

weather report



60°
10 a.m.
Monday

Today

• Sunset, 6:16 p.m.
Wednesday
• Sunrise, 6:52 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:16 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil temperature 49 degrees
• Humidity 26 percent
• Sky sunny
• Winds southwest 15 mph
• Barometer 30.00 inches and steady
• Record High today 90° (2003)
• Record Low today 23° (2000)

Last 24 Hours*

High Sunday 55°
Low Sunday 27°
Precipitation none
This month 0.24
Year to date 8.85
Below normal 8.60 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with a high near 50, winds breezy out of the north at 15 to 35 mph and a low around 34. Wednesday: Sunny with a high near 68, winds breezy out of the south at 5 to 30 mph and a low around 45.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high near 68 and a low around 40. Friday: Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 58 and a low around 47. Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high near 68 and a low around 45.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHz.

College holds tech conference



Apple Account Executive Dan Senstock used his iPad during his keynote address at the Technology in Education Conference on Friday at Northwest Kansas Technical College.

Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

By Kevin Bottrell

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Transforming education using technology, rather than just supplementing existing teaching methods, should be the goal of schools today, said Dan Senstock, the keynote speaker at the Technology in Education Conference.

The conference, held Friday at Northwest Kansas Technical College, brought in educators, school administrators, Apple representatives and others for a day of sessions about technology in the classroom. Sessions covered topics such as deploying iPads, digital storytelling, learning games, internet safety, and the use of the iPad at all levels of education.

Senstock, an account executive for higher education with Apple, spoke to the conference attendees as well as many members of the community over lunch. Senstock has a background as a teacher in California and Nebraska, and helped put

together the Northwest Tech iPad program.

It was ironic, he said, that the conference was being held on the one-year anniversary of the death of Apple founder Steve Jobs. Senstock had a tribute video about Jobs, which he played for the audience.

"He expected nothing less from us than to keep moving forward," Senstock said.

Society today is more visual, he said, and students are very creative and able to multitask and collaborate better than ever.

"Students are producers," he said. "They want their stuff to be seen."

User-generated content, such as websites like YouTube, Flickr and Facebook, have exploded in recent years, he said, and students want to be a part of that. Mobile internet use is on pace to exceed desktop computer use sometime this year, Senstock said. The iPad itself is the fastest-adopted device in history. And yet, he said, students are told to

shut off all their technology while in the classroom.

Part of the technology in education conversation, he said, has been about "Bring Your Own Device," the notion of providing content for any mobile device that students bring with them. However, he said, this puts a lot of pressure on tech support staff, since more can go wrong, and teachers then have to create content for the lowest common denominator. It is better, he said, if the students all use the same device.

Senstock then spoke about using the iPad in the classroom.

"Many teachers are asking, 'how do I teach with this thing,'" he said. "That's a good question, because we still don't really know yet. The majority are still using the iPad like they would a desktop or a book."

There are several phases of technology adoption, he said.

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City buys diner road

By Kevin Bottrell

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The City of Goodland has bought the "Diner Road" which runs from the K-27 frontage road west to the old diner.

City Manager Doug Gerber told the city commissioners at their Oct. 1 meeting that the city had been trying to buy the road from Loretta Nemer and Marietta Whalen for years, but the cost had always been prohibited.

This time, however, the offer of \$5,000 was more reasonable. The commissioners approved the purchase unanimously.

Gerber said the primary purpose of the acquisition was for easier access should anyone want to buy the old diner building.

In other business, the commission:

- Granted an extension to Donald Valdez on the property at 302 W. 15th St. The commission had granted 90 days to make improvements or they would proceed with demolition. Valdez said he bought the property the weekend before the meeting and had already removed one tree and planned to remove more as well as fix the roof.

The commission instructed Valdez to meet with Code Enforcement Officer Brian James to make sure progress has been made on the property by the next meeting on Oct. 15.

- Approved a notice of intent to hold a public meeting on changing the solid waste removal contract. A hearing will be held 30 days from the notice. Ninety days after that,

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Kanorado defies snowy day for parade



The winner of the float division in Kanorado Octoberfest was this man on a lawnmower pulling a cart. There was also one walking entry and several vehicles in the parade. Everyone was throwing

candy and the kids were out collecting it. The day was snowy, wet and cold but the parade went on and people's spirits were not dampened.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

local markets



10 a.m.

Wheat — \$8.25 bushel
Posted county price — \$8.29
Corn — \$7.39 bushel
Posted county price — \$7.47
Milo — \$7.09 bushel
Soybeans — \$14.65 bushel
Posted county price — \$14.75
Millet — \$14 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$27.35 cwt.
Confection — no bid
Pinto beans — \$28
(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



Mustangs compete

The Grant Junior High eighth grade football team lost to St. Francis on Thursday, while the seventh grade team has continued its winning streak.

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Democratic state senator turns out for Flatlander Festival

By Kevin Bottrell

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Northwest Kansas' only Democratic state Senator made a campaign visit to Goodland last weekend.

Allen Schmidt of Ellis County spoke to the Goodland Rotary Club on Sept. 28 and had a booth set up at the Flatlander Festival on Sept. 29.

Schmidt grew up on a dairy farm in Ellis County and attended the University of Kansas. He served in the U.S. Army, then moved back to Kansas to take over the family dairy. He went back into the Army, serving as deputy commander of the Army Medical Service Corps.

He retired and moved back to Kansas in 2010. When Sen. Janice Lee resigned, Schmidt was appointed to serve in 36th District, which at the time included Ellis County and much of north-central Kansas. During the last session's redistricting process, Schmidt and Ellis County were moved into the 40th District. This put Schmidt in the unique perspective of being an incumbent in one district and running for election in another.

"I was told that 2011 was the worst year from the Senate's per-



State Sen. Allen Schmidt (left) spoke to a citizen at the Flatlander Festival on Sept. 29. Schmidt had a tent set up near 12th Street.

Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News

spective, but this year was even worse," he said, referring to the redistricting process. "We couldn't get the job done."

The process fell apart because the Senate could not pass a map.

Redistricting was handed over to the courts, which moved the 36th east. One bright spot, Schmidt said, is that western Kansas has the same number of Senators it had before the process began.

"That's good for another 10 years," he said.

The process did result in a lot of incumbents losing in the primaries, he said. Schmidt serves on the education committee, which lost four members.

With less and less federal money coming in, Schmidt said he expects a movement toward making many things in education be paid for by local option budgets, which he described as "not a real friendly picture." He said he has heard talk of consolidating more districts.

Schmidt said he also supports technical colleges, since 90 percent of the graduates stay in Kansas, helping to combat the population loss in rural areas.

One issue that will come up is housing. Schmidt said it is one of the top economic development issues, since without wage-appropriate housing, cities will be less able to recruit new workers. He said a public-private partnership will be necessary to get more housing built.

"I spent a lot of years in the military looking at trends," he said. "We have to be looking 10 years down

the line."

Schmidt said he felt that the lowering of the state income tax may result in an increase in property or sales tax to make up the revenue loss.

"It was not a very good bill," he said. "Legislative Research says it will cost us \$2 billion."

The governor's budget director has estimated a smaller loss, he said, and has been saying the difference will be made up by taxes from businesses that will chose Kansas as a place to expand.

Schmidt served on an advisory committee for KanCare, the recent effort by the state government to move Medicaid to a private managed-care operation.

"My eyes are on this very closely," he said.

Schmidt said to be successful, KanCare must ensure that quality care for Medicaid beneficiaries is maintained and that providers still maintain the same credentials. Companies often measure success in dollars saved, he said, instead of how the people are served.