

**weather report**

**55°**

at noon



**Today**

• Sunset, 4:30 p.m.

**Tomorrow**

• Sunrise, 7:06 a.m.  
• Sunset, 4:30 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil Temperature 31 degrees
- Humidity 18 percent
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds west northwest 11 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.14 inches and rising
- Record High 74° (1980)
- Record Low -8° (1924)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High 41°  
Low 7°  
Precipitation none

**Northwest Kansas Forecast**

Tonight: mostly clear and mild, low mid 20s, winds west 10-15 m.p.h.  
Tomorrow: mostly sunny, high mid 60s, low upper 20s, winds west 10-15 m.p.h.

**Extended Forecast**

Sunday: partly sunny, high mid 60s, low near 20. Monday: partly cloudy, high upper 30s. Tuesday: partly cloudy, high mid 40s, low mid teens. Wednesday: partly cloudy, high lower 40s, low upper teens.

(National Weather Service)

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

\* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

**local markets**

**Noon**

- Wheat — \$3.53 bushel
- Posted county price — \$3.53
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Corn — \$2.45 bushel
- Posted county price — \$2.26
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Milo — \$2.22 bushel
- Soybeans — \$5.17 bushel
- Posted county price — \$5.07
- Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
- Millet — \$10.00 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$10.75 cwt.
- Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
- Confection current — \$17/\$7 cwt.
- Pinto beans — \$16

(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.

**Korea wants inspectors out**

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea ordered the expulsion today of U.N. nuclear inspectors and announced it will reactivate a laboratory able to produce weapons-grade plutonium. The U.N. nuclear agency said its investigators were "staying put" for now.

The White House denounced Pyongyang's moves, which are certain to escalate tensions over Pyongyang's plan to unfreeze nuclear facilities shut down in a deal with the United States in 1994.

The inspectors were the last means that the International Atomic Energy Agency had to monitor whether the facilities are being used for nuclear weapons projects. Despite IAEA warnings, the North removed monitoring seals and surveillance cameras from the nuclear complex at Yongbyon earlier this week.

## Group claims to have cloned a human

By Malcolm Ritter

AP Science Writer

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — A member of a sect that believes life on Earth was created by extraterrestrials claimed today to have produced the world's first human clone, a baby girl — but didn't offer any proof.

The 7-pound baby was born Thursday by Caesarean section and will be home in three days, said Brigitte Boisselier, a chemist and CEO of a company that did the experiment. She wouldn't say where the baby was born;

she did say the birth was at 11:55 a.m. local time.

Other scientists expressed doubt that her group could clone a human. And a federal official said the matter would be investigated to see if any laws were broken.

Boisselier said the baby, dubbed "Eve" by the scientists, is a clone of a 31-year-old American woman. The woman donated the DNA for the cloning process, had the resulting embryo implanted and then gestated the baby, Boisselier said. If confirmed, that

would make the child an exact genetic duplicate of her mother — the same as an identical twin.

Boisselier, who wouldn't reveal any names, said the mother had resorted to cloning because her husband was infertile.

"The baby is very healthy," she said. "The parents are happy. I hope you remember them when you talk about this baby — not like a monster, like some results of something that is disgusting."

Boisselier did not immediately present DNA evidence showing a ge-

netic match between mother and daughter.

Michael Guillen, a former science editor at ABC-TV, told reporters at the news conference he was lining up "independent world-class experts" to perform DNA tests on the mother and baby. He said he was not being paid by Clonaid.

Boisselier said results would come within nine days.

"You can still go back to your office and treat me as a fraud," she said. "You have one week to do that."

Most scientists, already skeptical of Boisselier's ability to produce a human clone, will probably demand to know exactly how the DNA testing was done before they believe the announcement.

"We'll wait and see, I guess. I'm still a skeptic and I'm hoping that it's not true," said University of Georgia cloning expert Steve Stice.

Boisselier said she expects four more babies — from North America, Europe and two from Asia — to be born in a few

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## Convention board tops county agenda

The Sherman County commissioners are wondering what they'll have to deal with Monday when they consider appointments to the Convention and Visitors Bureau board Monday.

The agency which is supposed to nominate members to the tourism board was terminated early this month from its management contract for the board, and the commissioners so far have no recommendations for board members.

When they gather at 8 a.m. for their final meeting of the year, commissioners also will make appointments to the Good Samaritan Center advisory board and the Sherman County Economic Development Council.

The 10 members of the Convention and Visitors Bureau board all serve one-year terms based on the state law and a county resolution approved in 1991. Of the 10, at least 6 must come from the hotel and motel industry.

The commissioners may not make any appointments next week, because the resolution says the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce is supposed to provide a list of recommendations for appointment, but County Clerk Janet Rumpel said today no such list has come in.

There are three appointments to be made to the Good Samaritan Center advisory board.

The Sherman County Economic Development Council has recommended that board members John Garcia and Larry Harper be appointed to full three-year terms.

The council was created by resolution this summer, and Garcia and Harper were elected to terms which expire at the end of December. The resolution calls for the council to recommend appointments to the commissioners.

Royal Reid, chairman of the Economic Development Council is to appear and talk to the commissioners about some wording problems in the resolution. In one section, the resolution says the council members will be appointed for two-year terms, but later in the same paragraph it says the terms are to be three years.

There is also a question about wording in the resolution which appears to allow the council to create a petty cash fund. The county is creating a fund by resolution, but Reid said that may not be necessary based on the wording of the resolution. The interpretation will be up to the county attorney and the accountants.

On another legal matter, County Attorney Bonnie Selby and Attorney Perry Warren are working on a proposal dealing with the outstanding property taxes on the old Gibson's Discount Center at K-27 and Business U.S. 24. The proposal is to have the county assign their interest to Atlantic National Trust and it will be up to the commissioners to determine if this is the best course based on the attorney's advice.

The commissioners will hear a request from Kenny Sanderson, a member of the Smoky Gardens board, about operation of the county fishing lake south of Goodland.

The board will consider writing off some old noxious weed bills. Weed control manager Daryl West presented a list of old accounts totaling about \$800.

The commissioners are to approve the final list of bills to be paid for the year.

The next commissioner meeting will be 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 7, in the commissioner room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway Ave.

## Shopping for holiday bargains



Penney's employee Elizabeth Riley (below left) was busy Thursday changing prices on clothes as part of the after-Christmas sale. Tiffany Wing and her daughter Laura (above) were two of the many people looking for bargains at Penney's. Julia Serrano of Bird City (below) was one of the few shoppers at Wal-Mart early Thursday morning returning items from Christmas. Wal-Mart associate Connie Cullens helped her. Manager Brad Koza said this year they only have one line for returns and have had very few compared to past seasons.

Photos by Bill Wagoner and Michelle Hawkins / The Goodland Daily News



## Family trades Christmas greetings on well-traveled card

By Michelle L. Hawkins

The Goodland Daily News

Do you ever feel like you get the same Christmas cards from the same people, year after year? For one Goodland family, that's the way it is — they've gotten the same card for the past 32 years.

Ron and Debbie Lucas grew up in the small town of Bunker Hill, Ill., where their friends, Kayellen and Ted Acuncius, still live. Kayellen was the Lucases' high school class and her husband was a few years older.

The couples have been friends since childhood. At Christmas in 1970, the first year after they were married, Ron and Debbie received a holiday card from the Acunciuses in Bun-



Lucas

ker Hill.

In 1971, as Debbie was preparing to send out Christmas cards, she ran across the card from Kayellen and Ted from the previous year. As a joke, she thought it would be cute to cross out the couple's names, re-address the card and send it back to them.

In 1972, Ron and Debbie received their annual greeting from Kayellen and Ted, and oddly enough, it was the same card — this time with Ron and Debbie's names crossed out.

"I did it as a joke," said Debbie. "I wasn't thinking it would go on for 32 years."

The Lucases have lived in Goodland for the past 20 years, but during the early years of their marriage, Ron was in the Army and their family moved throughout the United States. One remaining holiday standard is the card exchanged between the couples. Of course, the big worry each year is that the card might get lost in the mail.

Debbie says the 32-year-old card has a great deal of family history. As the couples had children, names were added, and as they left home, they were once again omitted. Names of the family pets who have come and gone even are written throughout the card.

At one point, Kayellen and Ted were divorced and she remarried. She kept the card and continued the tradition. As the years passed, she and her new husband were divorced and she remarried Ted.

Debbie said her husband is an organized person and so is Kayellen.

"Without the organization of the two of them, the card would have been lost by now," she said. "Thirty-two years is a long time."

Although nobody planned it that way, both families enjoy seeing the card when it comes. Plus, said Debbie, there is still plenty of room on the back for the tradition to go on for years to come.

## Man arrested in court on meth charges

By Karen Krien

The Saint Francis Herald

A misdemeanor trial in St. Francis had a surprise ending when one of the defendants was arrested for having a methamphetamine lab at his business in Kanorado.

Scott Baumfalk, Kanorado, and Rell Zimbleman, St. Francis, were on trial Monday evening in magistrate court on misdemeanor charges including: criminal trespassing and disorderly conduct in an incident Dec. 22, 2001, at the home of Dennis and Mary Merklin, and their children, Chris and Heather.

The men had been accused of making threats in an attempt to recover a purse allegedly stolen by Chris Merklin from Tamera Zimbleman, Rell Zim-

bleman's estranged wife and Cheyenne County district magistrate judge, earlier that day. Judge Zimbleman faces charges of intimidation in the case, but has not gone to trial.

Retired Judge J. Stephen Nyswonger presided in the trial. The six-man jury acquitted Zimbleman on both counts and Baumfalk on criminal trespassing, but found him guilty of disorderly conduct. The judge had handed down Baumfalk's sentence of 29 days in jail, fines and court charges and the jury was dismissed. Court was over.

Then city and county law officers, Kansas Bureau of Investigation agents and Quad-County Drug Task Force officers marched to Baumfalk's table, where he sat, and arrested him.

Baumfalk was read his rights and charged with having a methamphetamine lab in his Kanorado garage, which agents had raided hours before.

Earlier, using a search warrant the Sherman County Sheriff's Department, Goodland Police, Kansas Bureau of Investigation and task force agents had searched Baumfalk's shop in Kanorado. They found and dismantled an alleged methamphetamine lab. Baumfalk was taken to the Sherman County Bastille on charges of manufacturing meth, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of amphetamine and possession of ammonia.

Over the weekend, Baumfalk's wife, Crystal, was arrested on a single count of manufacture of methamphetamine.

## First baby of year will win gifts

By Eric Yonkey

The Goodland Daily News

More than 20 merchants and donors will shower the first baby born at Goodland Regional Medical Center in 2003 and his or her parents with some great gifts.

Sponsors include the medical center, which has a gift basket for the youngster; Unruh Family Chiropractic Center, a free first adjustment for baby; Klip 'N Kurl, first haircut; Bankwest of Kansas, baby's \$50 savings bond; Garcia's Home Furnishings and Appliance, 15 percent off a rocking chair or glider; Elliott's Inc., Armetale Alphabet Plate; Goodland Pizza Hut, free medium pizza with pop. The Goodland Daily News, one-

year subscription; Goodland Kiwanis and KLOE Radio, celebration advertising supporters; and McDonald's, El Dorado Western Wear, Aten Department Store, Wal-Mart Supercenter and Jacque's Hallmark, \$25 gift certificates.

Other donors include the United Methodist Church Quilters, baby quilt; B-E's Jewelry, Rasure Do-It Center, First National Bank, Serendipity Flower Shop, State Farm Insurance-Jim Neal Agency and Knott Just Books.

Contact Dale Schields at the hospital in case The Daily News advertising staff was unable to reach your business and you would like to donate a gift.