

weather report

11°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 5:15 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:45 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:17 p.m.

Middy Conditions

• Soil Temperature 34 degrees

• Humidity 70 percent

• Sky clear

• Winds north 14 mph

• Barometer 30.21 inches

and steady

• Record High 78° (1976)

• Record Low -22° (1933)

Last 24 Hours*

High 24°

Low 9°

Precipitation 0.18 inch

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Partly cloudy, low 5, south

10-20 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly

sunny, high 30-35, low 15-20, south

wind 10-20 mph.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: dry, high 30s. Monday:

dry, high 35, low 15-20. Tuesday: dry,

high 40-45, low 15-25.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.73 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.64

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$1.90 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.86

Loan deficiency pmt. — 13¢

Milo — \$3.04 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.02 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.02

Loan deficiency payment — 88¢

Millet — \$7.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$6.05 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.51

Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$14

(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.

Schools may get \$50 pupil increase

TOPEKA — A House budget subcommittee is ready to recommend a \$50 per pupil increase in the base state aid for public education.

Members of the Appropriations subcommittee on education agreed Thursday to follow Gov. Bill Graves' recommendation to increase schools' base budgets \$3,820 to \$3,870 for the 2001-02 school year.

The increase uses existing state revenues, including a statewide property tax levy of 20 mills. A mill is \$1 of taxation for every \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

The entire House Appropriations Committee will receive the subcommittee's report Tuesday, said Chairman Kenny Wilk, R-Lansing.

The subcommittee also recommended having the state pay 85.3 percent of the excess costs of providing special education programs.

Storm dumps six inches more snow

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Goodland schools were closed Thursday and Friday after freezing drizzle Wednesday and then snow on Thursday left about six inches of snow in Goodland and ice even where the snow was plowed or blown away.

Athletic events scheduled for tonight have been canceled or rescheduled, said Athletic Director Richard Liess.

A dual wrestling match with Oakley and Garden City was canceled and will not be rescheduled because the regional wrestling tournament is next week.

Basketball games with Oakley have been rescheduled for Saturday, Feb. 17, with the freshman games beginning at 2:30 p.m. Mountain Time at Oakley.

Basketball games at Wray Saturday are still on schedule, with the freshman game beginning at 3 p.m. Mountain Time.

Liess said the novice wrestling tournament at Colby is also still on schedule Saturday beginning at 7 a.m. Mountain Time.

Meteorologist Scott Lockhart said the snow began Thursday morning and ended this morning. It started with very light snow throughout the day Thursday and became heavier in late afternoon.

Lockhart said snowfall amounts in the Tri-State area, which covers eastern Colorado, northwestern Kansas and southwestern Nebraska, ranged from less than an inch to about nine inches. The smallest amount was in the northwest corner of Yuma County in Colorado and the heaviest was in the southeast corner of Norton County in Kansas. Lockhart said most of the area had two to seven inches.

A low pressure system that moved up through Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas and into Missouri produced the snow



Snow and bitter cold, that was the weather for Thursday. Stuart Smith (left) and Kyle Werner tolerated the wind as they scraped ice from Werner's vehicle Thursday evening in front of Aten Department Store on

Main. The young men are students at the Northwest Kansas Technical School in Goodland.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

energy and moisture in the system from the south combined with very cold temperatures in the area, Lockhart said.

A freezing drizzle started in Goodland on Wednesday and continued through the night ending early Thursday morning, when it changed to snow.

The forecast for Saturday and Sunday is mostly sunny with highs in the 30s and lows from 10-20. No precipi-

tation was expected. Lockhart said the next chance for snow is Wednesday.

Though roads were icy, most people apparently stayed home. The Kansas Highway Patrol reported there were no injury accidents in Sherman County on Thursday.

"We worked no accidents yesterday," Sheriff Doug Whitson said this morning. "There were none in the last

24 hours."

The Goodland Police Department reported there were no accidents in the city either.

Chief Ray Smee said there were a couple of fender benders, but nothing was reported to the department. He thought the people took care of the matters themselves.

Lt. Kevin Winston of the highway

patrol said there were no roads closed in the area on Thursday because of the weather. However, the eastbound lane of I-70 was closed this morning from Hays to Salina.

Goodland, Brewster and most other schools in the area were closed Thursday and Friday because of the ice and snow. The U.S. Agriculture Department was closed due to weather.

Board will look at modern science room designs

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The weather delayed a science committee meeting planned for Thursday, but Superintendent Marvin Selby said the members have been invited to at-

tend Monday's school board meeting at 7 p.m. at the district office to see the architect's drawings of the science rooms planned for the high school.

"We are hoping to remodel the upstairs of the high school this summer to

end up with four modern science rooms," Selby said. "We expect the architect to have some preliminary drawings and will ask the board to give the nod to move forward and seek bids.

"If this is going to fall into place, it has to do so pretty quickly. Science equipment must be ordered as soon as possible to get it built in time to be installed this summer so it can be used next year. We are facing a short time frame for ordering.

"If we get approval from the board, we will get the specs out next week."

Also on the agenda is making a decision on the Interactive Television program which was tabled at the last meeting because not all board members were present.

"If all board members are present," he said, "we will make a decision."

The board has three options, Selby said. One is to pay the money to get the current system up to date. Second is to

let the Northwest Kansas Technical School take the equipment and open an interactive studio at the Murray Center, and the third is to discontinue the program.

The lease for the main building of the Northwest Kansas Technical School comes up for renewal in July and Selby said the board will have a preliminary discussion about whether to extend it.

See SCHOOL, Page 7

Fingerprints confirm identity of dead woman

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

A woman carrying identification with four different names, who died after a rollover accident on I-70 east of Goodland Monday night, has been identified from her fingerprints.

Sheriff Doug Whitson said the woman was Rita Ann Long, 39, of Sioux City, Iowa, according to FBI files.

He said Long was not wanted for any crime and the car she was driving was not stolen. It was registered in her ex-husband's name, but she apparently had possession of it.

Whitson said Long's mother, who lives in Stockton, Calif., is the only relative they have been able to locate and the sheriff's office is trying to find her.

Long had a male black Persian cat in the vehicle with her. She was still alive



Lynn Swayne with black Persian cat that survived a wreck which killed its owner.

Photo by Janet Craft/
The Goodland Daily News

See WOMAN, Page 7

Love contest begins Monday

Goodland merchants and *The Goodland Daily News* will team up Monday for a "Don't Gamble with Love" Valentine's week promotion.

When customers visit any participating business, they draw a playing card. Once customers collect a minimum of five cards, they can present their best five-card poker hand to *The Daily News* office no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 19.

The high poker hand will receive a \$50 gift certificate compliments of The Daily and Tender Love Home Care, good for any item or service at one participating business of the winner's choice.

The certificate must be redeemed in February. Jokers are wild, and in the event of a tie, heart cards rule.

Businesses that signed up by Thursday have already started giving out cards. Every participating store will have cards by 9:30 a.m. Monday.

While this promotion encourages customers to purchase goods or services from at least five of the businesses, no purchase is required. Shoppers may gather one card from each participating merchant during the week-long promotion. Saturday, Feb. 17, is the final day to collect cards.

"Don't Gamble with Love" this Valentine's week. Shop the participating merchants.

Participants as of today are: Aten Department Store, B-E's Jewelry, Kickers, McClung's Appliance & Furniture and Ray's Restaurant. See Monday's *Daily* for complete details.

Spelling 'sedate' wins bee for boy

By Janet Craft

The Goodland Daily News

Britt Zweygardt came out the winner in a fifth and sixth grade spelling bee Wednesday at Goodland's North School.

Zweygardt spelled the word "sedate" after Kathryn Craft, runner-up in the contest, misspelled it. Zweygardt then went on to spell "random" to win.

The bee, held in the school's multipurpose room, was attended by students, school staff and some parents.

Teacher Pam Hardy pronounced the words and Diane Koch and teachers Mike Nelson and Gail Walter were judges.

Zweygardt, a fifth grader in De Burkett's class, is the son of Kary Zweygardt of St. Francis and Sheila Walz-Wilkening of Goodland.

Craft, a fifth grader in Mary Frazier's class, is the daughter of Steve Craft of Edson and Janet Craft of Goodland.

For winning, Zweygardt received a "Scrabble" game, dictionary and thesaurus. Craft got a combination package of eight games and a dictionary.

The two will advance to the district spelling bee at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at the Goodland High School auditorium.

Two winners from Central School, four winners from North and four winners from Grant Junior High will compete in the district bee.

Grant was to hold its spelling bee Thursday and Central on Friday, but because of ice and snow, school was canceled both days.

At last year's fourth grade spelling bee at Central, Zweygardt won first



Fifth grader Britt Zweygardt stood at the microphone Wednesday afternoon to spell a word during the fifth and sixth grade spelling bee at North School. Contestants left were Kathryn Craft, Taylor Frazier and Landon Williams (left to right). Zweygardt won, and Craft took second.

Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News

place and Craft was runner-up, just the same as this year.

Other participants were Taylor Frazier, Landon Williams, Jenna McCall, Samantha Raymer, Nathan Linin, Am-

ber Walls, Dani Bedore, Nathan Heiter, Emily Linden, Jillian Parker, Kandace Meissinger, Crystal Hernandez, Christopher Irvin, Andrew Philbrick and Robert Borneman.