


weather report

24°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 5:37 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:20 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:38 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 32 degrees

• Humidity 81 percent

• Sky mostly cloudy

• Winds southwest 14 mph

• Barometer 30.09 inches and falling

• Record High 80° (1932)

• Record Low -16° (1960)

Last 24 Hours*

High 19°

Low 9°

Precipitation .12 inches

Snow 2 inches

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: cloudy, 30 percent chance of snow, low 20-25, south winds 10 mph. Tomorrow: mostly cloudy, high 40, northwest winds 10-15 mph.

Extended Forecast


Friday and Saturday: dry, high 40-45, low 15-20. Sunday: chance of rain and snow, high 35-40, low 15-20.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.82 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.67

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$2.00 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.90

Loan deficiency payment — 9¢

Milo — \$3.26 hundredweight

Soybeans — \$4.01 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.94

Loan deficiency payment — 96¢

Millet — \$6.50 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$6.50 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — \$3.59

Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$14 (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.

Storm kills three in wreck

TOPEKA — A winter blast dumped up to 8 inches of snow in northern and eastern sections of Kansas on Tuesday, spawning school closings and several accidents, including one that left three people dead near Ottawa.

The accident claimed the lives of one teen-ager and an elderly couple, who died when the teen’s car slid off an ice-packed Kansas Highway 268 in Osage County and collided head-on with the couple’s car.

The patrol identified the victims as Danielle M. Romesburg, 17, of Vassar, and Jesse Roberts, 74, and Florence Roberts, 78, both of Quenemo.

The National Weather Service said about 8 inches of snow was reported in Republic County along the Nebraska border, where all the schools had been closed before the snow started to fall about 7 a.m.

Hospital beats red ink for a month

Medical center reports record income in January, making for a small profit

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Daily News

Goodland Regional Medical Center reported record income of nearly \$1 million for January, producing a small profit and leading board members to hope that the big red figures are behind them.

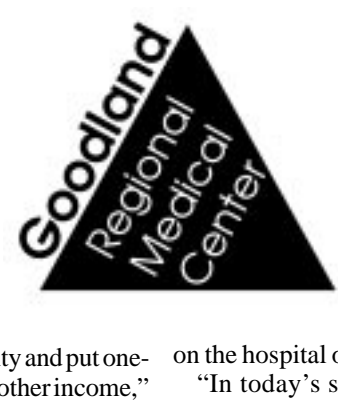
Management team leader Andy Laue told the board the gross patient revenue of \$988,148 in January was the largest he could remember since he has been in Goodland.

“It is the closest to \$1 million we have ever been, that I know of,” Laue said at a board meet-

ing Monday. “It also means the expenses were higher, too, but we did manage to show a small profit of \$6,795.”

The profit, said Laue, the hospital’s financial director, came mostly because of the revenue from the special county health tax, which brings the hospital a little under \$400,000 a year.

“I take the amount from the county and put one-twelfth in each month as part of the other income,”



he said.

On the financial reports, hospital operations lost \$30,433 in January, but after adding in investment income of \$1,832 and other income of \$35,228, the net income was \$6,795. The county revenue is over \$30,000 each month, and Laue said the goal is to at least break even

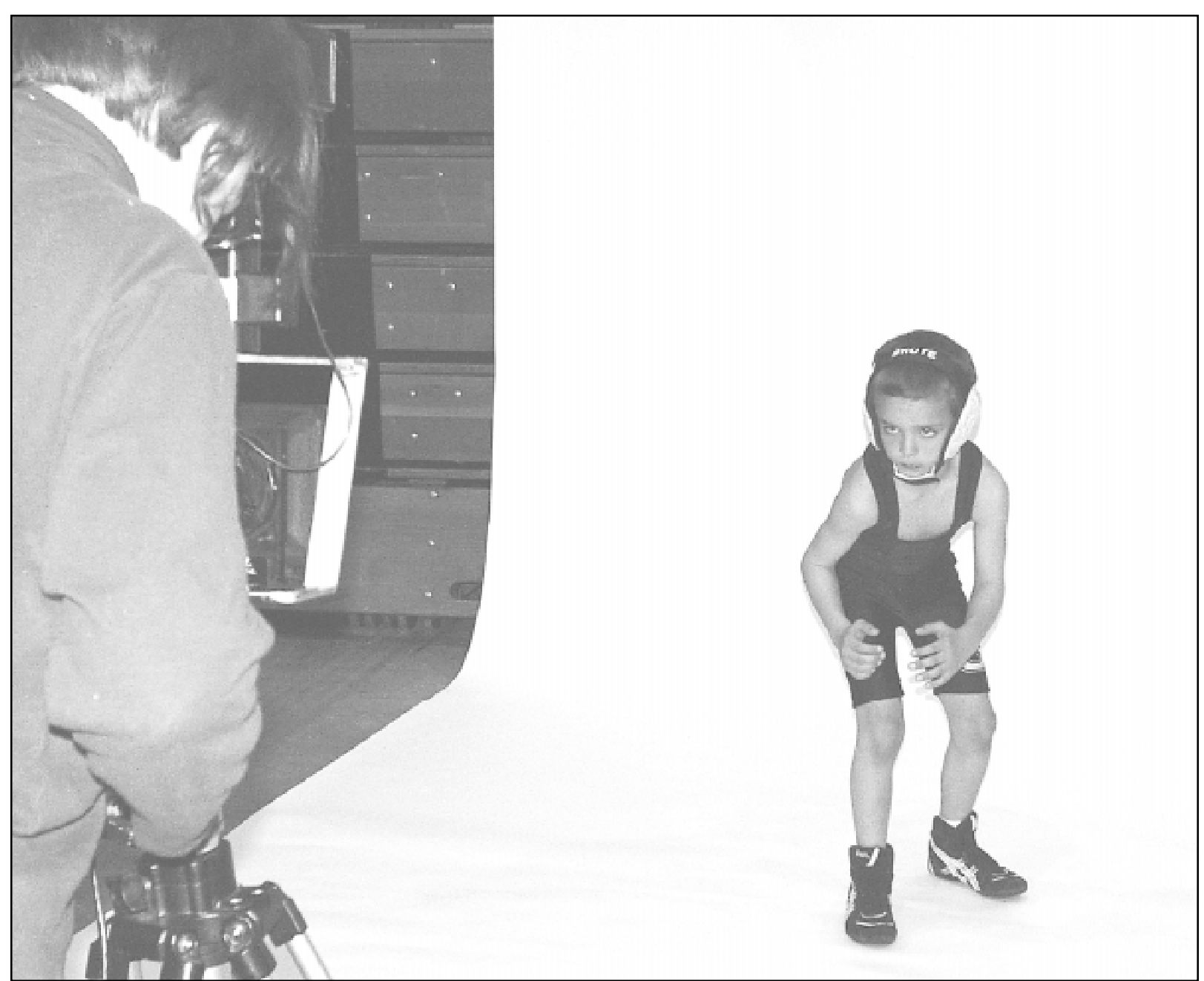
even,” he said. “It is very difficult with the changes in the various programs to actually make a profit.”

Over the past year, Congressman Jerry Moran and others worked on a federal bill to reverse some of the budget cuts which hit rural hospitals. These helped balance the federal budget, but caused some hospitals to close and put others in a tight financial bind.

A relief bill was passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton. Laue said the Kansas Hos-

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A moment in time



Jan Thomas, owner of A Moment in Time photography studio in Goodland, was at Max Jones Fieldhouse on Monday night taking pictures of young members of the Goodland Wrestling Club. The wrestlers were small, but like Seth Miller, they all knew how to put on a mean face. Seth, a second grader, is the son of Sean and Sandy Miller, Goodland. Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

Advanced voting starts next month

By Janet Craft
The Goodland Daily News

Sherman County residents can vote in advance if they need to for the general election in April.

County Clerk Janet Rumpel said the advance voting will be open at least a week before the election, which would be Tuesday, March 27, or earlier depending on when ballots are received. The election will be Tuesday, April 3.

Rumpel said when she gets the ballots, she checks them for errors before she opens the advance voting.

Races include three positions on the Goodland City Commission, three seats on the Goodland School Board and mayor and three seats on the Kanorado City Council.

Running for the Goodland commission are newcomers John Nichols, Brenda McCants and Dean Blume, and incumbents Chuck Lutters and Rick Billinger.

For the Goodland School Board, those who have filed include present board members Dick Short and Mike Campbell, and Ron Schilling, a former board member. Voters will get to pick three of the five.

Mayor Hazel Estes is running for reelection in Kanorado. For the council positions, candidates are Marshall Siruta, Greg Pettibone and Deb Fahey. There is one candidate for each seat, so it’s likely they’ll all be elected.

To vote in advance, residents need to come to the county clerk’s office at the courthouse and sign the poll book. If they are a registered voter, they will be given a ballot to mark. After they are done voting, the ballot is put in a locked

Weather cuts primary turnout

BREWSTER — Weather may have held down voter turnout in Tuesday’s primary election for a Brewster School Board position, but a three-way race kept things interesting.

While only 13 percent of registered voters turned out for the primary in nearby Colby, Brewster reported a 36 percent turnout, the Thomas County Clerk’s office reported.

The only contested race in the primary was for position 5 on the

school board. Two of the three candidates will now advance to the general election April 3.

Tony Horinek drew 51 votes, with Shane Benham close behind at 49. The third candidate, who was eliminated, was Kathy Long, with 18.

In the Brewster district, there were 201 eligible voters and 72 cast ballots. The same low turnout was pretty much the pattern all across the state, election officials reported, with the weather being the primary factor.

ballot box just like it would be if they were voting on election day.

If a voter has moved or changed their name, then they must register again before they can vote. They will have to fill out an application of registration form and will then be allowed to vote a provisional ballot, Rumpel said, which may or may not be counted.

If a voter is not registered, but wants to vote in this election, they may do so if they are a U.S. citizen who is 18 or older. Voters may get a registration form at either the city office or the courthouse. The forms must then be filled out and signed. Registration closes 14 days prior to every election, at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 19.

The county clerk’s office is open from 8 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The city clerk’s office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Students who are registered to vote

in Sherman County, but are at college, and residents who are going to be gone for the election, can apply for an advance ballot by mail. They need to allow time for the ballot to be mailed and returned by election day, at least two weeks. Late ballots are not counted.

For questions, you can call either the city or county clerk’s offices.

In Sherman County, residents of Ward 1 will vote on the second floor of the city building, Wards 2 and 3 in the fellowship hall of the United Methodist Church, and Ward 4 in the lobby of the courthouse.

Grant, Iowa, Llanos, Logan, McPherson, Shermanville, Smoky, Union and Washington townships will vote at the Methodist Church. Itasca, Lincoln and Voltaire townships on the north side of the courthouse lobby.

Residents of Kanorado and Stateline Township vote at the Kanorado Senior Citizen’s Center.

Street or skating rink?



Drivers maneuvered down snowy streets at 17th and Cattletrail on Tuesday evening after Goodland had received two inches of snow. Photo by Janet Craft/The Goodland Daily News