



Merry Christmas, Goodland!

THURSDAY

December 23
1999

50¢

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Eight Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

48°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 4:28 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:04 a.m.
• Sunset, 4:29 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 32 degrees
• Humidity 42 percent
• Sky sunny
• Winds northwest 22 mph
• Barometer 30.41 inches
and rising
• Record High 83° (1964)
• Record Low -09° (1998)

Last 24 Hours*

High 37°
Low 12°
Precipitation .05/snow .5 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Clear; low 25; winds northwest 10-20 mph
Tomorrow: Sunny; high 50-55; winds northwest 10-20 mph, low 25-30.

Extended Forecast

Saturday: dry; high 55-60; low 25-30.
Sunday and Monday: dry, high 50s; low 20s.
(National Weather Service)

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.12 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.96
Loan deficiency payment — 49¢
Corn — \$1.62 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.71
Loan deficiency prnt. — 28¢
Milo — \$2.33 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$3.97 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.97
Loan deficiency payment — 92¢
Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$5.95 cwt.
Loan deficiency prnt. — \$4.12
Confection current — \$11/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$13 (new crop)
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and Prairie Pea and Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Jury says Koch shorted count

TULSA—A federal jury found today that Koch Industries under-reported the amount and quality of oil purchased from federal and Indian leases and said the company should pay the government about half a million dollars.

The jury recommended Koch, the country's second largest privately held company pay \$553,504 for oil it took from 1985 to 1989, far less than had been claimed.

Through 11 weeks and 141 witnesses, Koch Industries denied allegations that it trained employees to adjust measurements in the company's favor to get more oil than it paid producers.

Koch did not dispute that adjustments were made, but said it had permission from producers to make up for field conditions such as oil shrinkage and sediment in tanks.

Girl's family flying out to cheer up her Christmas

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

It's been a long year for Katlyn Topliff, who has spent most of the fall in hospitals taking sometimes painful treatments for leukemia, and it's not over yet.

But by Christmas Eve, her dad, brother and sisters will be winging their way to Minneapolis to spend the holiday with her.

Katlyn, 7, was diagnosed with leukemia in late August. Since then, she has been through chemotherapy and radiation treatments and two bone marrow transplants.

Her mother, Jeannie Topliff, said she tries to keep Katlyn busy so she doesn't think about being away from home.

"She wants to be home so bad," Jeannie said. "She's missing family and friends and doesn't get to do too much. She's getting very anxious for her daddy and the others to get here."

In December 1994, when Katlyn was 2, doctors discovered she had a malignant brain tumor. She went through nearly two years of chemotherapy to rid her body of it.

The Topliffs were told there was a slim chance that the treatment for the tumor could cause leukemia, but it still was upsetting when they received the news in August.

"It was pretty devastating," her father, Randy Topliff. "You think you have something whipped."

After receiving chemotherapy, Katlyn received her first bone marrow transplant on Sept. 20 at Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital in Denver. Her twin sister, Kirsten, was the donor. The first transplant was to build up her immune system and get the cancer in remission, as her body had little to fight back with.

Then on Nov. 23, she received her second bone marrow transplant at Fairview University Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minn. This time the donor was her older sister, Eryn, 10.

The transplant process involved holes being made in either side of the two sisters' iliac bone (part of the pelvis) and sucking out about a pint of bone marrow. Katlyn then received the marrow through a chest tube over a three-hour period.

The idea behind the transplant is to introduce a foreign cell that won't recognize the leukemia cells as part of Katlyn's body and will attack them.

Even though both sisters had a painful recovery after their transplant surgeries, both were willing to do what they could to help Katlyn.

The type of cancer that Katlyn has is called acute myelogenous leukemia. In her case, abnormal blood cells mature, but they don't carry out any useful purpose and they don't die, causing the system to be overloaded with bad cells.

"Doctors are extremely optimistic," said Randy. "They were pleased with how she came through the transplant."

She got out of the hospital Monday afternoon and is staying with her mother, Jeannie, at the Ronald McDonald House in Minneapolis, for a few months. She will be able to stay out of the hospital as long as she stays infection free.

She has been going to her doctor's clinic each day for lab work. Her kidney level isn't what it should be, so she has been receiving liquids through the chest tube. She has also been receiving nutrients through the tube while she sleeps at night. Her taste buds were destroyed by chemotherapy and radiation, so food has no flavor and she

doesn't want to eat much, her mother said.

A bone marrow biopsy will be done around March 3, 100 days from the transplant. At that time the doctors will determine by DNA testing how much of the bone marrow is Eryn's and how much is Katlyn's and if the leukemia is in remission.

"She still smiles through all of it," her mother said. "Her spirits have been wonderful."

Katlyn's first grade teacher at West Elementary, Pat Thompson, has had her students send e-mail messages, drawings and cards to her. Other first grade classes have sent drawings. Katlyn's mother said these have really helped to cheer her. While she was in the hospital, they put the cards on the wall, so she could see them all.

Katlyn said she has enjoyed receiving both cards and pictures.

Her mom said they have received so many cards from church members and the community. Goodland organizations have raised money for the family.

"It's been wonderful," Jeannie said. "It makes you appreciate being from a small area."

In the hospital, Katlyn had to be confined to her room, other than for x-rays or radiation, so being out of the hospital has been a boost to her spirits. Anytime she goes out of her room at the Ronald McDonald House, she has to wear a mask and do lots of hand washing to protect herself from germs. So far, she hasn't run a fever, her mother said.

"We're very blessed to have the family support, the community support and the church support," Randy said.

He said his mother, Myrna, has taken care of their business, American Com-



Katlyn Topliff (left) posed with her sisters, Kirsten (right) and Eryn (front) at Easter. Both girls were bone marrow donors for their sister.

Topliff family photo

munications, when he had to be gone, and Jeannie's mother, Sharon Finley, has taken care of Kirsten and Eryn when needed.

Both Randy and Jeannie said they

have met a lot of nice people during all of this.

"That's what has been the bright side of this whole deal," said Randy.

Graves wants to focus cuts

By David Miles

Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — When it comes to budget cuts, Gov. Bill Graves says all state agencies are not equal.

The Department of Transportation, for instance, will have to pinch more pennies than other state agencies this fiscal year if the governor has his way.

Graves said Wednesday he wants to trim 1.6 percent from state general fund spending. However, his recommended a cut for the Department of Transportation would be in double digits.

The governor said the proposed budget reduction for the department would be among the biggest cuts for state agencies this fiscal year, which ends June 30.

"Many, many agencies are going to see reductions in their overall expenditures for fiscal year 2000 and many for fiscal year 2001," Graves said during a

Statehouse news conference.

The budget crunch came about after the state ended fiscal year 1999 with \$73.4 million less than expected in its general fund, the state's largest source of money. Graves said he doesn't expect the budget situation to improve any time soon.

"Fiscal year 2002 doesn't look rosy at this moment," he said.

Under the current budget, the Department of Transportation would receive \$100.6 million from the general fund. A 10 percent reduction in that amount would be about \$10 million.

Graves said the proposed cuts should not be disastrous for the department, which relies heavily on federal funds and money from state highway fund.

The department's total budget, including those sources, is nearly \$792 million this fiscal year.

"In terms of their overall budget, it's

a fairly small dollar amount for the overall spending that they do," Graves said.

Although Graves said the cuts would not adversely affect a 10-year, \$12.9 billion transportation plan approved this year, he added that they would force Secretary of Transportation Dean Carlson to scrutinize his budget more closely.

"It makes Dean and the KDOT folks work much harder, but I have Dean's assurances he can do it," Graves said.

Department spokesman Marty Matthews said he is not sure what cuts will be made, but he said the department will try to avoid any changes to the transportation plan.

The governor made it clear that he is not recommending cuts for all programs. In fact, he said he wants to increase spending in some areas, such as education and social services.

Special shipment brings cans here

A collector's item has been showing up in area stores in the last week or so: cans of Pepsi bearing a picture of the late Brook Berringer, a former Goodland High football and basketball standout.

Berringer, a 1991 graduate, quarterbacked the Nebraska Cornhuskers, going 7-0 as a starter. His 1994 and 1995 Nebraska teams claimed national championships. Berringer was named Academic All-Big Eight in 1995. He was coached by Tom Osborne.

The son of Goodland teacher Jan Berringer and the late Warren Berringer, Brook was killed in a single-engine airplane crash in Nebraska in 1996, cutting short a promising football career.

Wayne Summers, at the Colby Pepsi warehouse, said today that the Berringer Pepsi cans are being stocked at Wal-Mart, the Coastal store at Eighth and Caldwell, Cowboy Loop and Presto. Dillons in Colby and convenience stores in Colby, Oberlin and Oakley also got the cans.

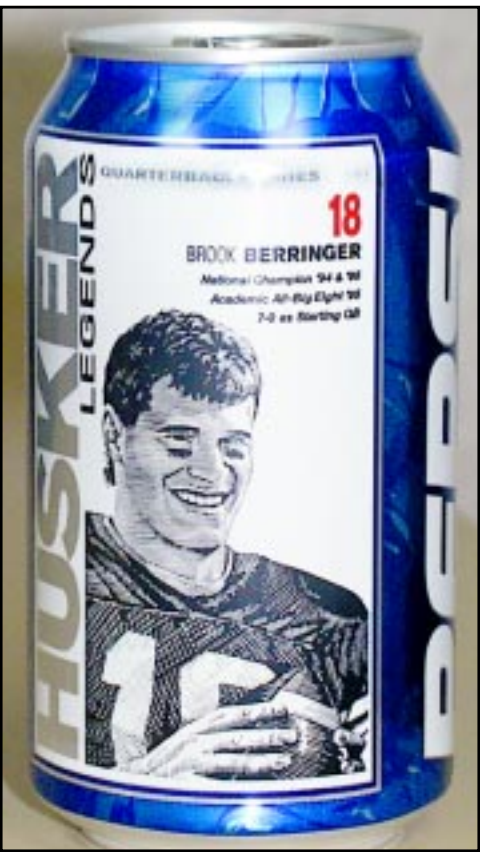
In Goodland, however, only Wal-Mart and Presto could confirm having the cans, and by today only a few were left. The stores said they were trying to get more. Managers at other convenience stores here said they also were trying to get some, though none had any.

"We don't check our cans," a clerk at one said.

Summers said they had contacted the Pepsi distributor in Omaha to get a shipment of the cans for this area, and received nearly 800 cases.

Berringer's mother had said earlier that Pepsi hadn't planned distribution of the cans in this area. However, a *Goodland Daily News* story in November about the special Pepsi cans was repeated in Colby. It caught the eye of the area distributor and it was then that an order was placed.

The special can series, called *Husker Legends*, will feature other quarterbacks. Berringer was the first to be marketed.



The largest Christmas tree in Goodland shows up at night just off of Cattletrail between 14th and 15th Streets. The "tree" is a crane belonging to Rod Wilkinson, and this year both the crane and the cab are lighted, giving the city a very large tree for people to see as they drive up K-27.

Photo by Tom Betz / The Goodland Daily News