

weather report

73°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 6:38 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:40 a.m.
• Sunset, 6:36 p.m.

Middy Conditions

- Soil Temperature 56 degrees
- Humidity 20 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds variable at 4 mph
- Barometer 30.26 inches and steady
- Record High 95° (1953)
- Record Low 29° (1945)

Last 24 Hours*

High 76°
Low 32°
Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Clear, low 40-45, light winds. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, high 80-85, low 40s, south winds 15-25 mph.

Extended Forecast

Friday through Sunday: dry, high mid 70s-80s, low 40s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400.MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$2.59 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.44
 - Loan deficiency payment — 1¢
 - Corn — \$1.59 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$1.50
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 49¢
 - Milo — \$2.58 hundredweight
 - Soybeans — \$4.36 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$4.15
 - Loan deficiency payment — 75¢
 - Millet — ask
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$5.15 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — \$4.55
 - Confection current — \$15/\$6 cwt.
 - Pinto beans — \$15
- (Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Greek ferry sinks killing 59

PAROS, Greece — A Greek ferry struck a patch of rocks in the Aegean Sea and sank, killing at least 59 of the more than 500 people aboard. Many of the victims panicked and jumped off the boat, rescue officials said.

The ship's captain and four crew members were arrested after the accident Tuesday night, amid reports at least some of them were watching a soccer match on television at the time. Government officials accused them of criminal negligence, and survivors criticized the shipping company for complete disorganization.

"You have to be blind not to see it," said Coast Guard chief Andreas Sirigos. "It is inexplicable how the ship collided with a well-known rock that carries a light visible from a distance of seven miles."

Goodland's newspapers merging

Goodland's two newspapers are merging this week, ending more than six years of competition.

The *Sherman County Star*, a weekly founded in 1994, announced that today's edition would be its last paper. Haynes Publishing Co., which operates *The Goodland Daily News*, has agreed to buy the assets of *The Star*.

Effective Monday, all subscribers to *The Star* will be added to the list of *The Daily News*, said Steve Haynes, president of Haynes Publishing. Those who already have a subscription to *The Daily* will receive an extension equal

to the value of their remaining time.

Haynes said subscribers do not need to do anything unless they either don't get a paper Monday or get more than one. Papers will be delivered by carrier in town and by mail outside the carrier delivery zone.

"Subscriptions will continue without a lapse," he said. "There is no need to call unless there is a problem."

Haynes said the merger came at the end of a tough time for both papers.

"As we saw in Denver, newspapers in competitive towns seldom are profitable," he said. "We hope, with the

merger, to create one strong voice and advertising medium for Goodland and Sherman County."

The Star, owned by Eric and Roxie Yonkey, started publishing in 1994 and was in its seventh year. While it had won several awards in state competition and gathered a loyal following, it never became profitable. It had been planned as a regional paper, covering events around northwest Kansas.

"Even with our diligent work, *The Star* never grew as planned," Roxie Yonkey wrote in her column, *Star Tracks*, today. "We've lost money every

year we've been in business."

Haynes said the last few years had been difficult for *The Daily News* as well, and it had not been profitable most months since its purchase by Haynes in 1997. The closing last year of the two largest advertisers in town, Gibsons Discount Store and Jubilee Foods, hurt both papers.

"We hope that is all behind us now," he said, "but we don't intend to kid ourselves. The news and advertising business is highly competitive."

"We want to build the very best newspaper, the strongest product that we can

to serve this community. We want to keep the best features of *The Star* and combine them with the best from *The Daily News*."

He said *The Daily News* hopes to continue the social columns which have run in *The Star* covering Brewster and Goodland and has asked Roxie Yonkey to continue her column, *Star Tracks*. Regular advertising features from *The Star* will be continued, with the agreement of advertisers, he said, and Eric Yonkey has been asked to join

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History of county's paper goes back to teens

Daily News first printed in 1932

By Dana Sulsberger

The Goodland Daily News Jerry Barnes, a farmer on Route 3, waited on the morning of October 3, 1932, for the paper bringing news of football, the Red Cross, local weddings, deaths and events.

He was the first subscriber to *The Goodland Daily News*, which came out that day. Headlines in its first edition included "Win game by small margin; Place kick beats Burlington in football game here Friday" and "Senator Smythe Killed; State legislator one of three victims of crash."

The history of *The Goodland Daily News*, and other publications before it, started as early as the beginning of the county, and is linked to papers that started as early as the beginning of the century.

The Daily News that day was only four pages, with the last page bearing an ad, but the little paper was crammed with five columns of stories on mainly local topics.

There had been newspapers in the area before *The Daily News*, including the *Goodland News, Republic*, and *Banner*, the *Sherman County Herald* and the *Kanorado News* also, said Evelyn Ward, president of the Sherman County Historical Society.

The core of Goodland journalism history started in 1916, when Thomas McCants established the *Western Kansas News* in Goodland.

The McCantses worked in the newspaper business here for over 60 years, opening the *Sherman County Herald* in 1935, which Thomas McCants ran until his death in 1943.

The senior McCants' three sons, Robert, Raymond, and Thomas Jr., all went into the service in the '40s but Thomas was called home early to help his father with the business when he



Jim Bowker, general manager in the production department at *The Goodland Daily News*, adjusted the ink on the press Tuesday. Bowker has worked at the paper since the McCants family bought it in 1961.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

was ill, said Marge McCants, Robert McCants' widow.

When the brothers returned from the service, they jumped into the newspaper business. In 1961, the McCantses bought *The Goodland*

Daily News from B.G. Robinson, who had been running the paper for 14 years.

The McCantses continued to print both the *Herald* and *The Daily News*, with Robert working in the business

until his death in 1984, she said.

Robert McCants was inducted into the Kansas Newspaper Hall of Fame on Nov. 9, 1996, at a ceremony dur-

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Coach sticks to grade rule

Students who are failing will sit out

By Rachel Miscall

The Goodland Daily News

Coach Chris Walters says his grade policy is simple: If you have an "F," you don't play. If you have a "D," you go to study hall.

His reasoning for it is simple, too. "Being successful in life is more important than winning a ball game," said Walters, a 27-year-old high school science teacher and the new head coach of the Goodland Cowboys' football team. "They are in school to learn and get good grades, not just to play ball."

Richard Liess, Goodland High School athletic director, said he admires Walters for putting students' grades before his own personal gain. He said the coach's policy is much stricter than the district's.

Liess said the district follows the Kansas State High School Activities Association's grade rule, which requires a student to have passed five core classes in a preceding semester to be eligible to play sports. If a season starts mid-semester, he said, a student with two or more failing grades will not be allowed to join the team.

Coaches can set their own team policies, said Liess, adding that the district checks grades every semester, while Coach Walters checks them every week.

"I think it takes a lot of courage for a coach to do that in my opinion," he said. "It's hard to argue against academics first."

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Festival to bring bikes, bikers to Main Street

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News People will be able to see a wide range of motorcycles at Saturday's Flatlanders Fall Festival.

American, Asian, European, stock and custom bikes, both new and antique, will be on display on Main Street. The 6th Annual Northwest Kansas Bike Show will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration is from 8 a.m. to noon on Main in front of the old Caldwell building.

Casey and Linda Quint of Goodland, organizers of the show, said there will be over 25 classes for cycles.

There will be three awards given in each of the classes, all belt buckles. A new award for the "Best Looking Engine" will be given by Mike's Metal Polishing of Ransom, said Casey, and a "Best of Show" will also be given.

Casey said people are invited to bring their cycles and show them off.

"We don't care what you ride or what you have," he said. "We have a place for you in the bike show."

Casey said the bike show has been real successful and a good addition to Flatlanders.

"We try to put on a family type

show," he added. "We do have some families that participate. It brings a lot of people together. Linda and I have met some fine people through the bike show."

Last year, there were about 117 bikes on display, their biggest show so far, Casey said.

"We get a lot from the Front Range," he said. "Our local people have been real good about being behind the show. There's a lot of neat bikes in garages that people haven't seen for years."

Casey said the show wouldn't go on if they didn't have sponsors.

They said they also have help from other cyclists who belong to the organization in getting the show organized.

Starting at 3:30 p.m., motorcycle games for couples will be held on the parking lot behind Bankwest. There will be several games for guys and gals where the guy maneuvers his bike while the gal performs some activity. These include a weenie bite, balloon toss and ring toss. Larry Milke of Goodland will coordinate the games.

On Saturday evening, a supper and awards ceremony will be held at 6 p.m.

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It's better to be safe...



Troy Mannis and Ryan Weis, Goodland volunteer firemen, lifted the windshield out of a car during a demonstration this morning at Grant Junior High School for Farm Bureau Safety Day. The men showed how quickly a windshield could be removed in an accident.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News