

"We got down to the end and we had three groups of people that were not large enough to make the 15 percent level," Peterson said. "We had three minute speeches to sway those people to join one of the two main groups."

"We flipped a coin to see who would go first and the Obama person called 'tails.' It was heads and the Clinton person chose to go last.

"I felt the people were strong for Obama or strong for Clinton. The undecided people

went to Clinton."

With the final figures Peterson said the groups elected six delegates to attend the First Congressional District Convention to be held in Hays on Saturday, April 12. Of the six four were for Obama and two for Clinton.

Statewide Obama won 313 of the state's 436 congressional district delegates with 123 going to Clinton. Based on the unofficial results Obama captured two thirds of the delegates that will be chosen through the congressional district conventions with the remaining going to Clinton.

The First Congressional District convention in Hays will elect two men and two women and one male alternate delegates to the Democratic National Convention to be held in Denver Aug. 25-28.

Seven at-large delegates plus one alternate will be elected at the state convention to be held in Topeka on May 10.

Delegates elected at the senate district caucus in Oakley included (Obama) Courtney Ress, Colby; LeAnn Simon, Studley; Kenneth Poland, Gem; and Len Schamber, Damar; (Clinton) Daniel Thornton, Oakley and Etta Walker, Sharon Springs.

Alternates elected included (Obama) Linda Heskett, Morland; Lori Krause, Marienthal; Aaron Feist, Sharon Springs; and Chris Sramek, Atwood; (Clinton) Skyler Huffman, Oakley and Carrie Griffin, Colby.

Republicans to caucus in Colby on Saturday

Republicans from northwest Kansas 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 caucus, a voter must have registered as a Republican, and be prepared to show a state-issued identification such as a driver's license.

Seven candidates were to be on the Kansas Republican Caucus ballot, but a few of those have dropped out — including an announcement Thursday by former Gov. Mitt Romney that he was suspending his campaign, — leaving four: Sen. John McCain, Rep. Ron Paul, former Govs. and Mike Huckabee, and Alan Keyes.

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. Voters may check in until the caucus starts. Between check-in and voting, the caucus will hear from the candidates or representatives of those who have entered the state caucus, Yonkey said.

After the speeches, voting will begin by secret ballot and results from individual counties will be tracked. Thomas County Clerk Shelly Harms and her deputy are in charge of tallying the votes, Yonkey said.

The overall statewide total will be announced around 5 p.m. (Mountain Time).

The results will dictate which presidential candidate the delegates from Kansas will support at the Republican National Convention in September, said Republican State Chairman Kris Kobach. In order to win the Kansas delegates, a candidate has to win the majority vote in two of the four Congressional Districts, he said.

Seventh grader wins county spelling bee

By Pat Schiefen

pjschiefen@nwkansas.com

The eight contestants of the Goodland School District Spelling Bee got a trial run to help calm their nerves before the actual contest started.

To compete, each student had to be a winner from North Elementary fifth and sixth grade spelling bees or the Grant Junior High spelling bee.

The last two contestants were Alexandria Bennett and Ashlee Roeder. Bennett is the fifth grade daughter of Chuck and Gina Bennett. Roeder is the seventh grade daughter of Michele Johnson and David Roeder.

The next word was missed by both spellers and was pachyderm. Bennett spelled the next word, buffet, correctly but missed the next, nemesis.

Lulled into thinking of spring by the warm weekend weather winter showed up for a return engagement on Monday night. The Goodland Weather Service reported 8.3 inches of snow and 20 to 30 mph winds.

The winter storm moved in from the west and gradually moved on eastward, said the weather service. Before the snow started there was fog which gave the streets a slick coating underneath.

Tuesday morning the Goodland School District canceled school. Visibility in town at times was only a block. Most of businesses closed up shop early and let their people go home.

The interstate remained open but drivers slowed down. Troopers were kept busy with slide offs and accidents.

Goodland resident Virginia Yarbrough lost control of her vehicle five miles east of Brewster and overturned onto the drivers side, said the Kansas Highway Patrol. She was taken to Citizens Medical Center and released. Her vehicle was towed by Colby Wrecker.

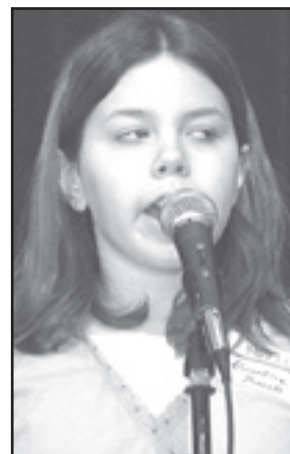
The snow contained .41 inches of moisture, said David Thede a meteorologist at the Goodland Weather Service.



Cruz



Roeder



Bennett

Roeder got the next word, tuxedo, right and became the winner of the spelling bee. She will compete in the state contest on March 24. If she can not go, then Bennett will go.

In a spelling bee, each person gets a word to spell and if they miss it they are eliminated. When only two are left the rules change. If one of them misses a word the other person gets a

chance to correctly spell the word. If they get that word correct and the next word correct that person wins.

In the first round Fionna Cruz, sixth grade daughter of Leandro DeGuzman and Florida Cruz, spelled her word wrong and was out. The next student to fall was Caleb Fugleberg, eighth grade son of Brian and Nancy

Fugleberg, in the second round.

The remaining students spelled their words right in the third round. Some of the words for that round were banjo, increase, neighbor,

stadium, pearl and jungle.

The pronouncer, local attorney Jeff Mason, changed the word lists for the fourth round.

The next four students spelled their words, quadrangular, ubiquitous, ricochet and combustible, wrong leaving only the two contestants. Those students were Zachery Miller, sixth grade son of Richard and Charla Miller; Kristina Stasser, fifth grade daughter of Fred and Rachel Stasser; Dallas DeLaRosa, eighth grade son of Harvey and Tammy DeLaRosa; and Nicole Hendrich, eighth grade daughter of John and Kelly Hendrich.

Judges for the contest were Head Librarian for the Goodland Public Library Karen Gillihan, Goodland School Board member Jane Philbrick and retired Goodland teacher Faye Paxton.

Storm drops snow, welcome moisture



Nicole Holub and her son, Tate Withington, were out shoveling snow Tuesday morning at 315 E. 12. The snowy weather caused school to be canceled. Goodland received over eight inches of snow. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

City donates to Western Plains Chute-Out

By Tom Betz

ntbetz@nwkansas.com

The thunder and thrill of professional bull riding is coming to Goodland this summer with the Western Plains Chute-Out, and the city commission approved donating \$1,000 to the committee to help raise the money.

Jim Weeter, co-chairman of the Thunder on the Plains bull riding committee, told the city commissioners on Monday that plans are

coming together for a special Professional Bull Riders Association event to be held on Wednesday, Aug. 6, during the Northwest Kansas District Fair.

Weeter said it has been the goal of the committee to have a PBR event, and that people from the association had seen some of the open bull rides that have been produced over the past few years, and encouraged them to apply for an event this year.

"The committee of 12 people plus our wives started in November," Weeter said, "and we are raising the money through donations and a contribution from the fair board."

He said a similar event was held recently at the Bicentennial Center in Salina, but the hope is to have a larger audience of 3,000 to 4,000 in August.

Weeter said the event will have at least 40 bull riders and people from all over to watch. He said the event

will draw some of the top national cowboys who will compete and the top bulls for the riding stock.

He said the committee was adding \$10,000 to the purse to make it part of the PBR Enterprise Chute-Out Tour, and that it will be an event where cowboys can double the points. He said with the event in August some of the cowboys will

Slice-of-Life M*A*S*H* bash in June

By Sharon Corcoran

sicorcoran@nwkansas.com

The annual Slice of Life benefit auction and golf tournament takes on a military theme and a different schedule this year but will still raise money for the Northwest Kansas Area Medical Foundation to benefit health care at Goodland Regional Medical Center.

The V.I.P. Reception and M*A*S*H* Bash with silent and live auctions and live entertainment will be Friday, June 20, and the golf tournament will be Saturday, June 21. The silent auction will continue throughout the tournament, and auction winners will be announced at the awards reception following the tournament.

In the past, the reception was on Friday night, the auction and entertainment on Saturday night and the golf tournament on Sunday.

Sunday will be a travel day for out-of-town guests and celebrities, said Dale Schields, foundation director and human resource director at the hospital; some involved with the event have other things going on.

The new format has potential benefits, he said; hopefully, having the event on two days instead of three will reduce expenses by eliminating one evening social and celebrity lodging and golf expenses for two days.

The V.I.P. Reception will be from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Friday in the M*A*S*H* tent at Sugar Hills Golf Club. At 6:30 p.m., the doors open for the M*A*S*H* Bash.

The shotgun start to the golf