Happy Thanksgivi

The Goodland Star-News

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WEEKEND

Friday, Nov. 23 2012

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weather report

Wednesday **Today**

Sunset, 4:27 p.m. Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:41 a.m. • Sunset, 4:26 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 45 degrees Humidity 22 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds south 7 mph
- Barometer 30.00 inches and falling
- Record High today 72° (1925) • Record Low today 0° (1941)
- Last 24 Hours*

High Tuesday

Low Tuesday Precipitation none This month trace 9.02 Year to date 9.99 inches Below normal

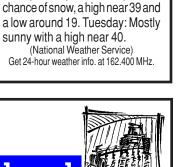
48, winds calm switching to the

south at 5 mph and a low around 24. Saturday: Sunny and a high near 62 and a low around 29. **Extended Forecast** Sunday: Sunny with a high near 54 and a low around 26. Monday:

Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent

The Topside Forecast

Today: Sunny with a high near



markets

10 a.m. Wheat - \$8.24 bushel Posted county price — \$8.07 Corn — \$7.42 bushel Posted county price — \$7.26 Milo - \$7.02 bushel Soybeans — \$13.18 bushel

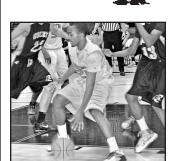
Posted county price — \$13.34 Millet — \$14 hundredweight Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$25.10 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.)



from your Goodland



Mavericks beat Colby

The Northwest Tech men's basketball team ended their first home game in style with a last-second 73-70 win over Colby.

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County, city agree on fire station

city and county fire and ambulance station

At their regular meeting Monday, the city commission approved a contract with the county for use of the IGA building on a 4-1

City Attorney Jerry Fairbanks and County

After many rounds of negotiation, the moving the word "rent," allowing for renewal into a fire and ambulance station would be a after the initial 30 years are up and adding a clause that says the city and county will seek is a dispute. The city commissioners found needed to be removed.

the contract to input some changes that had objection, he felt an additional 30 years would an office for the county information technolkbottrell@nwkansas.com been recommended to the county, chiefly re- be too long. He said remodeling the building ogy specialist. Commissioner Larry Enfield win-win for the city and county.

At the county meeting Tuesday, the county mediation before resorting to a lawsuit if there commissioners approved the contract unanimously. They also approved the bid from several additional places where the word rent Miller Construction. The original bid was for about \$777,000. The commissioners changed Mayor John Garcia voted no on the consome items such as eliminating a sprinkler Attorney Brock Abbey had been working on tract. He said the renewal clause was his only system, putting in fewer cabinets and adding

estimated the changes have saved at least

Contractor Mike Miller said he will need to get a contract signed with project engineer Dan Hall, but he could begin ordering some material right away. In the bid, Miller said he could have the ambulance side of the building ready by February, with the rest finished next summer.

Students celebrate Thanksgiving



Monday in which all of the kids dressed up as pilgrims or Indians Conde, Cole Linton and Aaron Owens. and feasted on the traditional fare of turkey, potatoes and gravy as well as fruits of all kinds, salads, jerky, sausages and cheeses.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Postal Service to move sorting in February

By Sam Dieter

sdieter@nwkansas.com The Colby Post Office will stop processing mail early next year as the U.S. Postal Service implements plans to consolidate operations. All mail from Colby and surrounding towns such as Goodland will be shipped overnight to North Platte, Neb., for sorting.

"The post office does not have the mail volumes to justify the size and capacity of our operation," said Brian Sperry, a regional spokesman for the service based in Denver. "We must match our network to the size of our workload.'

The mail processing is scheduled to move on Feb. 26, Sperry said. North Platte is about 120 miles north of Colby on U.S. 83. The Colby facil-

ity will still function as a regular post office.

Most letters will take the same time to deliver, Sperry said, because the post office maintains a standard of being able to deliver a letter anywhere in the country in one to three days.

There will, however, be two fewer employees working at the Colby office, after the consolidation process Sperry said. In Colby, Postmaster Jean Johnson said the post office might already be down to the number of employees who should be working after the consolidations. The service tries to reduce the number of employees through attrition – retirements and resignations – and not layoffs, Johnson said, which means there is no set

date for the number of employees dropping.

employees in the postal unions, Sperry said.

Sperry said his understanding is that first-class mail will continue to move overnight, at least if it makes the right truck to North Platte. Publications might take longer to deliver, he said, two to nine days instead of one to nine, but overnight first-class mail between area codes starting with 677 should be unaffected.

"First-class mail is our bread and butter, it's what pays the bills," Sperry said, adding that firstclass volume declined by 5 percent last year and is projected to decline 47 percent by 2020.

To offset losses suffered from the rise of digital mail, the post office wants to consolidate 140 processing operations nationwide next year. The A\$15,000 buyout deal is being offered to any list was released quietly after 6 p.m. Friday.

No injuries in Oakley grain bin collapse

sdieter@nwkanas.com Part of the Frontier Ag grain elevator in Oakely collapsed Tuesday, destroying two bins and spilling about several thousand bushels of corn, which knocked over nearby railroad cars and blocking the Denver-Kansas City line of the Union Pacific Railroad.

Pappy Lies, emergency manager for Logan and Gove counties, said that no one was hurt when the concrete tubes at the southeast end of the elevator collapsed about 1:22 p.m. (Mountain Time). Corn spilled out onto a nearby Union Pacific railroad track, derailing eight or nine empty alcohol tankers and closing the track.

Lies said another six tank cars west of the spilled corn were full of liquid nitrogen, but those did not derail. The elevator is just west of downtown Oakley. Access through the downtown area was open, but some streets around the elevator were blocked off.

In the collapse, the bottom part of the two bins was destroyed and top part was hanging at an angle. Grain spilled out onto the cars, which were tipped over by the flow and buried.

Troopers from the Kansas Highway Patrol, deputies from the Thomas and Gove county sheriff's offices, emergency managers from Logan, Thomas and Russell counties, Oakley city police and firemen, the Kansas Department of Transportation works and others came to help, Lies said. On Tuesday afternoon, they were blocking off nearby streets to hold back bystanders. People were walking up to the scene or pulling up in cars took at the damage. A Highway Patrol airplane flew over the area.

See COLLAPSE, Page 5

Goodland A team wins home Scholars Bowl meet

Scholars' Bowl team took first place at their home meet Nov. 15.

The Goodland A team took first place. Quinter got second place and Brewster got third place. Eleven schools competed, with Goodland also fielding a B team.

The Grant Junior High Scholars' Bowl team will have its home meet at 3:30 p.m. Monday. Next action for the high school team will be at 3 p.m. (Mountain Time) in Tribune on Tuesday.

In Scholars' Bowl, two teams of five – with alternates – compete against each other to answer questions from topics such as foreign languages, social sciences, language arts, math, science and fine arts. For math questions, the students are given a time limit to figure out the answer to a math problem. Students use a buzzer if they have the answer. A correct answer is worth 10 points. There is no penalty for an incorrect answer, but the other team has a chance to answer. The team with the most points at the end of the match wins.



The Goodland High School Scholars' Bowl A team competed in a Nov. 15 at Goodland High School. Photo by Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News match against Weskan during the Goodland Invitational meet on