

weather report

28°
noon
Monday



Today

- Sunset, 5:31 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Sunrise, 6:29 a.m.
- Sunset, 5:32 p.m.

MIDDAY CONDITIONS

- Soil temperature 37 degrees
- Humidity 52 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds northwest 10 mph
- Barometer 29.93 inches and rising
- Record High today 77° (1982)
- Record Low today -4° (1911)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Sunday 47°
- Low Sunday 14°
- Precipitation none
- This month .40
- Year to date .79
- Above Normal .11 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 51, winds out of the south at 5 to 10 mph and a low around 25. Wednesday: Mostly sunny with a high near 55, winds out of the north at 5 mph and a low around 24.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly cloudy with a high near 38 and a low around 15. Friday: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of snow at night, a high near 31 and a low around 11. Saturday: Partly sunny and breezy with a high near 33 and a low around 7.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

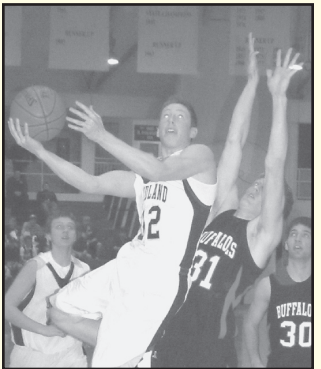
local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$8 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$8.35
 - Corn — \$6.37 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$6.59
 - Milo — \$6.22 bushel
 - Soybeans — \$12.17 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$13
 - Millet — \$5 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$30.35 cwt.
 - Confection — no bid
 - Pinto beans — \$18
- (Markets by Scouler Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

More local news and views from your Goodland Star-News



Cowboys win fourth

Cowboy Dillon Trachsel took a shot over Atwood's Keaton Argabright on Tuesday. The Cowboys won on Friday at Hugoton. Play Scott City tonight. See story, photos on Page 11.



Citizens hear about state shortage

By Pat Schiefen

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Over 20 people were at Hank's Cafe to visit with Rep. Rick Billinger from Goodland and Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer from Grinnell on Saturday afternoon.

Sen. Ostmeyer said it's a tough time in the legislature with a \$400 to \$550 million hole to fill for the 2012 budget. The legislature is not considering a tax increase. It may add some tax incentives.

School Board member Amy Sederstrom asked Ostmeyer about the funding for schools.

Ostmeyer said the total money for education is larger than last year but the money won't go to districts it will go to fund the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System, special education and state support for bonds to build or renovate schools.

"We need to get our house in order," said Ostmeyer. "The money needs to be spent in the classroom."

The representatives of Johnson County or Kansas City area don't want to send money out west, he said. They pay 30 percent of what the legislature spends.

Rep. Billinger said the amount of money to go to special education has not been heard yet and he expects the governor to cover that later in



Rep. Rick Billinger of Goodland and Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer of Grinnell met with around 20 people at the legislative town hall meeting on Saturday afternoon at Hank's Cafe. Billinger and Ostmeyer talked about the financial condition of the state. They talked about legislation about education, the arts and taxes.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

the session.

"The state is out of money and can't continue to spend money it doesn't have," said Billinger.

"The governor has a plan and is sincere."

Ostmeyer said the legislature should have fought the courts when

they told them to fund education.

He said the state has different leadership with a new governor. He wants to combine the departments

for the arts and media into one, combine natural resources and livestock into one and wild life, parks and tourism into one.

"This administration is going to try to get along," said Ostmeyer.

Billinger said the legislature want to make workers comp more friendly to business and require identification to vote. The legislature has passed pay-as-you-go and will not raise spending. There will be a 7.5 percent funding cut for higher education.

The governor wants to give people who move back to Kansas and into areas that have lost double digit population an incentive with no state income taxes for five years. They must have lived out of the state for four years.

Carnegie Arts Center Director Kay Younger asked about funding for the arts. Ostmeyer said the governor wants to make that funding private. The state is planning to give \$300,000 to the state historical society and arts funding will go through there.

John Golden asked Billinger, "Is it like you thought it would be?"

Billinger said the committees are a lot like the city commission meetings. Sometimes it gets intense.

Ostmeyer said the crowd at Goodland was the largest they had had at the town hall meetings.

Hazardous waste program to move

By Tom Betz

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The Sherman County Household Hazardous Waste collection site will move from Cherry Ave., to the county building at 17th and Broadway Ave. in the next month, and the plan was approved at the meeting on Tuesday morning.

Kenny Griffith, who heads the hazardous waste collections, met with the commissioners about the operating plan for the new location to be sent to the state.

He showed the commissioners a drawing of the area in the building to be used for the hazardous waste collections and storage of the latex paint.

He said he tried to design the layout so there was room to bring stuff from the old Telephone Building. He said he talked to Brian James, city fire chief and building inspector about the plan, and the only things he felt needed to be done was adding a couple of vent fans to the north end.

Griffith said they would have to seal at least one door to limit access to anyone else, and said outside the garage door he felt they might have to pour some concrete to be able to roll the dumpsters in and out.

Commissioner Cynthia Strnad said she had a question about the personal items in the garage area that belonged to Marilyn Bohl. She said Bohl said she pays \$50 a month for the storage, but Strnad said she could not find a signed copy of a contract with the county and Bohl.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said she could not find a signed copy of the lease.

Strnad asked for County Treasurer Iris Scheopner to come in at that point and ask her about the rental payments from Bohl. Scheopner said Bohl has always paid \$450 per month and has not changed. She said the barber shop pays \$350.

"We have said we are not going to spend money on the building," Strnad said. She said the two ventilation fans might be purchased locally, and suggested Griffith ask the Northwest Tech heating, ventilation and air conditioning class if they could install the fans.

Griffith said if Bohl had access to the room for the household hazardous waste it would mess up everything. He said he is going to have to have some heat in one of the rooms to keep the paint and other

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County renews dues for Western Prairie group

By Tom Betz

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County commissioners approved renewing the county membership in the Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development program for \$500.

Greg Nemecek, vice president of the organization, said they have been in operation for 16 years and covers eight counties in the region. He said the organization operates through the Natural Resource Conservation Office in Sherman County, and Sandy Rodgers is the president.

Duane Cheney of Colby is the coordinator for the organization. Nemecek said they do get some federal money, but know money for the coordinator is on the chopping block. He said the groups have been able to keep the money in the budget for the past few years, but is getting tougher and know it is going to be tougher at the state level.

He said the organization is plan-

ning for the state convention to be held in Goodland in September. He said they expect more than 100 people to come out and will highlight Wallace, Cheyenne and Sherman County.

He said the organization has been involved in several projects including the animal shelter, worked with Northwest Technical College on the "Green" house project doing landscaping and has held agri-tourism workshops.

He said the group is working on a project in Cheyenne County to take trees and vegetation out of the main stream bed to help improve stream flows. He said the group is working with the Republican River Restoration Partners with Colorado and Nebraska to help with compliance under the river compact. He said a meeting is coming up in March about the future of Bonny Reservoir.

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Cowboys finish fourth, qualify five



Goodland Cowboys finished fourth at the 1-2-3A Regional tournament held at Max Jones Fieldhouse with one Cowboys winning a regional championship, one second and three third place finishes to qualify for the 1-2-3A State Tournament to be held Friday and Saturday at Fort Hays State University.

Cowboy Laine Herl (above) won by a fall, 1:26, over Andy Malin of Plainville to win the regional championship at 189 pounds. Herl (left) held his hands high when declared the champion on Saturday.

Cowboy Seth Miller (below) won by a fall in the quarterfinals 0:31, over Tristan Houser of Plainville. In the semifinals Miller won in triple overtime by a decision, 2-1, over Gage Younger of Ellis. See story, photos on Page 12.

Photos by Trad Price-Waugh and Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

