

The Goodland Daily News

MONDAY

**February 25
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50¢

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Eight Pages

Goodland, Kansas 67735

weather report

12°

at noon



Today

• Sunset, 5:34 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:24 a.m.

• Sunset, 5:35 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 38 degrees

• Humidity 73 percent

• Sky cloudy with snow

Blowing Snow Advisory

• Winds north 28-34 m.p.h.

• Barometer 30.30 inches

and rising

• Record High 75° (1989)

• Record Low -19° (1960)

Last 24 Hours*

High 51°

Low 18°

Precipitation none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: much colder and mostly

clear, lows near 0, winds north 10-

20 m.p.h. Tomorrow: sunny and

windy, high lower 20s, low mid teens,

winds northwest 20-30 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: cloudy, high mid 30s.

Thursday: mostly cloudy, high low

40s, low mid teens. Friday: partly

cloudy, high upper 40s, low 10s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Cowboys second at state

Five wrestlers place in the top six spots

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Cowboys pinned down second place at the Class 4A state wrestling tournament Saturday in Wichita, with five wrestlers grabbing medals and sophomore Jordan Bedore winning the 215-pound state championship.

Bedore, tears sprinkling his cheeks, ran out of the ring after his match and didn't talk for minutes. He paced along the front of the bleachers, then allowed himself a few brief smiles.

"I am very happy with our boys," said Coach Randy Bahe. "They worked hard this year, they put in a lot of effort, and they have done a good job."

Goodland finished with 100 points, right behind Clay Center with 104.5, and ahead of Columbus with 95, Colby with 77 and Norton with 72. Colby was the state champion last year, and this is Norton's first year back in Class 4A. Goodland placed eighth last year.

The Cowboys had been in fourth place Friday night, but came up with enough points on Saturday to finish just 4.5 points behind the lead.

See WRESTLING, Page 8



Dee Miller shoveled snow off the sidewalk in front of Koons Funeral Chapel this morning. After spring-like weather over the weekend, winter returned today, bringing snow and high winds.

Photos by Rachel Miscal/The Goodland Daily News

Changes certain in maps

Both sides dislike redistricting plans

TOPEKA (AP) — Revisions appear inevitable for a congressional redistricting bill awaiting debate in the Senate.

The proposal for redrawing the state's four U.S. House districts faces opposition from both parties — and from the state's four congressmen themselves.

"It's not dead, but it's certainly going to change," said Sen. Derek Schmidt, R-Independence, who drafted the map and got it endorsed by the Senate Reapportionment Committee.

Chief features of the map include the expansion of the 1st Congressional District along the northern tier of counties to the Missouri border and the redrawing of the 3rd District, now represented by Rep. Dennis Moore — the only Democrat in Kansas' congressional delegation.

The 3rd District would lose the city of Lawrence — part of Moore's political base — to the 2nd District, and would stretch from southern Leavenworth County into southeastern Kansas.

But many Republicans, too, have found fault with the map, saying it doesn't reflect their goals nor those of the party and the state's three GOP congressmen.

"The congressmen don't like it because it changes their districts too much," said Sen. Ed Pugh, R-Wamego.

Even the chairman of the Senate Reapportionment Committee doubts the map will be popular.

"We're trying to find out where the votes are," said Sen. David Adkins, R-Leawood. "I don't expect the Senate to enthusiastically support the committee's work product."

Kansas' four congressional districts, as well as its legislative and Board of Education districts, are being redrawn to adjust for population changes reflected in the 2000 census.

Sen. Tim Huelskamp, R-Fowler, a committee member who voted against the map, said he doesn't think the plan pleased Kansas' three Republican congressmen — Jerry Moran of the 1st District, Jim Ryun of the 2nd, and Todd Tiahrt of the 4th.

Huelskamp said that after the panel's vote, someone from the National Republican Campaign Committee called him to ask, "What's going on in Kansas?"

"They can't believe there would be anything that would justify jeopardizing Republican congressmen," he said. Huelskamp said he also spoke with Ryun, who was not pleased with the map.

Beyond wanting to have both Forts Leavenworth and Riley in his district, Ryun hasn't said what he prefers in a map. He also has said he would be pleased to represent Lawrence.

But other Republicans noted that from 1982 to 1992, Douglas County was in the 2nd District, and it was represented by Democrat Jim Slattery.

"It seems like whenever Lawrence is placed in the 2nd District, a Democrat wins the seat," said Rep. Doug Mays, R-Topeka. "It definitely seems to be a county that influences the district."

However, Democrats also oppose moving Lawrence from the 3rd District. They argue Lawrence has more in common with Johnson and Wyandotte counties than with Topeka and rural counties in the 2nd.

"This proposal is unacceptable," said Minority Leader Sen. Anthony Hensley, D-Topeka. "There is no way this map will come off the floor, the votes aren't there for it."

Republicans say Democrats are worried about Moore. The committee's map would move Linn and most of Bourbon county into the 3rd District from the 2nd.

"I think that district would probably hurt Dennis Moore more than any of them," said Sen. Susan Wagle, R-Wichita.

Tiahrt has told legislators he wants as little change as possible in his 4th District.

Landfill list tops agenda

Sherman County commissioners will approve a list of solid waste items that can be accepted at the county transfer station and go in the new landfill during Tuesday's regular meeting.

The list has been developed to make it clear what will be accepted. It also includes items that may be brought to the transfer station which can be accepted, but not buried.

The list also deals with yard waste, which the county is saying may not be placed in the landfill, but may be brought out to the transfer station to be composted.

During the meeting, the commissioners will have an update from Crystal Linsner on the status of the household hazardous waste program. There will be a telephone conference with Cathy Colglazier from the state Department of Health and Environment on the program, and other environmental questions the county may want to get cleared up.

The commissioners will consider the S&T Telephone long distance program and discuss networking computers in the courthouse.

The commissioners are to discuss and adopt a resolution calling the highway bonds and bridge bonds for payment. They are to be paid off with the money from the special 1/4 percent sales tax approved by citizens about three years ago. The sales tax has paid for the resurfacing of old U.S. 24 and the county portion of the new bridge west of Goodland near Caruso.

Commissioners are to consider a contract with Penco Engineering for bridge inspections.

Steve Evert, of the hospital ambulance service, is to appear to discuss the county portion of the purchase of a newer box-type ambulance to replace an older car.

Marry Messamore, head of county dispatch, is scheduled to have a closed session with the commissioners and Fred Hall and Darrell Cloyd on personnel.

Curt Way, county public works director, and Sheriff Doug Whitson also have asked for closed sessions to discuss personnel.

The commissioners meet at 8 a.m. in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway Ave.

Winter ices the town

High wind cancels class, basketball

By Rachel Miscal

The Goodland Daily News

Winter swept back in with a vengeance today, replacing sunshine and warmth with snow and wind and canceling classes, meetings and sports events.

A head-on crash was reported north of Kanorado, but roads, while slick, were still open.

Jeremy Martin, a meteorologist intern at the National Weather Service office here, said snow started to fall on Sherman County around 2:30 a.m. By 10:30 a.m., he said, 1.6 inches had accumulated, with up to 3 inches predicted in the county.

Martin said the combination of an Arctic cold front and upper level disturbance created the storm.

He said 3 inches had piled up around Atwood and Sharon Springs, where 2 to 5 inches of snow was expected to fall. He said counties northeast of Goodland will likely get the most snow.

The snow wasn't staying in one place, as Martin said winds gusting up to 40 mph were blowing it around, reducing visibility to a quarter of a mile and making driving dangerous.

He said the weather service issued a blowing snow advisory for the entire day.

No roads had been closed by 10:30 a.m., however.

There was a head-on collision reported at 10:40 p.m. three miles north of Kanorado on County Road 3. Goodland rescue workers were dispatched to the accident, where people were said to be trapped in a vehicle, but were called back within a few minutes as Burlington workers had already arrived and the people were on their way to the hospital in Burlington.

Martin said the winds were making it really cold. The temperature at



Nestor Montalvo was dressed for the weather this morning as he walked across the Wal-Mart parking lot after buying groceries.

the weather office was 24 degrees at 10:30 a.m., he said, but the wind chill factor was -12.

Students in Goodland made it to school this morning, but were sent home early. Superintendent Marvin Selby said classes were dismissed at 12:30 p.m. because the wind was causing drifts on county roads. He said a bus driver told him that it was hard to see ditches.

"I hope we can get students home..." he said, noting that some rural students may have to stay in town.

"Supposedly all of the children have in-town addresses where they can stay in severe weather. We may have to take them there."

He said the sub-state basketball game between the Goodland Cowgirls and the Norton Lady Blue Jays scheduled for 6 p.m. at Max Jones Fieldhouse has been moved to Wednesday at the same time and place.

The Goodland School Board will not

meet tonight. Selby said the meeting had been moved to Monday, March 4, because of the basketball game. One announcement said a hospital board meeting set for tonight had been canceled as well, but later hospital officials said it would be held at 6:30 p.m. at the hospital, as scheduled.

The Sherman County Conservation District annual meeting set for 6:30 p.m. at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall was rescheduled for Tuesday at the same time and place.

Martin said the snow should stop falling this afternoon as the storm moves southeast, but the winds should keep blowing throughout the day today and Tuesday.

He said temperatures are expected to drop below zero tonight and it won't be much warmer Tuesday. More seasonable temperatures were expected to return gradually, with highs in the 50s by the weekend.

local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$2.62 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.58

Corn — \$1.87 bushel

Posted county price — \$1.82

Loan deficiency payment — 17¢

Milo — \$1.59 bushel

Soybeans — \$3.75 bushel

Posted county price — \$3.77

Loan deficiency payment — \$1.15

Millet — \$3.25 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$9.75 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 33¢

Confection current — \$15/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$26

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, 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.

U.S. could send advisors

KABUL, Afghanistan — The United States may use military advisers to deter rival Afghan warlords from plunging the country back into civil war, a U.S. special envoy said.

Envoy Zalmay Khalilzad said maintaining order is Afghanistan's main challenge since the power of Afghanistan's interim administration is limited and establishment of a well-trained national army is months away.

The United States could send military advisers into conflict areas or use U.S. special forces already in place to act as advisers, Khalilzad said. The goal is to keep militias apart until a viable Afghan army can be established, Khalilzad said. That is difficult because warlords who hold sway across much of the countryside outside Kabul may be reluctant to turn over their armed men to a single command.