

weather
report

45°
at noon



Today

•Sunset, 5:21 p.m.

Tomorrow

•Sunrise, 6:39 a.m.

•Sunset, 5:22 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 32 degrees
- Humidity 62 percent
- Sky overcast
- Winds south 18 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.96 inches and falling
- Record High 75° (1999)
- Record Low -8° (1936)

Last 24 Hours*

High 57°
Low 17°
Precipitation none

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Friday: mostly cloudy with 20 percent chance of rain, high near 50, low mid 20s, winds north 15 m.p.h. Saturday: mostly cloudy, high upper 30s, low lower 20s.

Extended Forecast

Sunday: partly cloudy, high lower 50s. President's Day: partly cloudy, high upper 50s, low mid 20s. Tuesday: partly cloudy, high upper 40s, low mid 20s. Wednesday: cloudy, high upper 40s, low lower 20s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.39 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.41
Corn — \$2.45 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.24
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$2.22 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.23 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.07
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$10 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$9.30 cwt.
NuSun — \$10.30 cwt.
New crop NuSun — \$11.50
Confection — \$17/\$7 cwt.
New Crop — \$17/\$10 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$15
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside
today

More local
news and
views from
your
Goodland
Star-News



Ag Expo
draws crowd

Over 30 booths were set up on the floor of Max Jones Fieldhouse Thursday for the 12th annual High Plains Ag Expo. There were several speakers and a ham-and-bean feed for those attending. The even is sponsord by KLOE, KKCI and KWGB. See photo on Page 3

Plane crashes; pilot escapes injury

A twin-engine Piper plane carrying UPS packages from McCook to Goodland crashed in a rugged area of northeast Sherman County about 8 p.m. Wednesday, but the pilot walked away uninjured.

The plane, from Key Lime Air, a sub-contractor for United Parcel Service, was heading to Goodland to make a drop-off and then return to McCook. The pilot, Tate Baloun, told Sheriff Doug Whitson he lost power in both engines and he was forced to land about 10 1/2 miles north of Renner Field.

When the plane came down, Baloun said, he was banking to the left and was having difficulty getting the landing gear down. He said he was working to get the gear down manually when the left wing hit the ground, and he was unable to get it all the way down.

The plane landed on top of a hill in Conservation Reserve Program grassland and skidded about 200 yards down the hill, Whitson said.

The Federal Aviation Administrator investigators from Wichita were on their way to the crash and were expected to arrive Thursday afternoon.

Baloun walked to John and Tracy McCoy's house off of County Road 25 between Roads 74 and 75, about a half mile away. Whitson said he was uninjured.

Tracy McCoy called a neighbor, Ken Klemm, of the Klemm Buffalo Ranch, to say she had the pilot in her living room. Klemm said he called 911 to report the crash, and was heading out to McCoy's house when Sheriff Whitson drove into his yard. He told the sheriff to go to McCoy's.

Shortly after the plane went down, the emergency locator beacon began sounding and the Kansas



Sherman County Sheriff Doug Whitson examined a fuel tank on the right wing of a plane which crashed north of Goodland on Wednesday night.

Highway Patrol and sheriff's offices in Thomas, Cheyenne and Sherman counties were notified of the downed aircraft. FAA officials gave out several possible locations.

The authorities began looking for the plane in part of Thomas and Sherman counties. Using the beacon, they narrowed the search to the northeast part of Sherman County about the time the pilot showed up.

Whitson said a pilot of another plane headed to Goodland saw a light from the ground and reported it.

"He had heard the pilot give out a 'mayday' before going down,"

day night. The pilot, the only one in the plane, walked away from the crash uninjured.

Photo by Michelle L. Hawkins/The Goodland Star-News

Whitson said. "and when he saw the light he knew it was from the plane.

Whitson said the unknown pilot flew on to Goodland and then went back up to help in he search.

"I saw the plane circling to the north of where we were searching and followed him," the sheriff said,

"and then we got the call from Klemm and I knew we had it solved."

Sheriff deputies were stationed at the scene to keep it secure for the federal investigators.

"That guy had an angel on his shoulder," Whitson said, looking at the wreck.

Dr. McCullough called up during Korea

By Sharon Corcoran

The Goodland Star-News

A Goodland doctor served in two wars, enlisting during World War II and being called up in the National Guard in Korea, so he knows what Goodland's Dr. Natalie Griego and thousands of other citizen-soldiers are going through.

Dr. Robert McCullough was a combat medic in the Navy in the second world war from 1943-46 and was called up during the Korean War but was never sent to Korea.

McCullough said he served stateside after being called up and would have gone to Korea if the war had lasted longer. He said he was put in charge of the dispensary at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota, which was like an emergency room. Immediate care was given, he said, and then if more was needed, the soldier was admitted to the hospital.

"Fortunately, it didn't last long," he said of the Korean War.

Being called up disrupts your life, the doctor said, adding that when Dr. Griego was called up for service in January, it was déjà vu for him. McCullough said he was a teacher in Denver when he was called up and had married his wife Mary in 1950, but didn't have children yet.

Many who were called up at that time were teachers, he said, while others were electricians and mechanics.

Being called away from family, friends and a job is difficult, McCullough said, but at times is overdramatized in the media.

It disrupts family life, Mc-



Cullough said, but maybe is over publicized, on television anyway. People sit in front of the television, he said, until they're glassy-eyed.

Anyway, he said, people shouldn't expect a time of war to be pleasant and easy.

"Some say war is hell," McCullough said, "and I guess it is. 'It's not a walk in the park.'"

When he served in the South Pacific in the second world war, McCullough said, there were infrequent mail calls and that his mother didn't know what was going on where he was.

McCullough said some of his high school classmates at Delphos were taken right out of class for the draft, but he enlisted as a senior and was deferred until after the harvest that year, so he completed high school. He said he went to boot



Dr. Robert McCullough listened to the heart of a patient, Melissa McClain from California, last week in his office at home. McCullough, right out of boot camp in 1943, became a combat medic in the Navy in World War II.

Top photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

camp in August 1943.

By enlisting, McCullough said, he had a chance of choosing what he would do.

"I was always interested in the medical aspect," he said, "and there was a shortage in that."

In boot camp, McCullough said, most trainees were either 17 or 18 years old or between 35 and 40. Most men in their 20s and 30s had already been before then, he said.

It was interesting to see 35-year-olds going through the same things as 18-year-olds in boot camp, he said. Depending on how out of shape they were.

McCullough said he joined the Air National Guard, then a part of the Army, after the war and started with an Army uniform. The Air Force later separated from the Army, but McCullough said he didn't continue with the Air Force. He was ac-

tive in the Public Health Service.

McCullough said he served in the amphibious corps, and as a combat medic, went with the troops. Some of the medics stayed on the ships, he said, and others landed on the beach. Where the medics worked, he said, was like a floating M.A.S.H. unit, but they weren't called that until the Korean War.

See KOREA, Page 3

Capt. Griego's unit packs to head for Turkey next week

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

Capt. Natalie Griego, a Goodland doctor called to active duty with the National Guard about two weeks ago, is being shipped out to Turkey.

Her husband, Jeff Krall, said Wednesday that Capt. Griego and her medical support hospital unit will be packing up their equipment and personal items this week for rail shipment, and she is scheduled to leave Fort McCoy, Wis., late next

week to fly to Turkey.

Dr. Griego has been assigned to Company C of the 109th Medical Battalion, a Colorado National Guard unit based in Montrose, Colo. The company is part of an area support medical battalion, which provides emergency treatment, sick call and ambulance evacuation for front-line troops.

"It is pretty spooky," Krall said, "but we have to look down the road to when she comes back.

"I have a big bottle of her favorite sparkling wine ready and waiting for her."

Krall, head of the Goodland hospital ambulance service, and their son Reece, 2, are home here and trying to cope with the change in routine.

"We had to adjust our routine, because when Natalie was here, we could take turns getting him ready and ourselves ready for work," Krall said. "Now we have to do that differently, and it has been quite an ad-

justment. We have done really well this week."

And what does Reece think?

"He knows mommy is gone," Krall said, "but he is not sure why, and he has been very clingy with me.

"We talked to Natalie a few times on the phone, and when I hand him the phone, he is not sure what to do. Sometimes he gets a big smile when he listens to her, but other times he has just dropped the phone and doesn't want to have anything to do

with it.

"We just keep our eyes focused on the future," Krall said.

Dr. Griego has been a member of the Goodland medical staff since 1999, and is missed by her patients and friends.

Krall said he has been amazed at the support from the community, and knows that she has touched a lot of lives here, people who are thinking of her and wish her a quick and safe return.