

**weather
report**

43°

at noon

Today

• Sunset, 4:39 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 7:07 a.m.

• Sunset, 4:40 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 37 degrees
- Humidity 76 percent
- Sky overcast
- Winds northwest 5 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.49 inches and rising
- Record High 68° (1965)
- Record Low -13° (1974)

Last 24 Hours*

High 43°
Low 22°
Precipitation none

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Tonight: mostly clear, low 25-30, winds southwest 10 m.p.h.
Tuesday: mostly sunny, high upper 50s, low upper 20s, winds west 10 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: sunny, high mid 60s, low mid 20s. Thursday: partly cloudy, high upper 40s. Friday: mostly clear, high mid 30s, low 15-20. Saturday: mostly clear, high upper 30s, low near 20. Sunday: mostly clear, high upper 30s, low mid 20s.

(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 — \$3.46
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$2.41 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.21
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$2.18 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.37 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.21
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$10.00 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$10.25 cwt.
NuSun — \$11.30 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Confection — \$17/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$16

(Markets 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.

**Saddam hits
U.N. team**

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Saddam Hussein accused U.N. inspectors of engaging in “intelligence work” instead of searching for suspected nuclear, chemical and biological weapons in Iraq.

The inspectors were interested in collecting names of Iraqi scientists, putting questions to them that indicate “hidden agendas” and gathering information about military facilities, the Iraqi president said in a televised speech today marking Iraq’s Army Day.

“All or most” of such activities “constitute purely intelligence work,” Saddam said.

In Vienna, Melissa Fleming, a spokeswoman for the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency, said if inspectors are gathering intelligence, “it’s ... for the United Nations.”

First baby grabs load of loot

At 11:09 a.m. Thursday, the Sherman County population grew by one with the birth of Matthew Logan Lalicker, the first baby of the new year born at Goodland Regional Medical Center.

Matthew, the new son of Dewayne and Lori Lalicker, 259 Cherry Ave., was 6 pounds, 2 ounces and 17 inches long. He was born by cesarean section. Attending physicians were Dr. Natalie Griego and Dr. David Younger, with the assistance of the nursing and surgical staff of the hospital.

Matthew has two brothers and a sister. Ryan is 2, Trista, 17 and Brett, 15.

Grandparents are Al and Hilda Price and Ray Lalicker and Shirley Dupsky, all of Goodland.

Hospital Administrator Jay Jolly said the hospital and staff are pleased that the Goodland couple are the parents of the first baby of the year at the hospital.

“We appreciate the confidence the Lalicker family has shown in sharing their birth experience with our staff,” Jolly said. “The hospital is pleased to have been a part of this special time in the lives of this local family.”

As the first baby, Matthew and his parents will be showered with gifts from over 20 Goodland merchants and donors as the winner of the First Baby of the Year contest, sponsored by Goodland merchants and *The Goodland Daily News*.

Sponsors include Goodland Regional Medical Center, Klip’n Kurl, Bankwest of Kansas, Gar-



Matthew Logan Lalicker, the first baby of the year in Goodland, rested in his mother Lori’s arms, with father Dewayne and brother Ryan alongside. Photo by Michelle Hawkins / The Goodland Daily News

cia’s Home Furnishing and Appliance, Elliott’s, Pizza Hut, McDonald’s, El Dorado Western Wear, Aten Department Store, Wal-Mart

Supercenter, Jacque’s Hallmark, United Methodist Church Quilters, B-E’s Jewelry, Rasure Lumber Do-

It Center, First National Bank, Serendipity Flower Shop, State Farm Insurance Jim Neal Agency, Knott Just Books, Unruh Family Chiropractic and *The Daily News*.



By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

Usually, the end-of-the-year list has the top 10 stories of the year, but Goodland and Sherman County had nine top stories in 2002, with a collection of interesting, troubling and weird tales taking the final slot.

Here is the list, compiled by the staff of *The Goodland Daily News*.

1 The top story of the year was trash, which was in the news most of the year. The county got into recycling, the city talked about selling its trash-collection business and a Colorado firm said it would haul the junk out of state, leaving the county’s expensive new landfill without its largest customer.

In February, the city and county joined the Southeast and East Central Colorado Recycling system. They set up three sites in the city to join an existing one in Kanorado. The voluntary program has been so successful that the city had to add additional containers for paper by the end of the year.

City-county trash problems began in March, when the county transfer station refused to accept a couple of city loads because they contained material that was not to go into the county’s new landfill. This created a storm with the city commissioners and citizens, who were give a list of materials they could not throw into the dumpsters.

The city and county held joint sessions to try to resolve the growing conflict, and in the summer the city agreed to hire two part-time people to sort the trash at the transfer station. City commissioners decided they were tired of the trash headache and solicited proposals from companies interested in taking over the trash collection sys-



The capitol dome in Topeka (above) has a new statue, but the bronze traveled through many Kansas cities before it was placed. Goodland was the first to welcome Ad Astra. Goodland’s cone zone (above left) came to an end when the intersection at K-27 and Business U.S. 24 was finished.

tem.

Two groups submitted preliminary proposals, with Randy Topliff representing a local group and U.S. Waste Industries of Colorado Springs the outside bidder. The city commission considered both proposals and decided to negotiate with the Colorado Springs company in September.

The county commissioners felt

the trash going out of the county would hurt their the landfill operation. The newly organized Economic Development Council got the city and county together to look at what might be done.

At the same time, the county started a household hazardous waste program and held the first collection in September, bringing in over five tons of domestic waste

products. The next collection is scheduled for April.

In November, the county and city commissioners agreed to discussions on having the county take over the city’s trash collection. In December, the two commissions agreed on an outline to continue negotiations. U.S. Waste Industries decided to withdrawn its proposal until the city and county had completed their pro-

Secret meeting plan OK

*Judge says Sebelius
not yet state official*

TOPEKA (AP) — He wasn’t happy about it, but a Shawnee County judge ruled today that government review teams appointed by Gov.-elect Kathleen Sebelius could meet in secret.

The 14 news organizations, including the Associated Press, that sued Sebelius over the meetings plan to appeal, their attorney said.

District Judge Eric Rosen ruled the Kansas Open Meetings Act did not cover the teams because Sebelius won’t have the full powers of the governor’s office until she takes office Jan. 13. The law generally requires government boards and commissions to hold public meetings.

In his ruling, Rosen strongly rebuked Sebelius for closing the meetings, and he expressed dissatisfaction with the current law and the fact it does not apply to such task forces until Sebelius becomes governor.

“When meetings that directly impact public policy of our state occur out of the public eye or ear, our democracy is put in jeopardy,” Rosen wrote. “Thus, had the court been provided with a legal option to do so, it would have most certainly ordered the BEST team meetings open.”

2002 Year’s top stories

cess.

The story continues into the new year, with plans for a public meeting to allow people to hear the details before the commissioners make final decisions. The majority of the county commission feels it is better not to let the trash go out of the county, but the county would rather not take over the trash collection. A majority of the city commission would prefer to see the county handle the trash collection, but the city still wants out of the trash business.

2 The second story of the year revolved around businesses opening and closing. It peaked at the end of March, when Alco Discount Store made a sudden announcement and closed the doors after 32 years of business in downtown Goodland. The Alco officials said the store was not doing well and they were at the end of the current lease. The closure left a big hole in the downtown, but it was only the first of several, including Second Chance restaurant, the two C-Mart stores at 8th and Caldwell and 17th and Caldwell as part of a bankruptcy by parent Vista Stores, the Kentucky Fried Chicken store (also a bankruptcy) and Ray’s Cafe closed after being cited for health code violations. Out on the highway, M & M Truck sales closed.

There were plenty of new businesses springing up, though: Picnic in the Park chicken, Sight and Sound, Daylight Donut, JMS Financial Services and People’s State Bank opened on Main Street. Meg’s Pots ’n’ Things opened at 810 Beaver Drive and Crisstoria Creations opened at