

weather report

9°

noon
Monday



Today

• Sunset, 4:43 p.m.

Wednesday

• Sunrise, 7:06 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:44 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 31 degrees
- Humidity 76 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds north 25-30 mph
- Barometer 30.15 inches and rising
- Record High today 70° (2006)
- Record Low today -17° (1963)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday	23°
Low Sunday	11°
Precipitation	0.18
This month	0.31
Year to date	0.31
Above normal	0.13 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny with a high near 13, wind chill as low as -23, winds out the north at 5 to 10 mph and a low around -7. Wednesday: Partly sunny with a high near 17, winds out of the north at 5 to 10 mph switching to the south and a low around 7.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high near 37 and a low around 18. Friday: Partly sunny with a high near 39 and a low around 11. Saturday: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of snow at night, a high near 34 and a low around 10.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Storm drops snow, temperatures

By Tom Betz

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People across the northwest area and stretching through Colorado, Nebraska, Wyoming and Kansas were shoveling snow on Monday as a large arctic storm dropped up to 10 inches of snow and plunged the temperatures into the single digits and below zero with the wind chill factor.

Monday morning the temperature was 9 in Goodland with a wind chill of -13 degrees with north winds of 26 mph gusting to 31 mph.

The National Weather Service in Goodland winter weather advisory remained in effect until 5 p.m. on Monday, and a wind chill watch was in effect Monday afternoon through today.

Light snow began falling in Goodland about 5:40 p.m. on Sunday and continued through Monday. The weather service reported 2.1 inches of snow overnight on Sunday with .13 of moisture.

The snow caused many schools in the area including Goodland and the Northwest Kansas Technical College to cancel classes on Monday.

The snow caused a few slide off accidents on I-70 and old U.S. 24, but no injuries were reported. A state trooper reported the I-70 conditions were fairly clear with the wind creating some blowing and drifting snow.

City crews were out before 5 a.m. plowing the streets, especially the snow routes, to help people get around in the weather.

The storm was the first of the year, and more than doubled the amount of snow the area had received since October.

Light to moderate snow was ex-



Light snow was falling Monday morning and the traffic on Caldwell Ave. was very light. The first snow storm of the year dropped 3.4 inches of snow and dropped temperatures into the single digits. The National Weather Service was warning about wind chills dropping

into the -23 degree range through Monday night and again tonight as the cold Arctic air follows the winter storm. The storm closed Goodland school and Northwest Tech on Monday.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

pected to continue across the area on Monday, and was expected to diminish in the afternoon. Snow accumulations were expected to be around one inch. Total snowfall accumulations of 3 to 6 inches are expected across the area with some higher amounts across portions of northeast Colorado and southwest Nebraska.

Northerly winds were to increase during the day to between 20 and 30

mph to create areas of blowing snow and reduced visibility of less than one half mile into the afternoon.

Wind chill values of 15 to 25 below zero were expected as temperatures fall after sunset with northwest winds between 10 and 15 mph.

The storm is expected to move out overnight bringing partly cloudy skies today with temperatures climbing to 13 degrees for a high.

The wind chill values will remain as low as -23 with north winds between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight the sky is expected to be partly cloudy with a low of around -7 degrees and the wind chill as low as -16 with southwest winds around 5 mph becoming northeast.

Wednesday the high is forecast to be near 18 degrees with north wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southerly. The

low Wednesday is forecast around 7 degrees.

A slow warm up begins on Thursday with mostly sunny conditions and a high near 37 degrees, and a low that night around 18 degrees.

Friday the temperature will be near 39 under partly sunny skies, and the low around 11 degrees.

Saturday the high is forecast to be near 34.

Commissioner sworn-in, chair named

By Tom Betz

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Sherman County Commissioners reorganized on Monday morning with the new commissioner being sworn-in and a chairman being chosen for the year.

Commissioner Larry Enfield was sworn-in by County Clerk Janet Rumpel, and she handed him keys to the courthouse at the opening with Commissioner Max Linin and Commissioner Cynthia Strnad watching.

Under state law the first action is for Rumpel to call for nominations for chairman.

After a moment's silence Linin nominated Strnad and Enfield quickly seconded the motion.

Strnad said she was reluctant to accept the chairman position unless the other two agreed to rotate the duties if she is unable to attend.

She said she wanted to get things so that the chairman handles the meetings and shares the other duties. A question was raised about the chairman signing all the checks, but Rumpel said any one of the three can sign checks as they are all on the signature cards.

Strnad said she has tried real hard to make the commission meetings, and would do her best if the other two commissioners would help.

Linin and Enfield agreed to help and Strnad was elected chairman. Strnad said if it didn't work they would reorganize again.

Strnad's first motion was to not have the chairman get any more wages than the other commission-



Sherman County Clerk Janet Rumpel swears in Commissioner Larry Enfield as the commissioners open the meeting on Monday morning. Enfield won the election as a write-in in November.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

ers, and to have all three commissioners share equal wages. Enfield seconded and it was approved 3-0.

The commissioners unanimously approved a resolution naming the four Goodland banks as locations

for county deposits.

Tom Colby of the Sherman County Racing Association was the first appointment of the meeting, and presented the racing schedule for the year.

He said the test and tune date is scheduled for April 16, and the first races would be April 17. The Bill Gray Memorial would be on Aug. 20, and the Flatlander Fall Classic would be Sept. 23-24 with a rain date of Sept. 25.

Strnad asked if the racing association provided the insurance and Colby said yes, and they pay \$500 each race with \$300 for the track and \$200 for utilities. He said at the end of the season the utilities are balanced out and the association can get money back if the utilities are less than what was used.

Rumpel said the racing association has a lease they fill out and the

commissioners sign.

Strnad asked if the racing association has equipment to work the track.

Colby said the association does have the equipment for the track, and the county comes out and blades the track after the fair when the front straight away is scraped for the tractor pull.

Colby said the association has been able to do more of the track work without using the lights, and has been able to get money back on utilities for the past two years.

Strnad said she understood there had been some problems with alcohol in the pit area.

Colby said they had most of that under control, but did have an incident at Flatlanders with a participant who was parked outside the pit area. He said the racing association tries to watch and take care of this problem.

He said there had been some trouble getting the stands cleaned, but felt that would improve as there would be a change in who is handling the concessions this season.

Enfield asked about how the fire departments were handled.

Colby said they rotate between the city and county fire departments. He said the rural firemen are paid individually and the city fire department gets an annual check. He said the ambulance is paid to the hospital.

He said in the past the commissioners have not charged for the Bill Gray Memorial or for the Flatlander Fall Classic.

The commissioners agreed to continue not charging for those racing dates and unanimously approved the proposed lease and racing schedule.

Colby said last year the commissioners had said if there was a change in the racing schedule due to weather he could work it out with William McKnight, maintenance supervisor, without coming back to the commissioners.

The commissioners agreed that would work for them, and thanked Colby for coming in and presenting the schedule.

The commissioners had an appointment with Crissy Livengood about mapping for the 911 system, and how it would be a benefit to the County Assessor's office.

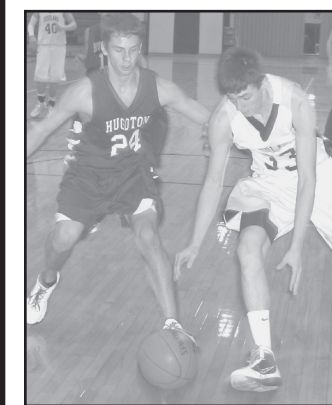
local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$7.20 bushel
Posted county price — \$7.06
Corn — \$5.39 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.58
Milo — \$5.24 bushel
Soybeans — \$12.69 bushel
Posted county price — \$12.81
Millet — \$5 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$23.35 cwt.
Confection — no bid
Pinto beans — \$18 (new crop)
(Markets by Scouler Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

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Cowboy win reach 3-3

Cowboy Garth Helton raced for a loose ball during action Friday against Hugoton. The Cowboys won 50-43 to reach 3-3 on the season. The teams are in action tonight at Max Jones. See photos, stories on Page 9, 10.

School meeting planned for Thursday

The Goodland School District will have the third in a series of community meetings at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the Goodland High School cafeteria about the proposed renovation of North Elementary School into a kindergarten through sixth grade facility.

At this meeting an updated project design and a projected project cost will be given. The project manager Cristy Joy and project architect Richard Hawks from Architecture Etcetera will talk about the updated project design.

Construction Manager Michael Ayars from Ayars and Ayars will be there to give some dollar amounts for the design.

Dustin Avey, the bond advisor from Piper Jaffray,

will be there to translate the cost of the project into the potential raise in property taxes to home owners, commercial business owners and agriculture land owners.

With a closer idea of projected project cost an idea of what will be needed in a school bond to pay for the project can be determined and approved by the school board.

Gennifer House and Deb Ihrig are the co-chairs of the bond election committee.

The plan is to have the bond question on the ballot for the Tuesday, April 5, election.

