

weather
report

51°

noon

Thursday

Today

• Sunset, 6:14 p.m.

Saturday

• Sunrise, 6:55 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:13 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil temperature 46 degrees
- Humidity 42 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds west at 15 mph
- Barometer 30.01 inches and falling

- Record High today 91° (1950)
- Record Low today 26° (1986)

Last 24 Hours*

High Wednesday	53°
Low Thursday	34°
Precipitation	.02
This month	1.21
Year to date	20.44
Above normal	2.64 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy, high near 64, low around 37.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: Partly cloudy, high near 65, low around 40. Sunday: Partly cloudy, high near 68, low near 38. Monday: Partly cloudy, high near 71, low around 37. Tuesday: Partly cloudy, high near 70, low around 34. Wednesday: Partly cloudy, high near 55.

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

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$4.81 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.91
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$2.74 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.49
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$2.34 bushel
Soybeans — \$4.87 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.73
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$6.50 hundredweight
Sunflowers
NuSun crop — \$12
Pinto beans — \$19 (new crop)
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside
today

More local
news and
views from
your
Goodland
Star-News



Mustangs
beat Wray

Mustang seventh-grade quarterback Reed Bellamy ran out of the grasp of two Wray Eagles during the second half Tuesday at Cowboys Stadium. The Mustangs won 22-8. See photo on Page 10.

Goodland youth speaks to Bush

A Goodland High School senior got to make the final comments from the audience to President George Bush at the school safety conference Tuesday afternoon.

Michael Smith, the Family Carrier and Community Leaders of America national president told President Bush that the student program he is the president of can help students handle crisis situations and that it teaches character education that fits the issues presented at the conference.

Smith was one of about 300 attending the special White House conference that was held in Chevy Chase, Md., a Washington suburb to talk about the recent wave of violence in schools and what steps might be taken to improve school safety.

Smith and his sponsor Sarah Short flew to Washington to attend the conference, which was hosted by Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and Education Secretary Margaret Spellings.

There were special panels on what can be done to make schools safer attended by First Lady Laura Bush, and during the afternoon President Bush attended a panel discussion with people who have been through school violence including Craig Scott a student from Columbine High School who's sister was killed in that school seven years ago.

Smith got his chance to speak at the end of the afternoon session attended by President Bush.

Bush spoke for a few minutes "I'm sorry we're having this meeting. In other ways, I know how important it is that we're having this meeting. The violence that has been occurring in our schools is incredibly sad and it troubles a lot of folks. And it troubled me and Laura.

"All of us in this country want our classrooms to be gentle places of learning, places where people not only learn the basics — basic skills necessary to become productive citizens, but learn to relate to one another. And our parents I know want to be able send their child or children to schools that are safe places. And the violence we've seen is upsetting to a lot of people and I know it's upsetting to the professionals who are with us. But rather than be upset, it's best for all of us who are responsible for helping the folks not only cope, but to prevent action from taking place, it's best to be proactive. And that's what this meeting is."

At the end of the session President Bush said he would like to hear from people in the audience. Several spoke, and the next to last was a woman who was a youth program director in New York City.

"Is there a way to have a class in public school where students learn stress management and the ability to deal with their own anger, frustration and violent tendencies," she said, "and learn human values and actually practice them?"

"Those are state curriculum issues," Secretary Spellings said. "Lots of states have in-



Smith

cluded character education or programs like that as part of their required curriculum, and give credit for it. But I would commend all those superintendents to their state board of education and put them to work."

"I am sorry for those of you standing in line," President Bush said

Gonzales asked if there was time for one more question?

"Okay, one final guy — go ahead," President Bush said.

"I wanted to explain why I had on a bright red jacket," Smith said.

"Yes, that's why I called on you," Bush said.

"I appreciate it," Smith said.

"Thank you for coming," Bush said.

"My name is Michael Smith, and I'm the president for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. We are an in-school, high school, and middle school organization focusing on the family. Our main mission is to promote family as the basic unit of society.

"And I'm happy I got to follow up after your question (turning to the lady from New York City) because we are — family consumer sciences — its curriculum in high schools and middle schools is teaching character education, that is teaching youth violence prevention. We're teaching career exploration. Because of our title, Family and Consumer Sciences and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, we address every one of the issues that's been presented in the discussions and in this room.

"And we are willing and wanting to partner with every single person in here to help students get this message out to students. We're about peer-to-peer message sharing. We want each and every student in our organization, which reaches about a quarter of a million students, to be a lot broader than that.

"We want to touch every student in America through our programs and through our mission to promote family as the basic unit of society, and the values thereof.

"So I thank you, Mr. President, Mrs. Bush."

"Why the red coat? Bush said. "Just so you got called on? I mean, is there a reason?"

"I just wanted to explain that our colors in the organization are red and white," Smith said.

"Fabulous," Bush said.

"So all of the officers wear our red jackets," Smith said.

"I, once again, apologize," Bush said. "I've got to get on an airplane. But I do want to thank you all for coming. I hope you have found this interesting. I am a results-oriented person, and I expect from Margaret and Al to make sure that out of all this effort comes some concrete action to help people understand what is possible, what is doable, the programs that are working."

Smith said in an interview that he had a chance to talk to Laura Bush during the lunch break, and suggested there might be a partnership because both have similar goals.

Smith said the conference was a great experience.

"I was glad I got my two minutes," he said.



Cracking of the pavement (left) along K-27 from the I-70 interchange north to the stoplight are the reasons the city is asking the state Department of Transportation for money to replace the asphalt with concrete in a three-phase plan. Darin Neufeld, (above) engineer for Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, explained the proposed project to Bryce Cole (center) and Jerry Haley (right) the two area members of the highway advisory commission Wednesday morning. Rich Simon, public works director (second from left) was at the meeting along with Jerry Nemechek, engineering technician from EBH. The city is asking the state for \$750,000 to do the first phase.

Photos By Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

City asks for money to rebuild K-27 north of I-70 interchange

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Members of the state Highway Advisory Commission met with city representatives Wednesday morning to look at a proposed highway project to replace a section of K-27 north of I-70 to the intersection with business U.S. 24.

The project would replace the asphalt pavement with concrete explained engineer Darin Neufeld of Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, who developed the application for the city.

He told the inspection group that the mill and overlay job that was done about four years ago was failing because of the heavy truck traffic.

The plan would replace the asphalt in three phases to keep the cost within the project limits set by the state. Neufeld said the total project cost would be about \$2.4 million, but broken up into sections the city is asking the state for \$750,000 for phase one. That would mean the city has to come up with \$60,000 Neufeld said.

Neufeld said the damage to the existing road is from the daily average of 780 semi trucks that travel through the intersection of business U.S. 24 and K-27 each day. He said this does not include those semi trucks that get off the Interstate and stop someplace between the off ramp and the Wal-Mart parking lot. Chriss McDiffett said the state

estimates 5,570 cars and trucks travel through the K-27 intersection each day, and the I-70 daily average at the west Goodland exit is 8,500 cars and trucks.

Bryce Cole, Goodland farmer, and Jerry Haley of Hays are the two state advisory commission members from District 3, who were part of the inspection team that was in Goodland Wednesday morning. District 3 stretches from the state line at Sharon Springs to Hays and north to the Nebraska line.

Mark Taylor Assistant Bureau Chief of Program Management for the Department of Transportation and Melinda J. Desch, program management engineer for the Department of Transportation were leading the visit, which included stops in Sharon Springs and Colby on Wednesday. Traveling with the group was District Engineer McDiffett of the Department of Transportation Norton office.

Cole said the group had inspected six projects on Tuesday.

City Manager Wayne Hill and three city street department workers were at the meeting including Rich Simon public works director who is recovering from an accident with his powered parachute that hit a power line east of town on Saturday, Sept. 9.

Taylor said the Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller has not decided how much money could be put into these projects for next year,

but he thought it might be around \$10 million.

Neufeld said the state had put \$12 million into these local projects this year.

Taylor said the money would be spread out across the state, and that there were 60 projects wanting money.

"All I can say is we will let you know when we know," Taylor said. "I do not know when this will be decided, but we wanted to get out and see all the projects to be ready to do the selection when we get a go ahead from the secretary."

Taylor asked Neufeld if there was a way to narrow the road a bit as it is rebuilt.

Neufeld said there is a possibility that could be done closer to the intersection on the north, but would not want to narrow the road from the I-70 interchange up to the second set of side access roads.

Neufeld said the first phase would replace the asphalt from the concrete at I-70 north to a point past the first pair of access roads that lead to Presto and the Comfort Inn.

He suggested to Taylor that doing the planning and engineering as a total project could reduce the cost. He said the cost would be about \$60,000 and the city could pay that part of the cost and it could be part of the match for the project.

Taylor said that was something that could be discussed if the project is selected to get money.