

weather report

43°

at noon



Today

•Sunset, 4:58 p.m.

Tomorrow

•Sunrise, 7:00 a.m.

•Sunset, 4:59 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 30 degrees
- Humidity 70 percent
- Sky cloudy
- Winds northwest 10 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.21 inches and falling
- Record High 71° (1970)
- Record Low -7° (1957)

Last 24 Hours*

High 22°
Low 8°
Precipitation trace

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low mid 20s, winds southwest 5-10 m.p.h.
Saturday: partly sunny with 30 percent chance of snow at night, high lower 50s, low near 20, winds southwest 5-10 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

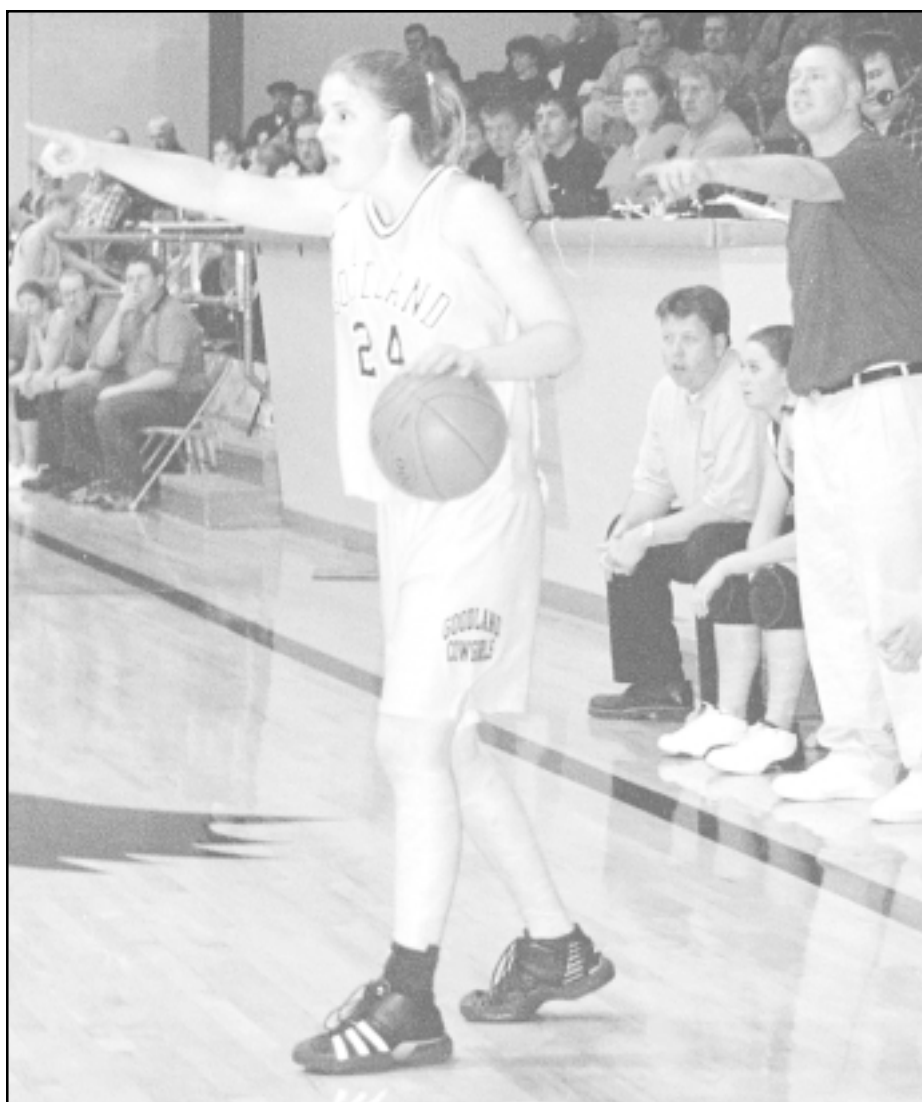
Sunday: mostly cloudy with 20 percent chance of snow in the morning, high mid 30s, low lower 20s. Monday: partly cloudy, high mid 50s. Tuesday: mostly cloudy, high near 50, low mid 20s. Wednesday: mostly cloudy, high upper 40s, low mid 20s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

*Readings taken at 7 a.m.

Cowgirls pointed to win



Justene Koehler (left) fought off defenders from Ulysses in Thursday nights game of the Orange and Black Classic. Goodland won the game, 47-27. Jayci Stone (above) told her teammates where she needed them, while behind her, the Ulysses coach instructed his girls as well. See page 10, for complete game results.
Photos by Michelle L. Hawkins/The Goodland Daily News

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$3.31 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$3.27
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 - Corn — \$2.40 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$2.19
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 - Milo — \$2.17 bushel
 - Soybeans — \$5.16 bushel
 - Posted county price — \$5.07
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 - Millet — \$10.00 hundredweight
 - Sunflowers
 - Oil current crop — \$9.55 cwt.
 - NuSun — \$10.80 cwt.
 - Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
 - Confection — \$17/\$7 cwt.
 - Pinto beans — \$15
- (Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

County offers to pay for sorting trash

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The Sherman County commissioners decided Tuesday they would offer to pay for the labor to sort the trash at the transfer station if the city would keep the collection system and help keep the construction and demolition material out of the dumpsters.

A similar suggestion was made by City Commissioner Curtis Hurd at the recent public forum on trash. Hurd said at the forum that the simple solution to the present situation was for the county to hire the help to sort the trash, and the city would keep the collection system.

An audience of 10 people attended the commissioner meeting, and had several comments and questions for the commissioners.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said he favored the county taking over the trash collection because it would

bring the whole system under a single department, and that would clear up most of the apparent confusion.

"The bottom line is I don't want to see it go out of the county," Rasure said. "I wouldn't consider having the county take this on if it doesn't pay for itself."

"I don't see the city changing their mind. They want out of the trash business," Elmer Jacobs said.

One member of the audience asked "Why should we take on their problems? This is a city responsibility, and they should handle the collection."

Again the question was asked "Why don't you let the city turn it over to BFI or somebody?"

"That won't solve the problem," Rasure said. "We will continue to run the landfill, and we felt the trash leaving the county and the money it represents would be a detriment to

the county consumer."

There was a question about the need to raise the fees to operate the system and replace the trucks.

Rasure said the budget he had developed in November, based on the figures provided by the city, appeared to provide enough money to cover the operation costs and have enough to plan for vehicle replacement and a new building to house the trucks.

"I don't believe the system would need to raise collection fees for at least two years," Rasure said. "The city system is not losing money now, but they said it is breaking even."

One reason given by the city for wanting out of the trash collection is that it takes too much time and that the effort could be better spent on streets and other city needs.

Larry Enfield said if this is why the city wants out won't handling the collection system take time

away from the county commissioners efforts?

"I think it will take less time with a department head to handle all the system," Rasure said.

Looking at the tipping fee Commissioner Tiede noted that while the city is collecting the fee on a monthly basis to have \$130,000-\$140,000, they actually paid the county \$93,287 the past year. He said Kevin Butts paid about \$15,000 in tipping fees.

"Sorting seems to be the problem," Lloyd Harden said, "but the city would still have the billing and some sorting even if the county took the collection over. I feel it should be the city's problem."

The person who brings the load out to the transfer station is responsible for sorting it, Tiede said, and that goes for the county people who bring their trash they have to sort it as well.

Curt Way, county public works manager, said the sign at the entrance to the transfer station has always said that the sorting is the responsibility of the one bringing in the trash.

"We're doing everything that we can except the pick-up," Way said. "Sorting is a concern at all small landfills."

"The construction and demolition debris is what got us to this problem," he said. "We have the best setup for handling solid waste of any county around here, and we had an inspection by the state on Jan. 8, and they found no violations of any regulations."

Rasure said he had to applaud the users for their recycling efforts because they have reduced the tonnage over the past two years.

"I can't see an outside company

See TRASH, Page 8

Goodland alumnus returns to fill city inspector position

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Daily News

If Goodland's new building official looks familiar, it's because he isn't exactly new to the job. Steve Criswell, who started the job Monday, Jan. 13, worked for the city from November of 1978 until May of 1984.

Criswell said he was the assistant building official for most of those years and then was the building official for a year before moving to Anchorage, Ala., in 1984. Criswell returned to the midwest in November of 2001, moving to Denver.

But family and the Goodland lifestyle called Criswell back. He applied for the job of building official. Criswell said, before moving back but decided to move here whether he got the job or not.

Criswell said he's glad things worked out the way they did and that things are going well so far. There have been a lot of changes to the building codes, he said, and it will take some time to get up to speed.

"But the people in Goodland are easy to work with," he said, "and



Criswell

they haven't run me off yet."

Criswell said he wanted to be closer to his family: his parents Stan and Wilma Criswell, brother Tony Criswell and sisters Darla Lee

and Eileen Dautel. And he longed for the slower lifestyle and the lower cost of living in Goodland.

The cost of living in Anchorage is comparable to that in Denver, he said, since the chain stores came in. Though many areas of Alaska are so remote people go to the store once a year, Criswell said, life in Anchorage is fast-paced.

It's not a depressed economy in Alaska, he said, since there is a lot of oil drilling there. People's expectations of hitting oil are high, he said. But the growing economy in Alaska doesn't keep people warm in the winter.

Criswell said he also missed the winters here. The winters here are

nothing compared to Alaska's winters. It's not unusual, he said, for there to be 100 inches of snow on the ground there. It starts snowing in October, he said, and doesn't thaw until April.

Criswell said he moved to Goodland in the late 60s and took his sophomore through senior years at Goodland High School. After graduating, he said, he went to the vocational technical school majoring in communications technology.

He graduated from the school in 1971, Criswell said, and then served in the Army for 7 1/2 years.

After that, Criswell said he came back to Goodland and was the assistant building official under Bob Cowan.

He was in commercial property management in Anchorage, Criswell said, and had a full service brokerage. Now Criswell will be enforcing building codes, electrical codes, city ordinances and zoning codes.

And he's determined to make the job a success.

"I'm going to work hard," he said.

Visitor bureau board elects Neill president

By Michelle L. Hawkins

The Goodland Daily News

At the Convention and Visitors Bureau meeting on Tuesday, the board re-elected Dale Neill as president of the executive board and elected Marilyn Collett as the secretary/treasurer.

Along with the election, the other major item of business was approval of the 2003 budget.

Members went over individual items, specifically where advertising money is being spent.

After a lengthy discussion, it was determined to approve the proposed budget of \$104,160.

Other items of business included:

- Viewing a short film project to send to the Kansas Film Commission. The project will be viewed by location managers, film producers and television networks to present Goodland as a possible location to shoot a film.

The entire presentation project cost \$1,500. S&T Telephone donated \$1,000 and asked the Convention and Visitors Bureau and

Sherman County Economic Development to split the \$500 balance. The board voted to contribute \$250 to the project.

If Goodland is approved as the sight of the film, it could bring in 100 or more people — with the crew and actors — into the community for six to nine weeks. The board felt this would be a great economic contribution to the community since an estimated \$1 million dollars would be spent in the area.

•The board decided not to advertise this year with several advertising outlets which they have advertised with in the past. Two of the marketing projects that will be dropped are *Travel Kansas*, a travel insert which goes into the *Wichita Times* and the *Golf Preview Magazine*, inserted into the *Kansas City Star*.

•Progress of the Travel Guide was discussed and a committee was formed to help establish what is important and should be presented in the guide.

afternoon wire

Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Arctic blast grips East

Bitter cold gripped the eastern two-thirds of the country today, choking northern harbors with ice, shutting down schools and setting more record low temperatures.

Residents of North Carolina's Outer Banks were digging out of up to a foot of snow. But citrus growers in Florida breathed a bit easier because overnight temperatures stayed a shade above the threshold where serious crop damage can appear.

In North Carolina, a fire at a substation knocked out power to about 31,000 residents around the Raleigh suburb of Apex on Friday morning, and repairs weren't expected until after nightfall.

"I don't even know what time it is right now," Aimee Allen said. "We're trying to stay in bed."