

## weather report

**30°**  
noon  
Monday



### Today

Sunset, 6:57 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
Sunrise, 6:51 a.m.  
Sunset, 6:58 p.m.

### Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 34 degrees
- Humidity 88 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds northwest 9 mph
- Barometer 29.95 inches and steady
- Record High today 88° (1907)
- Record Low today -5° (1896)

### Last 24 Hours\*

|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| High Sunday   | 34°         |
| Low Sunday    | 27°         |
| Precipitation | 0.16        |
| This month    | 0.27        |
| Year to date  | 0.88        |
| Below normal  | 0.63 inches |

### The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 46, winds out of the northwest at 15 mph and a low around 28.  
Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a high near 59, winds out of the west at 10 mph and a low around 31.

### Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high near 62 and a low around 31.  
Friday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of rain at night, a high near 57 and a low around 28.  
(National Weather Service)  
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.  
\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

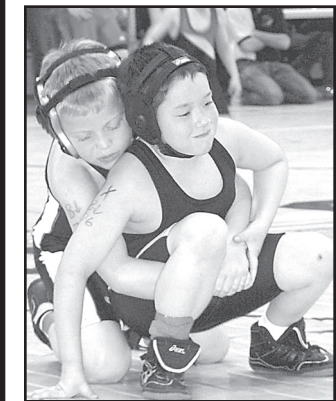
## local markets

### Noon

Wheat — \$11.30 bushel  
Posted county price — \$11.80  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Corn — \$4.94 bushel  
Posted county price — \$5.16  
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢  
Milo — \$4.64 bushel  
Soybeans — \$11.38 bushel  
Posted county price — \$12.11  
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 Scoular 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



## Kid wrestles teammate

Evan Peter and Javier Marin, both of Goodland, ended up wrestling each other in the 8-and-under class at the Kansas Kids subdistrict tournament Saturday at Max Jones Fieldhouse. Peter pinned Marin. See Photo on Page 12.

# Storm brings moisture, darkness

By Pat Schiefen

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Goodland woke up Sunday morning to a mix of rain and sleet, as a powerful spring storm left 1.1 inches of snow and .15 of an inch of moisture.

Winds shorted power lines supplying the town later that morning, leaving the area in darkness for about two hours until generators at the city power plant could take the load.

A trough from a big low-pressure system pushed through the area from the desert Southwest, said Sarah Johnson, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service office here. She said the tail end of the system would finish moving through the area Monday afternoon, possibly leaving a little more moisture.

Goodland received .01 of an inch freezing

rain and drizzle on Sunday and 1.1 inches of snow on Sunday night into Monday morning, she said.

Colby got 1 inch of a snow-sleet mix, turning to snow about 5:30 a.m. Monday.

Areas west and north of here got more snow, said Johnson. Wray, Colo., had 5 inches and St. Francis had 3. The strip from north of Oakley southwest to Tribune got mostly rain, she said, but at 6 a.m. Monday, it was starting to sleet in Oakley.

The Goodland Fire Department received an alarm from the Holiday Inn Express shortly after noon on Sunday, said Chief Brian James. Two engines responded and the motel evacuated its guests. People waited in their cars, the chief said.

"It was a false alarm," said James. "When

the power went off, there were some kids in the pool at the Holiday Inn and when they went out of that area, steam set off the fire alarms."

The electricity went off about 11:30 a.m. Rod Blake, city electrical superintendent, said the 115-kilovolt Sunflower Electric power lines from Brewster to Goodland started hitting each other in the wind, tripping a breaker at the Mingo substation.

Ultimately, he said, a breaker at the Brewster substation failed.

The city had no electricity until 1:30 p.m., when the city plant came on line. The crew had some trouble getting the diesel generators going, Blake said.

The power outage forced the Goodland Wal-Mart to close for about 2 1/2 hours, but

Bill Mooney at Hanks Restaurant said they went on with lunch.

"Our buffet was all set up," he said "The grill is run by gas. We just couldn't make coffee."

Many churchgoers finished services in the dark. Traffic lights were out, but there were no problems, said Goodland Police Chief Ray Smee.

"We directed traffic at K-27 and U.S. 24 until portable signs could be put up," the chief said.

The Goodland plant produced all of the electricity for the town, said Blake, until 6:30 p.m., when Sunflower came back on.

Blake added he had only seen weather conditions twice in 20 years that caused the electricity to fail.

# Exchange students display talents, skits

Over 100 students and adults, American and foreign students and their sponsors, came to an American Field Service State Roundup from Friday evening to Sunday morning in Goodland. The roundup lets foreign students from across the state get to know each other and learn about their country of origin.

The students spent Friday night with a pot luck and games at Grant Junior High. Saturday morning offered workshops, and in the afternoon the group visited the National Weather Service office here and Jack and Janna Eisenbart's horse ranch. At 7:30 p.m. that night, the group gathered at the high school auditorium for an impromptu talent show, when shifted to an all-night "lock-in" at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Students showed off their skills on guitar, piano, skits, language and dance at the show. A girl from Thailand and a boy from Russia and Indonesia sang and a couple of students from Brazil showed off some salsa dancing.

Students came from Denmark, Germany, Italy, Russia, Thailand, Hong Kong, China, Japan, Indonesia, Brazil, Ghana, Australia and others.

Over 60 visiting students came from Abilene, Arkansas City, Cawker City, Chapman, Colby, Derby, Downs, Glen Elder, Hays, Junction City, Manhattan, Medicine Lodge, Newton, Norton, Osborne, Oxford, Satanta, Smith Center, Sublette, Topeka, Valley Center, Wamego and Wichita.

Goodland students who at the sessions included Nelson Bergemann, Kylie Buller, Stephen Buller, Cassie Cooper, Talison Crosby, Margo Detombe, Erica Fenner, Brittney Ford, Kaitlin Fugleberg, Bryan Gray, Chris Irvin, Ryan Irvin, Heidi Lawson, Vance Johnson, Michael Pettibone, Dallas Price, Renea Reasoner, Tehnee Ridder, Sandra Redlin, Savanna Short, Martin Stadelmann, Jake Terry, Katlyn Topliff, Maria Ulloa, Ben Waugh, Day Waugh and Shonna Webster. Goodland's foreign students are Stadelmann from Switzerland, Detombe from Belgium and Ulloa from Chili.

There were 15 foreign and American adults, including Goodland High language teachers Mary Porterfield and Elaine Felver. Goodland's foreign exchange teacher is Jittima Puttacharoen from Thailand. She teaches computers at home but has been doing programs about Thailand at the schools.

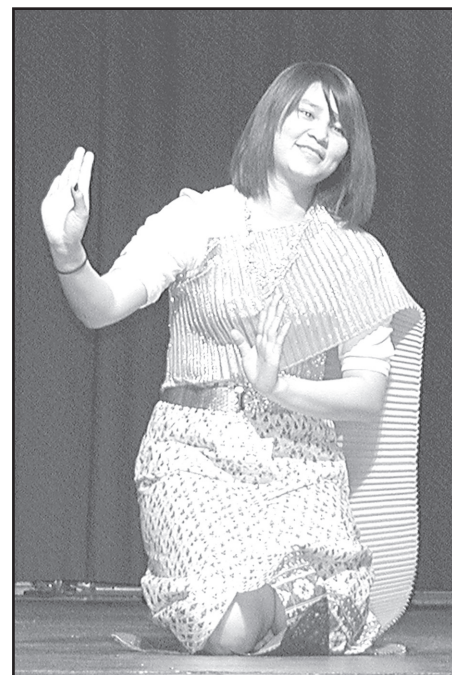
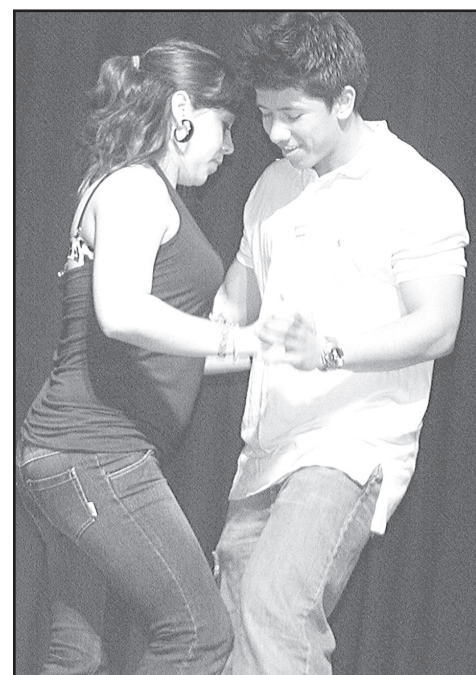
"This was the most fun I've had in my 40 years with AFS," said Porterfield.



Students from Thailand (above) had Thai tongue twisters for a group from the audience to try saying at the American Field Service State Roundup's Talent Show on Saturday night. The roundup went from Friday night to Sunday morning for foreign students across Kansas to meet each other at Goodland High

School. Julian and Yate (bottom left) from Brazil danced the salsa. World (bottom center) from Thailand danced a Thai dance for the group. A student from Ghana (bottom right) pretended he was fishing in a skit at the talent show.

Photos by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News



# County OKs rental of livestock building

By Tom Betz

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A pig sale coming up in April forced Sherman County commissioners looking at fairground rental contracts, and they decided to have a standard agreement drawn up for the livestock building.

William McKnight, building maintenance superintendent, said he had been approached about a hog sale next month. He said the date is OK, but said there is no form for a contract to rent that building.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede asked if the sale was for 4-H.

Steve Duell, Fair Board chairman, said it was a way for kids to pick out pigs, and bringing them into town would make it easier on kids who could not get out to the country to get a pig.

"This way the sale can be held so everyone can come," he said.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked where the show would be, and McKnight said he in the sale and arena area in the livestock building.

"They can use it without cost as long as they set up, tear down and clean up," Tiede said, adding that needs to be in the contract.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said that is already in the current contract.

Deputy Clerk Mary Ann Sneath said the problem is the county does not have a contract for the livestock building. She said there was a contract for use of the 4-H Building and one for the whole fairgrounds.

McKnight said he thought there was something for the Agriculture Building, but it would probably be included in the whole fairground rental.

Tiede asked what the minimum charge is for rental of the fairgrounds.

"Depends on how many hours it takes William to clean it," Sneath replied.

Tiede suggested putting in a dollar amount, like \$200, to give the people an incentive to clean up. Rasure said that should be in every contract.

McKnight said people using the buildings are supposed to clean up. He goes in before each event and sweeps the floors and checks the restrooms.

"I am not supposed to have to do any cleaning after the event," he added.

"If you don't clean it up you could be in a situation where you don't get to use it again," Duell said.

Tiede said the commissioners were OK with the hog sale, and asked Sneath to get something written up.

On another topic, McKnight said he had found out who owns a stack of concrete barriers over by Edson, and that he had been told the county could have them if they move them.

McKnight said Alex West of Alex's Radiator has offered to help move them, and he had talked to Curt Way, county public works manager, and he said the road and bridge crew might be able to help.

McKnight said they would be used on the east side of the race track to keep cars from going through the fence and hitting the trees. Thomas said he would count the barriers and see if they have a hole for lifting.

McKnight said he had asked contractor Dennis Malsom and he said he might be able to help load or unload them.

# Questions answered about pickup repair bills

By Tom Betz

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County Public Works Manager Curt Way brought in information last Tuesday to answer questions about some pickup repair bills asked at the previous meeting.

Way said one bill was on his pickup. He said the repair shop had missed a leak but had fixed it. He said the shop charged for the labor, adding that the county shop does not have the tools for this job.

He said the other bill was for a slave cylinder that had to be changed, and the county shop does not have the special tools to handle this job either.

After handing the commissioners the information on the two bills, Way opened a cardboard box and pulled out a yellow extension cord that he said had shorted out a week ago.

"This is what we were talking about back in the fall," Way said. "It was one we bought locally, and we were lucky the man did not get shocked."

In October, commissioners asked why the road department was buying power cords from a California company rather than from a business here. Way had said no business in town had a cord that would withstand winter temperatures, but the

cords from the California firm are rated for extreme cold.

Tuesday, Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked about the claim that the power cords bought from the California firm were U.S. Department of Transportation approved. Rasure said he has not found anything about any such approval, but there is a Underwriters Laboratories approval and an Occupational Safety and Health Administration approval on cords.

"I only know we have not had failures for the ones we bought from this company," Way said, "but we have had problems on these (holding the yellow extension cord)."

Rasure asked if the cords have the federal approval, what is the difference?

"I don't know," Way said. "I just know we have had problems with these cords," pointing to the yellow cord.

"Some of the cords we have found locally were rated higher," Rasure said.

"I don't know where we bought it," Way said. "I just wanted you to know what we are dealing with. This is about two to three years old."

Rasure suggested looking back in the bills to find out where it was purchased and taking it back to the store to show them.